



Welcome to Supporting Communities 113th 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.

NI Fire and Rescue Service Chimney Safety Advice

As the Meteorological Office reports the possibility of an extended period of colder weather than we have experienced so far this winter, NIFRS offers this advice on chimney safety.

Using a chimney sweep will

- Eliminate the build up of soot
- Clear blockages such as nests, cobwebs and loose brickwork, which could obstruct the chimney
- Prevent fumes from a blocked flue entering the room, causing drowsiness and potentially, asphyxiation
- Provide valuable advice on any remedial work that may be necessary
- Help prevent chimney fires

Ensure you use a suitably trained person to service your chimney or flue

When to clean the chimney and liners

- Smokeless fuels – at least once a year
- Bituminous coal – at least twice a year
- Wood burning stoves – quarterly when in use
- Oil – once per year
- Gas – once per year (if designed for sweeping)



**Northern Ireland
Fire & Rescue Service**

Precautions with open fires and stoves

- Do not overfill an open fire grate in case coals fall out
- Always use a spark guard and if you have young children or pets consider using a safety guard
- Do not place a mirror above a fire, people may stand too close
- Do not position furniture too close to the fire
- Make sure the fire is out before going to bed at night or leaving the house
- Never interrupt the air supply by blocking air vents or air bricks
- Have a working smoke alarm on every floor and test it every week

How do I know when I have a chimney fire?

- Excessive amounts of smoke
- Embers falling down the chimney
- Sparks or flames visible from chimney top
- A loud roaring noise
- Brickwork around the chimney breast can be very hot

What to do in the event of a chimney fire

- Put the spark guard on and call 999
- REMEMBER – If it is left unattended, a chimney fire can spread into the rest of the house
- Some people fear that they will be charged for the Fire & Rescue Service attending a chimney fire – this is not true

Carbon Monoxide (CO)

- Ensure appliances are installed and serviced by competent engineers
- Without proper maintenance, any flue from a fire or stove can cause a dangerous build up of Carbon Monoxide gas
- For further information on Carbon Monoxide & detection go to www.hseni.gov.uk/watchout.

Peace Funding for Northern Ireland



The Secretary of State has confirmed the UK Government's commitment of around £300 million to support peace in Northern Ireland

The UK Government has committed to contributing millions of pounds to PEACE Plus until 2027, as part of its unwavering commitment to uphold the hard-won peace in Northern Ireland after Brexit.

PEACE Plus will succeed the current PEACE scheme which has helped promote economic and social progress in Northern Ireland and the border region of Ireland since 1995.

The current programme – run with funding from the UK, Ireland and EU – will end in 2020.

The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, the Rt Hon Karen Bradley MP, said:
"This funding will help deliver vital projects on both sides of the Irish border, supporting cooperation and reconciliation and ensuring that generations to come grown up in a more peaceful and stable society."

Following today's announcement, the UK Government will work with the EU Commission and Irish Government to shape PEACE Plus over the next round of the EU's Multi-Annual Financial Framework.

The EU has already set out its plan for £109 million (€120 million) of funding during 2021-27 if its financial framework is approved. Maintaining the existing funding proportions, the UK Government will also continue its support with approximately £300m. This flows from our joint commitment with the EU in the Withdrawal Agreement to maintain funding for vital work on reconciliation and a shared future for Northern Ireland until at least 2027.

This funding enables work to continue to build on the almost £1.8 billion (€2 billion) of investment in projects in both Northern Ireland and Ireland, including landmark projects such as the £14.5m PEACE bridge in Derry-Londonderry, which has linked communities across the River Foyle.

