



**CollaborationNI**  
working together, stronger together



# Head, heart and hands make collaboration work

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19 May 2016





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## Where we started with collaboration

### NOUN

- the action of working with someone to produce something
- traitorous cooperation with an enemy

(Oxford Dictionary)





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## My top 10 tips for partnership building

1. Be conscious no-one comes to the table neutral
2. You need to ask yourself, are you willing?
3. It takes equal focus on head and heart
4. Give due process to the strategy
5. Give due process to culture and trust





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## **My top 10 tips for partnership building**

6. It can be as tricky as dating
7. It can bring you face to face with different cultures
8. It is okay for some partnerships to fail
9. Collaboration champions are key
10. Change is about people and people need support





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# CollaborationNI: So what?

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## What was the impact of CollaborationNI?

- Alliances
- Consortia
- Mergers





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## Examples of alliances supported

Healthy Living Centres Alliance

Homelessness Prevention Alliance

Rare Diseases Network

Long Term Conditions Alliance

Northern Ireland Alcohol and Drugs Alliance

Together For You – an alliance of mental health charities

Community Wellbeing Alliance

Northern Ireland Protected Areas Network

Newry, Mourne and Down Voluntary and Community Sector Strategic Stakeholder Forum

Volunteer Infrastructure Group

Verve Network

Educational Disadvantage Group





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## Examples of consortia supported

Northern Ireland Advice Sector Consortium

Consumer Rights Initiative Northern Ireland

Human Rights Partnership

The Raglan Project

SOFT partnership

Womens' Sector Consortium

Aspire

Neighbourhood Health Improvement Partnership

Age Partnership Belfast

MIDAS

Adoption Partnership







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## Examples of mergers supported

Fermanagh Community Transport

CDM Community Transport

TheatreNI (formerly UAYD and NITA)

Early Years and Orana Family Centre

Top of the Hill and Hillcrest House

Cruse Bereavement Newry & Mourne and Cruse Bereavement Armagh



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## Four concluding lessons

1. Good collaborations are powerful
2. The soft stuff is the hard stuff
3. Negotiate, negotiate, negotiate
4. Great collaborations don't happen by magic!



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## Let us help you with your change journey

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