**NORTH WEST REGION CROSS BORDER GROUP (ROI/NI)**

Member of AEBR since 2000

*(Region 61 on the AEBR map “Cross-Border Cooperation Areas 2011”)*

**FULL NAME**

North West Region Cross Border Group

**INFORMATION WHICH COUNTRIES/REGIONS/AREAS ARE COVERED**

The North West Region Cross Border Group (NWRCBG) is a local authority led organisation which comprises of 5 local authorities in the North West of Ireland namely, Derry City Council, Donegal County Council, Limavady Borough Council, Magherafelt District Council and Strabane District Council.

**Aim**

The aim of the group is “to strengthen and develop the local economy, through collaboration, to enhance the socio-economic position of the North West region”.

**SHORT DESCRIPTION OF MEMBERS**

North West Region Cross Border Group is made up of 22 elected representatives and the Chief Executives/County Manager from Donegal, Strabane, Derry, Limavady and Magherafelt Councils. The Group acts as a facilitator and catalyst for regional economic generation through joint planning and coordination.

**YEAR OF FOUNDATION**

The NWRCBG was established in 1975 and since 1993 has had a full time secretariat funded by the INTERREG Programme.

**YEAR OF JOINING AEBR**

North West Region Cross Border Group became a member of AEBR in 2000
The NWRCBG acts as key influencer in the following processes:

- **North West Regional Policy Developments**—the NWRCRG actively participates in the development and implementation of policies at a regional level; to lobby for change and policy implementation.
- **Collaboration**—the NWRCBG facilitate and encourage economic/regeneration and social collaboration between the member councils and with the other Cross-Border Networks; liaising with the NSMC and policy makers North and South. In addition they are responsible for the maintenance of a relationship with the SEUPB/European Commission; and co-ordinate local authorities inputs into European funding streams.
- **INTERREG Programme**—the NWRCBG developed and ensured the implementation of 38 cross-border projects in the North West under the INTERREG IIIA Programme bringing €23 million into the region. The projects were delivered in a number of key areas including Tourism, Economic Development, Infrastructure and Information Technology. The group continues to work with SEUPB in the delivery of INTERREG IVA and has developed projects under the key themes of Enterprise, Tourism and Collaboration.
- **NWRCBG Operations**—the NWRCBG provide staff, systems and resources to monitor the development of Interreg IIIA projects in the context of implementation, spend; impact; and marketing & publicity of the programme of activities to the North West.

**Planned activities for the future**

- To collaborate across and between the five local authorities as the democratically-elected bodies in the North West region
- Roll out of INTERREG IVA Programme in the Region
- Continue to meet with local authority cross board groups (ICBAN, EBR, COMET, NEP) to ensure a collaborative approach to cross border economic development in the region
- Liaise with other cross border groups and networks eg CAWT
- Promoting and raising awareness of NWRCBG and EU funding
- To be the catalyst for delivery of strategic cross-border activity
- To take ownership of and influence the agenda for the North West region
- To maximise funding opportunities
- To provide effective partnership, sharing best practice and networking opportunities
- To enable delivery of actions to take forward the implementation of the NWRCBG Action Plan
- Lobby regarding infrastructure
**YEARLY MAIN EVENTS**

Board Meetings – monthly  
Meetings of Chief Executives - monthly  
Annual General Meeting – yearly (October)

**NAME OF PRESIDENT/VICE-PRESIDENT/SECRETARY GENERAL**

Chairperson – Councillor Maeve McLaughlin  
Vice Chairperson – Councillor Eugene McMenamin  
Development Officer – Ms Helena O’Toole

**CONTACT DETAILS**

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**1 OR 2 PHOTOS ON SPECIAL PLACES IN THE REGION (BORDER CROSSINGS ETC.)**

Sliabh Liag, Co Donegal
Derry’s Guildhall (Photo courtesy of DVCB)

**MAP OF NORTH WEST REGION CROSS BORDER GROUP**
Below are some links to a sample of projects which North West Region Cross Border Group funded under the Ireland/Northern Ireland INTERREG IIIA Cross Border Group.

**EpiCentre** – [www.epicentreireland.com](http://www.epicentreireland.com)
**Ernact** – [www.ernact.ie](http://www.ernact.ie)
**Regional Cultural Centre** - [www.regionalculturalcentre.com](http://www.regionalculturalcentre.com)
**Easilift Community Transport** – [www.communitytransport-ni.com](http://www.communitytransport-ni.com)
**Flight of the Earls** – [www.flightoftheearls.ie](http://www.flightoftheearls.ie)
**Digital Media Works** – [www.noribic.com](http://www.noribic.com)

Further details of these and other projects is available on our website at [www.nwrcbg.org](http://www.nwrcbg.org) under the INTERREG IIIA button.

Projects currently being funded under INTERREG IVA are:
**Spacial Planning Analysis and Information Sharing** – [http://www.donegalcdb.ie/euunit/currenteufundedstrategicprojects/interregiva/](http://www.donegalcdb.ie/euunit/currenteufundedstrategicprojects/interregiva/)
**Urban and Village Renewal**
[http://www.donegalcdb.ie/euunit/currenteufundedstrategicprojects/interregiva/](http://www.donegalcdb.ie/euunit/currenteufundedstrategicprojects/interregiva/)
**Inch Levels – Lough Foyle Awareness**