High Court rules Universal Credit assessment period approach unlawful



COURTS AND TRIBUNALS JUDICIARY

In its judgement on Thursday 11th January the High Court ruled that the Department for Work and Pensions treatment of Universal Credit claimants who are paid twice in one assessment period is unlawful, with the judgment describing DWP's approach as "odd in the extreme". This case was brought jointly by the Child Poverty Action Group and Leigh Day who represented four women who [had been assessed as receiving twice as much income in an assessment period and who had, consequently, lost entitlement to Universal Credit because the system lacks the flexibility to deal appropriately with employees who are paid other than once a calendar month.](#)

Departmental interpretation of regulations found to be "incorrect"

The challenge was to the rigidity of Universal Credit's assessment period regime, which has led to claimants being unfairly penalised due to their own payment frequency. Universal Credit was designed as a monthly benefit, in an attempt to better reflect the world of work, despite the fact that a majority of low-income workers are paid weekly or fortnightly. A claimant's income is assessed

each month, but there is no failsafe to protect those employees who may end up being paid twice during their assessment period.

The court has found that this approach is derived from an incorrect interpretation of the regulations, stating "We do not belittle the administrative inconvenience or the cost involved but the language of the regulations cannot be distorted to give effect to a design which may have proceeded on a basis which is wrong in law."

In its conclusion, the court held
On a proper interpretation of regulation 54 of the 2013 Regulations, read in context, the amount of the earned income of a claimant in respect of an assessment period is to be based on, but will not necessarily be the same as, the amount of earned income actually received in that assessment period. There will need to be an adjustment where, as in the present case, the claimants actually received two months' salary in one assessment period but the combined salaries do not, in fact, constitute earned income in respect of the period of time included in that assessment period.

Cont'd over

A DWP spokesperson has stated that the Department is considering the judgment, but if the Department does not intend to appeal this judgment urgent changes will be required to the way in which Universal Credit awards are assessed.

It is likely that work-coaches will have to review the automated process which determines earned income and will need the authority to override the automated system each time that an anomaly, such as a claimant having two paydays in one assessment period, occurs.

Tessa Gregory, solicitor with Leigh Day has called on Secretary of State for Work & Pensions Amber

Rudd to take "immediate steps to ensure that no other claimants are adversely affected and... ensure all those who have suffered because of this unlawful conduct are swiftly and fairly compensated".

As the judgment hinges on the interpretation of the regulations, no legislative amendments are required in order to give effect to the ruling. Rather, operational changes at DWP and the Department for Communities will be necessary in order to ensure claimants' income and entitlement is assessed accurately and fairly.

The [full judgment is available from the Courts and Tribunals Judiciary website.](#)

NI Peace Monitoring Report #5 published

Peace Monitoring Report Five highlights critical peace process issues at a key time for Northern Ireland.

The fifth Peace Monitoring Report has been published by the Community Relations Council, written independently by a team of academics based at Ulster University led by Professor Gillian Robinson, and funded by the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust.

The report has been informed by an advisory group made up of leading academics and practitioners across many policy areas and disciplines, chaired by Emeritus Professor Adrian Guelke, Queens University.

The Peace Monitoring Report uses already published information and data to summarise key issues related to the building of peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland. It is intended as a useful tool and resource for those working at the coalface, in the public and political sectors.

Key issues considered in this, the latest Peace Monitoring Report (fifth in the series), include:

- The potential impact of Brexit and its effect on community relations;
- Lack of progress in key social justice and social policy areas;
- Reflections on important peace process structural issues such as PSNI representativeness after the ending of 50-50 recruitment;
- Continued segregation and challenges in recent years to policy on shared housing and shared education;
- Continuing impact of the lack of a Northern Ireland Executive and working Assembly.



One of the report authors, Professor Gillian Robinson, from Ulster University said: *"The Peace Monitoring Report reviews the critical social, economic, peace building and reconciliation issues in Northern Ireland 2016-2018.*

We hope the report talks to this time and that it constructively summarises the issues. It is hoped that it will be used as a tool for thinking through the complex challenges ahead."

