



Welcome to Supporting Communities 112th Edition of E-Zine, bringing you Best Practice from the Community Sector; Funding and Training Updates and Policy Developments in Northern Ireland, Great Britain and Republic of Ireland.



The Staff and Board Members of Supporting Communities would like to wish all our E-Zine readers

**A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

Wishing you peace, happiness and prosperity this coming year

## Housing Executive has formally launched their new Community Involvement Strategy

The Community Involvement Strategy 2018-2023, which was launched at an event in the Crumlin Road Gaol, sets out how community representatives across NI can become more closely involved in shaping Housing Executive services.

At the launch event in the Crumlin Road Gaol in December, guests received a number of presentations from representatives from the Housing Executive's Rural Residents' Forum, Disability Forum and Central Housing Forum. The presentations showcased how groups had worked with the Housing Executive on projects and initiatives which aimed to support vulnerable people and improve where they lived.

The new Strategy aims to empower residents, tenants and leaseholders in Housing Executive estates to make a difference in their community.

A key success from the previous Community Involvement Strategy included the involvement of tenants and community representatives in tenant scrutiny of housing services; in one case in Belfast a scrutiny exercise of the response maintenance service led to a series of recommendations for



*At the launch of the Community Involvement Strategy*

change, including to the repair appointment system so it is now easier for tenants to select a suitable time for a workman to call out to their home.

At the launch event, Colm McQuillan, Director of Housing Services, said:

*"This strategy sets out our commitment to continue to empower and enable the communities we serve to make where they live better for everyone. We want to encourage people from all backgrounds to share their views with us so we can refine the services that we provide to meet their needs. We believe that by involving local people in decision-making, providing them with support and listening to their views we can build stronger communities across Northern Ireland."*

Click [here](#) to see how communities across Northern Ireland have been helped by the Housing Executive.

## Celebrating 80 Years of Voluntary Action

Shauna O'Neill reports on the conference celebrating the eight decades since the founding of NICVA. NICVA marked 80 years on 7th December, with a conference to celebrate the vital role the voluntary and community sector has played and continues to play in our society.

Founded in 1938 as the Northern Ireland Council for Social Service, NICVA has worked to develop, support, and give a voice to many charities, helping them respond to massive societal changes and challenges — all the way from the Great Depression of the 1930s, the Second World War and the establishment of the modern welfare state, through to the major challenges of today.

Over 100 people including NICVA members, previous staff and representatives from voluntary organisations in the sector – some started by NICVA, attended the special celebration event. Hosted by Sarah Travers, the event focused on the past, present and future role of NICVA.

Historian Dr Éamon Phoenix set the scene of NICVA's formation, by reflecting on society in the 1930's, or 'the Devil's Decade'; *"The impact of the world's slump, the rise of fascism dictatorships across Europe, challenges to democracy everywhere and economic and social problems which governments worldwide seem to be failing to deal with, losing credibility during this entire period, its against that background in the 1930s the Northern Ireland Council for Social Services 1938 really first saw the light of day"*

NICVA's Chief Executive, Seamus McAleavey, brought us up to date with a focus on NICVA through the decades from the 30's right up until today. Seamus referred back to 15th April 1985 when NICSS becomes NICVA after a review of the organisation, commonly referred to as 'The Good Report' as it was led by the Rev Harold Good, who we were delighted to have join us at the event.

A special guest panel consisting of former Chief Executive Quintin Oliver, former NICVA Chair Bronagh Hinds, author of 'The Good Report' Rev Harold Good and former NICVA staff member and Volunteer Now Director, Wendy Osbourne joined members to reflect on their time and involvement with NICVA and a focus on their hopes and vision for the future of voluntary action.

Key hopes for the future from the panel included:

- not to be afraid of change
- to keep voluntary & community activism going
- keep up the good working models already established & challenge politicians
- and to recognise the value of volunteers & encourage and develop this in future.

NICVA were delighted to receive a special video message from their Honorary President, Kenneth Branagh who unfortunately couldn't be there on the day due to filming commitments.

