





THEME:

Shared Spaces

Capital Development

FUNDING(ERDF+MATCH):

€6.455.198.57

MATCH FUNDERS:

The Department for Communities NI and the Department of Rural and Community Development, Ireland

LEAD PARTNER:

Belfast City Council

PROJECT PARTNERS:

Shankill Women's Centre, Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership and incorporating Clonard Women's Group

PROJECT CONTACT:

mullenk@belfastcity.gov.uk

Start Date: 01/01/2019 **End Date:** 31/03/2023

SPECIAL EU PROGRAMMES BODY

Project Case Study: Shankill Shared Women's Centre

The Shankill Shared Women's Centre project will create a new 1,454m2 shared space for women and their families at Lanark Way, North Belfast.

Led by Belfast City Council, in partnership with Shankill Women's Centre (SWC) and Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership (and incorporating Clonard Women's Group) the project presents an ideal opportunity to build upon the work carried out by SWC over the last 31 years with women, children and young families in interface areas.

"For over 30 years we have provided education, training, awareness, childcare and activities for women in the Greater Shankill and beyond. This new state-of -the-art centre represents a new chapter for us and we hope it will allow us to continue to grow and evolve. Our health and well-being project alone currently helps 250 women per week, and we have ambitions to treble user numbers at this new facility."

Betty Carlisle MBE, Manager of the Shankill Women's Centre



Celebrating the launch of the new Shankill Shared Women's Centre







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SPECIAL EU PROGRAMMES BODY

Project Case Study: The Shankill Shared Women's Centre

The centre will provide a new, neutral space aimed at cross-community activities that will provide 'meaningful, purposeful and sustained' contact between women, children and young people from both sides of the interface area. In addition the project will lead to the reduction of intra-community tensions caused by paramilitary conflict.

The program will include community education, health and wellbeing and youth development programmes. This will mean that participants are in daily/ weekly contact with people from different communities, cultures and religious backgrounds for sustained periods of time within a neutral space.

The space will be ably supported by outreach workers in relevant communities to encourage people and enable people to new space.

"One of the key priorities in the Belfast Agenda, the city's long-term community plan, is to make life better for all our residents by improving our neighbourhoods, supporting and caring for people who face multiple challenges and improving community relations. For the communities in this part of Belfast, this facility will make a huge contribution, so it is to be warmly welcomed by all."

Lord Mayor Belfast City Council, Councillor Daniel Baker



Pictured are the projects official launch event are Raina McNeice (left) and Sienna Jordan, from Small Wonders Childcare.