The chair of the Peace Monitoring Advisory Group, Professor Adrian Guelke, said:

"Any exploration of policy and practice needs should be based on fact and robust analysis. This type of academic analysis, on a broad sweep of public policy areas, provides an important lens for policymakers and practitioners. It is especially valuable in the challenging times Northern Ireland currently faces. I am proud to be associated with the Peace Monitoring Report and wish to congratulate the UU team on their report and to thank all of the advisory group members for their time and wisdom"

The Chair of the Community Relations Council, Peter Osborne, said:

"We must understand there is no inevitable forward flow to our peace process. It needs constant work and complacency is its worst enemy during this period of uncertainty. It is an important time for Northern Ireland and we hope this report will feed in constructively and positively to the critical thinking needed about the way forward."

For copy of the report [click here](#)

To view the summary of ten key points [click here](#)

Special Focus

Housing in Northern Ireland is facing an uncertain 2019



With an absence of government, uncertainty and rising homelessness, 2019 is set to be challenging for social landlords in Northern Ireland, write *Paddy Gray* and *Justin Cartwright* in an article for 'Inside Housing' the magazine of the Chartered Institute of Housing

Professor Paddy Gray, is interim Director and Justin Cartwright is Policy and Engagement Manager at the Chartered Institute of Housing NI.

Words and phrases beginning with a 'B' have gained significance in Northern Ireland and Ireland throughout 2018. Brexit, backstop, border, Belfast Agreement – to name but a few.

As the UK looks increasingly likely to crash out of the EU with no deal, this may have a major effect on all of the above from the Northern Ireland context.

And yet, as all of it unfolds here, there is no government to deal with the fallout that might happen. In housing terms, the absence of government has created a backlog of legislation and ministerial decisions.

The [reclassification reversal for housing associations](#), reviews of [social housing allocations](#) and the [private rented sector](#), and even the appointment of the chair of the Housing Executive all form part of a long queue.

So 'uncertainty' will be the word of the year in 2019, as the housing sector faces a period of unpredictability that affects the delivery of much-needed services as well as the capacity to build new housing.

Homelessness is an area that will remain high up the agenda. The Housing Executive's 2012-17 homelessness strategy had a vision to eliminate long-term homelessness and rough sleeping across Northern Ireland by 2020. However official homelessness increased by 13% over the life of the strategy.

The housing and homelessness sectors have been striving to provide the adequate housing and support that is required. The problem is that there is not enough social and affordable housing in the right places for the increasing numbers of people with complex and multiple needs.

This must be addressed. Housing associations have been meeting the targets for new homes set for them, so an investment level is required from government that really tackles the problem.

Meanwhile, the public spending environment is tough and there are many calls on resources. The funding for the Supporting People Programme of more than

£70m has been maintained for many years, but it has [not risen with cost pressures](#) and many services are now at breaking point.

Also at breaking point is the ability of the Housing Executive to keep its stock from deteriorating. £340m a year of immediate investment is needed, but artificially low rents and borrowing restrictions mean the body is unable to raise the funds.

And last, but certainly not least, Northern Ireland faces a cliff-edge scenario when top-up payments for the bedroom tax and benefits cap end in March 2020. It's easy to be disheartened when looking to the year ahead in Northern Ireland. The upside is that we have had a democratic deficit before (and for a much longer period) while housing organisations have shown great tenacity and have just got on with it. They are doing so now.

One example was the sterling work that Radius Housing and the Housing Executive did just over a year ago in alleviating a potential disaster in Belfast, when families were intimidated close to a mixed-religion 'shared' housing scheme.

Both organisations worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure the problem did not escalate and that the households concerned were adequately housed. *"The challenges are many but our housing organisations will plough on and continue working with communities and government"*

This is a clear example of housing organisations getting on with it despite lack of clear leadership from elected government.

The Chartered Institute of Housing Northern Ireland has got on with it as well. In November they [published a wide-ranging report](#) that makes recommendations for major change in social housing.