You can view the message at; <https://vimeo.com/305032481>

Speaking after the event, Seamus McAleavey said; *"Looking back over 80 years has shown us some aspects of voluntary action in Northern Ireland. People did some amazing things in very tough times. Most importantly, it helps us all imagine the future shaped by people, ordinary people who do extraordinary things. As in the past, people shouldn't be limited by their circumstances but think about what they can do to change and improve those circumstances. Do great things."*



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## Age NI and Services for Older People this Winter

Age NI is the leading charity for older people in Northern Ireland. Its vision is a world where everyone can love later life and its mission is to help people enjoy a better later life. Our society is ageing. More than 350,000 older people live in Northern Ireland, and there are more people over the age of 50 than under the age of 19. In the next twenty years, the number of people over 50 will increase by more than 30%.



We all believe that people should be supported to love later life. They should have enough money; be enabled to stay well and feel good; and have the opportunity to be equal and engaged citizens.

The charity provides a range of services across Northern Ireland including:

- [Age NI Advice Service](#) which deals with more than 10,000 enquiries every year
  - [Day, residential and domiciliary care](#) to 1,200 clients every week in centres across Northern Ireland
  - [First Connect service](#), which supports older people who are in need of direct emotional and practical help in their lives at a time of crisis, perhaps through bereavement or illness
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## Report released into alleged housing charity impropriety

*The Charity Commission says Victoria Housing Estates Ltd, under the stewardship of Co Down solicitor Derek Tughan, lost £12m in questionable loans and suffered a £21m underspend on its properties.*

One of Northern Ireland's longest running cases of alleged charity malfeasance appears to have edged nearer to a close, Ryan Miller from NICVA writes.

This week, [the Charity Commission published its interim inquiry report into Victoria Housing Estates Limited \(VHE\)](#), one of two housing organisations the Commission began investigating in 2012 after red flags were raised by HMRC.

VHE manages over 420 properties, worth well into eight figures, which are let to tenants in Greater Belfast and North Down, as well as collecting ground rent from 600 properties and other pieces of land. The report alleges a series of financial chicanery, as discovered by auditors PwC, who carried out a forensic analysis of VHE, as well as Bangor Provident Trust, on behalf of the Commission. It also outlines the apparent parlous state of the organisation – owing £2.8m to HMRC, and with its properties left in disrepair by the former trustees and needing over £21m investment to bring them up “to an acceptable standard”.

Over £13m had been removed from the charity as loans to firms in which trustee Derek Tughan, a Co Down solicitor, had interests. Per the Commission, the vast majority of these loans – more than £12m – has never been repaid. However, Mr Tughan has long claimed that the organisations are not charities at all, and he owns all the assets himself.

### Forensic analysis

PwC reported its findings on VHE to the Commission in 2015, including that:

- *Over £13,000,000 of the charity's assets was advanced, as amounts recorded as loans, to various companies of which Mr Derek Tughan had an interest. In excess of £12,000,000 of these loans has not been returned to the charity.*
- *Recorded loans in excess of £100,000 were also made to a relative of Mr Tughan and to an employee of an unrelated private business of Mr Tughan's, for which no repayments have been received by VHE.*
- *For a number of years, two of Mr Tughan's relatives received monthly salary payments from VHE, totalling over £3,000 gross per month, but there was no known service evidenced as provided for these salaries.*
- *£750,000 was paid to HMRC, by VHE, which was later confirmed to be in respect of the tax liabilities of Mr Tughan's family.*
- *An employee was paid a monthly salary, by the charity VHE, to chauffeur Mr Tughan and work on another of his businesses.*

- *London properties [including in the eye-bleedingly expensive Mayfair] were used exclusively by Mr Tughan and his family, with all costs paid by VHE, yet there was no evidence how these properties furthered the charity's purposes in any way.*

When they received this report, the Charity Commission immediately removed Mr Tughan as a trustee and providing notice of their intention to remove the other two trustees, Ronald Woods and Jill Robinson, who subsequently resigned. Charity expert Roger Courtney was appointed as trustee and given the power to appoint more members to the board.

