

# What the Priority Provides

The Community Engagement Priority does not provide grants directly to you or your group. However, tailored support includes:-

- One-to-One Mentoring Programmes incorporating specific training and support;
- Capacity building/Confidence building Training (including accredited training);
- Creation of links with Service Providers and local communities;
- Pilot Projects within the Southern Cluster area; and
- Peace Building Projects and Cross Border Initiatives

If you have any ideas on how you think the Community Engagement Priority can help or assist you, simply contact the PEACE III Office:-

Community Engagement Priority  
PEACE III Office  
Banbridge District Council  
Old Technical School Building  
Downshire Road  
BANBRIDGE  
Co Down BT32 3JY

Tel: 028 4062 0242

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**European Union**  
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## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PRIORITY

“Peace is a daily, a weekly,  
a monthly process, gradually  
changing opinions, slowly eroding  
old barriers, quietly building  
new structures”

J F Kennedy



WORKING | BUILDING | PROGRESSING  
TOGETHER



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The Special EU Programmes Body is the Managing  
Authority for the European Union's PEACE III Programme

# Background to the Community Engagement Priority

The Community Engagement Priority is funded by the European Union's PEACE III Programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body and is being delivered by Banbridge District Council. It is one of seven priorities operating within the Southern Cluster (Armagh, Banbridge, Craigavon and Newry & Mourne Council areas) along with the border areas of Louth and Monaghan.

Within the PEACE III Southern Cluster Partnership's Peace & Reconciliation Action Plan ([www.southernpartnership.com](http://www.southernpartnership.com)), a total of seven Priorities were identified and developed under the PEACE III Theme entitled 'Building Positive Relations at a Local Level' (Theme 1.1). The aim of the Southern Cluster's Action Plan is to challenge attitudes towards sectarianism and racism and to support conflict resolution and mediation at the local community level.

# Priority Aims

The Community Engagement Priority specifically seeks to support the active role of people, and communities, in decision-making which directly affects them. With a 'bottom-up' approach, the Priority aims to help local communities find a solution to their problems at a local level. The Priority will help those who are finding it difficult to progress or even begin cross community or cross border work.

The Community Engagement Priority aims to create opportunities for individuals and groups, from all backgrounds, to come together to address common issues. Through dialogue, needs will be identified and addressed so reconciliation actions can be integrated into community plans and practices.