Meanwhile, the Commission began legal proceedings – still ongoing – to commence the recovery of cash wrongly taken from VHE (and Bangor Provident). This led to huge resistance from Mr Tughan, whose father founded VHE and Bangor Provident in the 1950s, with the expressed aims to:

- *to carry on for the benefit of the community, the business of providing housing and any associated amenities for persons in necessitous circumstances upon terms appropriate to their means.*
- *to provide for aged persons in need thereof housing and any associated amenities specially designed or adapted to meet the disabilities and requirements of such persons.*

After being removed as a trustee, Mr Tughan took to the courts – [and the media – to cry foul, claiming the organisations were not charities \(this was rejected in the High Court\), and that “the family silver” had been taken in “state-sponsored theft”.](#)

### The situation now

The Charity Commission's report outlines some of the remaining difficulties in dealing with this case, including with legal efforts to recover assets that are still being fought with former trustees:

“The Commission acknowledges that the charity has suffered significant losses. The charity's new board, under the chairmanship of Mr Courtney, has identified further significant failings in the previous management of the charity. In particular, the former charity trustees failed to properly maintain the charity's property.

“As a consequence the charity has identified that over £21,000,000 is required to bring its properties to an acceptable standard. This is an unacceptable situation for both the charity and its beneficiaries.

“The charity has also been presented with a significant HMRC bill (approximately £2,800,000) as a result of the former charity trustees failing to use the charity's assets solely for charitable purposes. Combined with the amount of money still outstanding to the charity, this has left the charity in a vulnerable financial position.

“VHE’s new board has joined the Commission in the legal pursuit of recovery of misappropriated charity funds from Mr Tughan, Mr Woods and Ms Robinson. While this legal action is ongoing no further detail can be released through this interim report.”

In its concluding remarks, the Charity Commission highlights the somewhat exceptional nature of its investigation: “One of the Commission’s objectives is to increase public trust and confidence in charities. The Commission would stress that conduct as described in this report is not representative of the charity sector in Northern Ireland in general. The public can be reassured that the Commission will take all necessary steps to address identified mismanagement or misconduct in charities...”

“All those named in this report have had an opportunity to comment on its factual accuracy. The only comment received disputing the accuracy of the report was from Mr Woods. Mr Woods responded to say that he did not accept the contents of this report and to confirm that the litigation to recover alleged misappropriation is being defended.”

### Conclusions and next steps

From this point on, the health of these organisations – left in a state by the previous trustees – and, accordingly, the status of the residents is what needs to be paramount.

A new board is in situ and is working, alongside the Commission, to maintain the health of the organisation as best as possible.

Myles McKeown, the Commission’s Head of Enquiries and Compliance, said: “This inquiry has been one of our largest to date. Ongoing court processes, alongside the volume of the misappropriation of charity assets, meant this inquiry has been particularly complex and protracted.

“Despite this, we have remained determined in our approach and the inquiry is a good example of where the Commission has identified a major risk to a charity’s assets and taken the appropriate action to investigate and resolve matters.

“The VHE case is not closed and the Commission acknowledges that the charity has suffered significant losses due to the previous management. However, we can assure the public, and the charity’s beneficiaries that we, and the charity’s current board, are working to recover funds and ensure any remaining assets are used to fulfil the charity’s purposes.”

The Commission says no decision has been made about whether a similar report will be released into Bangor Provident Trust. It is anticipated that more-detailed final report will be compiled once all legal matters relating to these organisations are concluded.

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# Consultations



## Proposed Funding Scheme for Regional and Local Voluntary Youth Organisations

Education Authority

<https://www.eani.org.uk/publications/consultations/public-consultation-on-the-education-authority-proposed-funding-scheme>

**Closing date; 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

## Historical Institutional Abuse

The Executive Office

<https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/consultations/historical-institutional-abuse-consultation>

**Closing date; 10<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

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## Measures to tackle stalking in Northern Ireland

Department of Justice

<https://www.justice-ni.gov.uk/consultations/launch-consultation-measures-tackle-stalking-northern-ireland>

**Closing date; 21<sup>st</sup> February 2019**

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## Home to School Transport Review

The Department of Education has announced a review of the current home to school transport policy. The aim of the review is to ensure that home to school transport is fit for purpose and is sustainable over the long term.

In the region of 84,000 pupils are currently eligible for transport assistance which is around 26% of the school population. The cost of home to school transport provision is approximately £81m per year. The review will not consider home to school transport for children with a statement of special educational needs which specifies a special transport need.

The Department has started a process of engaging with parents, children, school staff and the wider public on how the future home to school transport policy should be shaped.

As part of this process, an online questionnaire has been launched on the Department’s website <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/X5KRQYT> (external link opens in a new window / tab).

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# Publications

## The Impact of Universal Credit on Social Housing Tenants

A new report by the Smith Institute '[Safe as Houses 2: a follow-up report into the impact of Universal Credit on Southwark Council's housing tenants rent payment behaviour](#)' show that what could have been argued to be 'teething problems' with the new benefit system, appear to have more systemic routes, with rent arrears appearing to be a longer-term consequence of Universal Credit for many social housing tenants in the council area.

The first claims for UC in Southwark Council were made three years ago and it now has one of the highest numbers of households claiming UC. This report follows on from the [first 'Safe as Houses'](#) report in 2017 which showed that more tenants were falling into significant or deeper rent arrears under UC than under the previous Housing Benefit system and those households were struggling to pay their arrears down.

The report argues that whilst the UC system had become more established in Southwark Council, this was not having a positive impact on rent payments. The findings support research by the NAO in their 2018 report '[Rolling out Universal Credit](#)' which found that a quarter of all new UC claims in 2017 were paid late, with one in five of these claimants waiting 5 months or more.

The report suggests that delays such as these seem highly likely to account for some of the sharp build up in arrears seen in Southwark Council. The DWP do not publish information on what proportion of those cases where full payment is not made on time are those where the shortfall was partly or wholly comprised of the housing cost element of their UC award, but the findings of this report suggest that on-going issues with rent arrears as a result of the UC system should be expected by social landlords.

## Housing Rights

## The Case for Reforming the Private Rented Sector

A [new report by the Institute for Public Policy Research \(IPPR\)](#) makes the case for the need to reform the private rented sector (PRS). The report focusses on the PRS in England, but has implications for other regions of the UK. It highlights the past two decades in particular as the period when the growth of the sector has outstripped the growth in either social renting or home ownership, with private renting in England more than doubling in just over 10 years.

The report highlights that both tenants and landlords were frequently unaware of their rights and responsibilities and so called for reform of the PRS which could be used to address the complexities of this sector. In this regard, the report points out that there are lessons to be learned from our European neighbours, particularly in countries like Germany, where the PRS plays a more significant role in housing provision.

## Community Relations Council

The most recent editions of CRC e-News is available at;  
<https://www.community-relations.org.uk/publications/enews>

Community Relations Council



Please click the link below to access the December 2018 edition of inpartnership – the newsletter for PCSPs which highlights local events and initiatives.  
<https://www.pcsp.org/publications/pcsp-inpartnership-december-2018>

## Signpost

News for the Age Sector and Network Partners January 2019



An e-bulletin to keep you updated on specific and relevant issues to age sector network partners working with older people's programmes including new legislation and developments, news, training, events and activities, advice, campaigns, support and signposting for further information. To get on the mailing list, contact Elaine at Age NI;



The latest edition of the Rural Policy Link is now available from the RCN. To access the publication, go to;  
<http://www.ruralcommunitynetwork.org/publications/default.aspx>

## Scope NI

Available online, including articles such a new oral history collection, the challenges facing older people and those facing deaf people seeking health or medical care. Scope can be accessed at; <http://scopeni.nicva.org/>

# Events

## Book a place at the awards

Book your tickets now to ensure you can join more than 300 housing professionals, VIPs and decision-makers for a great evening of celebration, entertainment and networking.



The awards ceremony and dinner will be held on Friday 22 February 2019 at Titanic, Belfast.

The evening commences at 6.30pm with a drinks reception, followed by dinner, the awards presentation and entertainment. Bar facilities will remain available until 1am.

Ticket price includes pre-dinner drinks, three course dinner with wine, awards ceremony at Titanic Belfast. You can purchase individual tickets up to full tables of 10.

For more information, go to; [http://www.cih.org/events/display/vpathDCR/templatedata/cih/events/data/northernireland/CIH\\_Housing\\_awards\\_2019](http://www.cih.org/events/display/vpathDCR/templatedata/cih/events/data/northernireland/CIH_Housing_awards_2019)

## Network for Youth



### Northern Ireland Youth Forum

Saturday 26th January 2019 -  
Farset International 12 - 3pm Belfast,  
466 Springfield Rd, Belfast BT12 7DW

Wednesday 30th January 2019 -  
Armagh City Hotel 6 - 9pm 2 Friary Rd,  
Armagh BT60 4FR

The Network for Youth (NfY) has been designed to allow key youth work partners and young people to develop a flexible contemporary model for strengthening participation in the youth service at a local, sub-regional and regional level. NfY is designed to take into account existing and emerging participative structures and link effectively to the delivery of the Regional Youth Development Plan. NfY will be hosting 2 events in January which will provide a space for young people to discuss key issues including the Education Authority's proposed new funding scheme for youth services.

For more info visit:

<https://vimeo.com/305378723/b11d208aed>

To register please contact [info@niyf.org](mailto:info@niyf.org)

## Healthy Working Lives 2019: Creating a healthy workplace culture for better mental health

Wednesday 13 March 2019 8:45am

### Business in the Community This is a free event



Good mental health is the most important aspect to a person's physical and emotional wellbeing. In partnership with the Public Health Agency, our annual Healthy Working Lives conference will explore mental health at work and how to create a healthy workplace culture for better mental health.

Without good mental health, and the tools and skills to maintain it, the pressures of everyday life will take their toll on, even the strongest person. The Healthy Working Lives conference will raise awareness about the mental health agenda within the modern workplace, specifically focussing on creating a positive workplace culture and improving mental health.

The conference will combine best practice examples with expert opinion, exploring the challenges faced when creating a holistic approach to tackling mental health in the workplace.

There will be a number of business, charitable and legal case studies for delegates to participate in, as well as exhibitors on display throughout the event and an opportunity to network with like-minded people.

For more information, contact Shelly Ovadia at [shelly.ovadia@bitcni.org.uk](mailto:shelly.ovadia@bitcni.org.uk) or call (028) 9046 0606. <https://www.bitcni.org.uk/post-events/healthy-working-lives-2019/>

# Training

## Digital Inclusion

### New Year...New Digital Skills?

If you were lucky enough to receive a shiny new tablet device or laptop over the holiday period, or you may need to dust one you have in your cupboard, now is the time to sign up to one of our digital courses to learn how to use it properly.

Working in partnership with the NI Direct Digital Inclusion Unit, our Digital Champion Initiative enhances the Go ON NI programme. We encourage groups to take a self-help approach by providing support, advice, information and training to individuals across Northern Ireland.

Our courses are informative, user centred, informal and most importantly fun and cover a range of topics including:

- introduction to your tablet/laptop
- emailing
- browsing the web
- shopping online
- downloading apps
- banking online to name a few

Choose from a full course or book a short session for your group to look at one topic.

Our digital drop-in sessions are perfect if you have a group of people who each want some quick one-to-one help with something digital.

- OCN Level 1 - 6 week course
- OCN Level 2 - 10 week course
- Tablet Training - 8 week course
- Informal Digital Awareness - 2 hour session
- Universal Credit - 2 hour session
- MOT/Car Tax - 2 hour session
- Online Prescriptions - 2 hour sessions
- Digital Drop-In - short, individual appointments for your group

**For more information contact our Digital Inclusion Officer Stephanie McKillop  
Stef@supportingcommunities.org Tel- 028 777 40722**



# Volunteer Now Training



## Attracting & Selecting Volunteers

Date: 16th & 17th January 2019  
Time: 10.00am - 4.00pm  
Location: Volunteer Now, 34 Shaftesbury Square, Belfast BT2 7DB  
Cost: £150 + VAT non-accredited or £235 + VAT accredited

*Planning out exactly what you want a volunteer to do is the fundamental building block that informs all other aspects of managing that volunteer.*

Using a role description planning tool, you will identify the key information needed to demystify your roles. Explore how to make role descriptions more volunteer friendly and attractive for inclusion in information packs and websites.

With a well-designed volunteer role description in hand, you will explore how to find, promote and attract the right people for the right role. Exploring marketing principles and techniques, we look at who your target audience is, how to write an effective recruitment message and explore your organisation's image.

Then we will look at how to create an effective, yet volunteer friendly and welcoming, selection and matching process. Explore how to tailor the selection process to the volunteer role you are recruiting for, how to keep potential volunteers engaged throughout the process and how to best manage and turn down an offer of help.

Exploring volunteers' skills, knowledge, experience, expectations and motivations are vital in effectively selecting volunteers and matching them to the most suitable role. Learn how to create the right environment for a volunteer selection meeting/informal chat, enhance your interview skills by putting interview skills theory into practice and go away with top tips and example selection questions.

Accreditation is available on successful completion of an assessment workbook at OCNNI Level 2 accreditation in Attracting and Selecting Volunteers. Or a Certificate of Attendance is awarded if you book the non-accredited course.

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## #Volunteering & Social Media DIY - Recruit, Network, Share

Date: 22nd January 2019  
Time: 10.00am - 1.00pm  
Location: Volunteer Now, 34 Shaftesbury Square, Belfast BT2 7DB  
Cost: £45 + VAT

*Learn about different platforms and get great ideas about recruitment, networking and sharing safely.*

Volunteer Now Enterprises Ltd have teamed up with Louise Brogan, SocialBee NI to organise this workshop on how to use social media, aimed specifically at the voluntary sector.

Are you unsure of your audience, what tone to use in your posts or which social media platforms you should be using? This workshop will cover all that as well as how to use social media platforms, creating content and review what is working.

Also covered will be best practice and guidelines for engaging with followers, encouraging followers/volunteers to share their experiences, managing photographs, how to respond to negativity or issues raised and how to remove negative posts/comments safely.

For more information and to book places, go to; <http://www.volunteernow.co.uk/training-and-standards>

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# Funding



## Halifax Foundation for Northern Ireland

Halifax Foundation for Northern Ireland (formerly Lloyds Bank Foundation for Northern Ireland) has contributed approximately £35m to the Voluntary and Community sector over the past 31 years. Currently open for applications to the Community Grants Programme. This programme supports charitable organisations within Northern Ireland to enable people, who are disadvantaged or with special needs, to participate actively in their communities.

The programme is open to registered charities with an income of less than £1 million operating in Northern Ireland.

The average grant for 2017 was around £3,250.

### **What are the Foundation's Guidelines?**

The Foundation has two main target areas:

1. Social and Community Needs
2. Education and Training

### **What we fund?**

The average grant awarded within the Community Grant Programme is in the region of £3,000 - £5,000 and grants are awarded for one year. To apply for funding, you need to complete the online Community Grant application form.

The following list is a guide to the key areas the Foundation supports:

- Core costs
- Materials and equipment
- Salary costs
- Volunteer expenses
- Project costs
- Refurbishment
- Activities
- Training
- Disabled access
- Transport Costs

### **How to apply?**

All applications for funding must now be submitted using this online grant application system - <https://halifaxni.eformz.info/index.php>

The Foundation operates a rolling grant programme.

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## Programme of Community Food Initiatives

SECAD, on behalf of **safefood**, is seeking applications for funding under the Community Food Initiatives Programme 2019-21.

The Community Food Initiatives Programme aims to positively influence the eating habits of families in low income communities by making food skills more mainstream and healthy food more accessible. **safefood** will be funding 13 projects through the course of 2016-18. As well as increasing awareness and knowledge around healthy eating, these projects will promote healthy shopping, improved meal-planning and budgeting as well as enhanced cooking skills. All of these are tangible, transferable skills that can benefit an entire community.

The Community Food Initiatives will be administered at a local level by South & East Cork Area Development (SECAD). Each Community Food Initiative will receive funding annually over a period of three years to set up, manage and sustain their project with **safefood** investing up to €30,000 in each of the 13 projects over the lifetime of the initiative.

In total, 17 projects on the island of Ireland have already received funding since the first three-year Demonstration Programme of Community Food Initiatives from 2010-12 and successive programme from 2013-15. Key learnings and experiences from these previous programmes will be shared among the new projects and they will be encouraged and supported to enhance the long-term sustainability of their project from the outset.

**Closing date for applications is Wednesday, 30th January 2019 at 5.00 pm**

For further information contact:  
Sinead Conroy (SECAD) [sconroy@secad.ie](mailto:sconroy@secad.ie)  
Joana Caldeira Fernandes da Silva [jcaldeira@safefood.eu](mailto:jcaldeira@safefood.eu)



## BCPP Funding Level 2 now open



Community Development  
& Health Network

### Who can apply?

BCPP funding is open to constituted community/voluntary organisations and community pharmacies based in Northern Ireland. Projects must be a partnership between a community/voluntary organisation and a community pharmacy. Either can be the lead applicant but both partners must be named in the application form.

- A constituted community/voluntary organisation is a group which may be run on a voluntary basis and is set up as an organisation with a management committee, constitution and its own bank account. A copy of the constitution will be required with the application.
- The community pharmacy must hold a current contract with HSCB. Qualified pharmacists not associated/affiliated to a pharmacy holding a HSCB contract are not eligible to apply.

### Who is not eligible?

- Private companies and statutory organisations.
- Third party applicants e.g. an organisation applying as lead partner to deliver the project in a different community organisation. The community organisation itself or the pharmacy must be the lead partner.

### What they fund?

- Level 1 funding is for a grant up to **£2,500** for a project that can last up to **six months**
- **Level 2 funding is for a grant of up to £10,000 for a project that can last up to one year.**
- A community/voluntary organisation and a community pharmacy to work in partnership to deliver a project to either one, two and in some circumstances three groups of people. Each group should have 12-15 people who participate in all sessions.
- Projects which seek to address the social determinants of health using a community development approach.

### What do they not fund?

- Health fairs
- Projects that work with a different group of people every session
- Projects with more than 15 people in a group
- Projects seeking to enhance sports performance or focus only on lifestyle issues
- Capital equipment

### What is the funding criteria?

- A concise aim and summary of the proposed project.
- An identified community need.
- Clear partnership working between the pharmacy, the community and the participants (co-production).
- External community/voluntary organisations co-delivering sessions.
- A clear plan for recruiting participants and keeping them engaged.
- A clear vision of the difference the project will make, which is in line with BCPP outcomes.
- A clear activity plan, including, the number of people in each group, how often they will meet and an idea of topics you hope to cover.
- Realistic costings that relate to your overall application and activity.
- Overall value for money regarding what the project aims to achieve.

### When are grants refused?

Grants may be refused for the following reasons:

- The proposed project does not meet with BCPP funding criteria.
- The application form is incomplete.
- An old BCPP application form has been submitted. Please ensure you have downloaded the correct application for the funding round.
- The application form is a copy of a previous form submitted to CDHN
- The application does not meet the minimum scoring.
- Previous BCPP project outcomes and/or reporting requirements were not satisfactory.
- The lead partner has an open BCPP project
- Sometimes demands on BCPP grants outstrip the funds available and this means that some good applications, while meeting the criteria may not be successful. In this case, funding will be awarded first to those with the highest overall score.

**If you would like to find out more about BCPP, please contact a member of the BCPP Team on 028 3026 4606 or [bcpp@cdhn.org](mailto:bcpp@cdhn.org)**

### Level 2

Grants of up to **£10,000** are available for projects that will last up to 1 year. You do not have to complete a level 1 before applying for a level 2 project. Applications are made jointly by a pharmacy and a community/voluntary partner.

**PLEASE NOTE:** This is a new application form and new guidance notes. Old application forms will NOT be accepted. To apply please visit - <https://cdhn.org/level-2-application>

**Closing date for Level 2 applications is  
THURSDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2019**

## BBC Children in Needs Main Grants

The Main Grants programme is open to charities and not-for-profit organisations applying for grants over £10,000 per year for up to three years. Check the information below to see if your project should apply. But first – have you read about how, together, we [improve children's lives in the UK](#). If you are looking for any amount up to £10,000 for one year, see [Small Grants](#).

### They give grants for...

Children and young people of 18 years and under experiencing disadvantage through:

1. Illness, distress, abuse or neglect
2. Any kind of disability
3. Behavioural or psychological difficulties
4. Living in poverty or situations of deprivation

Projects they fund make differences in children's lives that help prevent or overcome the effects of the disadvantages they face. Projects achieve these differences by either working directly with children or seeking to improve their social and physical environments.

### Who can apply?

- Not-for-profit organisations that work with disadvantaged children and young people of 18 years and under who live in the UK, the Isle of Man or the Channel Islands.
- If you currently have a Main Grant, as long as your funding is coming to an end within the next 12 months you can apply for further Main Grant funding to keep running the same project, or on a different project. You will need to be able to provide convincing evidence of the differences our grant has made to the lives of the disadvantaged children and young people you have worked with.



- If you currently have a Small Grant you can also apply for a Main Grant as long as it is for work with a different group of children and young people.

### How much to apply for?

- The Main Grants Programme is for grants **over £10,000 per year** to support projects for up to three years.
- There is no upper limit for Main Grants but they make very few grants over £120,000 (or £40,000 per year) and most grants are for much less.
- Each year they are asked for much more money than they are able to give. Requests for larger amounts are always more competitive.
- If you wish to apply for a smaller amount their [Small Grants Programme](#) or our [Emergency Essentials Programme](#) may suit you better.

**Initial application deadline - 11:59pm 13th January 2019**

**When is the final decision due? June 2019**

For more information and to apply please visit - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/60DXIxYvbtcTDm79Mjryj/main-grants-should-i-apply>

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## Community Relations / Cultural Diversity

### Aim of the Scheme

The Community Relations Council, with the support of Government, has established a fund of approximately £400,000 to spend each year on community relations projects.

This funding is intended to help community/voluntary groups throughout Northern Ireland develop their capacity to engage in community relations work and to enhance the community relations potential of projects they undertake.

There are a number of changes to the 2018/19 Scheme which include a new application form. If you have any questions or would like to discuss a proposal prior to submitting an application please contact a member of the Funding & Development Programme. Phone 028 9022 7500 or email [info@nicrc.org.uk](mailto:info@nicrc.org.uk)

**Deadline date: 31 January 2019**

For more information and an application pack visit <https://www.community-relations.org.uk/community-relations-cultural-diversity>

Community Relations Council



# Grants and Funding available – Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council



Details of the 2019/20 Grant programmes are as follows:

Grant	Opening Date/Time	Closing Date/Time
Culture Arts & Heritage	Tuesday 4th December 2018 at 9am	Friday 22nd February 2019 at 12noon
Culture Arts & Heritage - Individual Artists Bursary Scheme	Tuesday 4th December 2018 at 9am	Friday 22nd February 2019 at 12noon
Culture, Arts & Heritage - Youth Creative Skills Bursary	Tuesday 4th December 2018 at 9am	Friday 24th May 2019 at 12noon
Building a United Community Fund	Tuesday 4th December 2018 at 9am	Friday 25th January 2019 at 12noon
Capital Grants Programme	TBC	TBC
Minor Capital Grant Programme	TBC	TBC
Community Development Support Grant	Tuesday 4th December 2018 at 9am	Friday 1st February 2019 at 12noon
Community Festival Fund	Tuesday 4th December 2018 at 9am	Friday 18th January 2019 at 12noon
Social Inclusion Grant	Tuesday 4th December 2018 at 9am	Friday 1st February 2019 at 12noon
Tourism Large Events Fund	Tuesday 4th December 2018 at 9am	Friday 18th January 2019 at 12noon
Tourism Small Events Fund	Tuesday 4th December 2018 at 9am	Friday 18th January 2019 at 12noon
Landfill Communities Fund	Tuesday 4th December 2018 at 9am	Wednesday 6th February 2019 at 12noon
PCSP	TBC	TBC
Enterprise Fund	Monday 29th April 2019 at 9am	Friday 17th May 2019 at 12noon
Everybody Active	April 2019 TBC	May 2019 TBC
Christmas Festive Fund	Monday 26th August 2019 at 9am	Friday 20th September 2019 at 12noon

## How to Apply

To apply for any of the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Councils [grants please apply online here](#). Please note that applying for a grant is a competitive process and awards are subject to the availability of funds and may be subject to change.

Please do not wait until near the closing time to submit your application.

Be aware of the speed of your internet connection, your system configuration and the volume of general web traffic that may impact on the time required to upload your application.

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council cannot accept responsibility for transmission delays. Your completed application must be received before the deadline. Applications received after the advertised deadline will not be accepted.

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