We look forward to working with the sector this year to take some of this work forward.

The challenges are many but our housing organisations will plough on and continue working with communities and government, in whatever way they can to provide and manage good-quality affordable housing.

A return of government, of course, would be very welcome.

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; 5th February 2019

Historical Institutional Abuse

The Executive Office

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

Closing date; 10th February 2019

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; 21st February 2019

Consultation open on draft timetable and work programme for the preparation of the Northern Ireland Flood Risk Management Plan

A public consultation is now open on the draft timetable and work programme for the preparation of the Northern Ireland Flood Risk Management Plan (2021 – 2027).

This will help to mitigate the impacts of flooding in areas where potential significant flood risk exists or might be likely to occur. It also helps the Department prioritise investment in measures to reduce flood risk where it will have most impact.

The draft Timetable and Work Programme outlines the proposed work programme for the preparation of the plan, details the key deliverables and their deadlines and provides a statement on the consultation measures to be taken with stakeholders and members of the public. This will enable the Department to progress development of the 2021-27 Flood Risk Management Plan to address all aspects of flood risk management including prevention, protection and preparedness.

The public consultation is open now, available at:

www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/consultations/timetable-and-work-programme and runs to 28 June 2019.

Publications

Social Housing Commission report

A [report by the new Social Housing Commission](#) calls for all political parties to see social housing as a key pillar of the national infrastructure in England and recommends a generational shift in housing policy, covering both social housing and the private rented sector. The report outlines a 20 year programme aimed at delivering 3.1 million more social homes and a massive overhaul of tenants' rights.

The commission was set up to address a question which it was felt had been neglected for too long by successive governments: what is the future of social housing? The report highlights what it calls '40 years of failure in housing policy'. From the end of World War II up to 1980, an average of 126,000 new social homes were built in England per year, but in 2018, despite a growing need for affordable social housing, only 6,463 new social homes were delivered. The report highlights the experience of low income families in the PRS who are struggling to afford their rent, with many cutting back on food and other expenses, or going into debt in order to keep a roof over their heads. This echoes the recent findings by [NERI in NI regarding affordability issues for low income families in the private rented sector](#).

The commission calls for a 'generational shift in housing policy' and a move towards a programme of investment and reform, based on a new vision for social housing which is at the heart of a working housing system.

NI Environment Link

The NIEL EU Matters for November 2018 is now available at;

<https://www.nienvironmentlink.org/cmsfiles/EU-Matters-November-2018.pdf>

For other NIEL publications and events, go to; <https://www.nienvironmentlink.org/>



Cont'd over

Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission's Annual Statement for 2018

The Annual Statement is a detailed report assessing the state of human rights in Northern Ireland. It is published each year and was recently launched at Parliament Buildings.



NORTHERN
IRELAND
HUMAN
RIGHTS
COMMISSION

The Commission's annual statement uses a traffic light system to assist readers.

RED identifies a subject that requires immediate action by the UK Government, NI Executive or relevant public authorities and the issue may be an ongoing violation or abuse of human rights within NI.

AMBER identifies a subject that initial steps toward providing an effective response could have already been taken or the necessity of taking action acknowledged by the relevant body. Such actions may have commenced, but are not yet completed. The identified subject requires action by the UK Government, NI Executive or relevant public authorities. The issue may not be at a level that constitutes an ongoing violation or abuse of human rights.

GREEN identifies a subject that has been acknowledged as requiring action to protect human rights in NI and an effective response has been provided by the UK Government, NI Executive or relevant public authorities. A firm commitment to address the matter will have been demonstrated and undertaken.

The Annual Statement 2018 sets out 12 red issues that requires immediate action by the UK Government, NI Executive or relevant public authorities.

You can also access the full statement online [here](#)

You can access all of the Commission's publications [here](#)

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.

Housing Rights

Community Relations Council

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



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/>

Social Enterprise



BOOK NOW

Annual Social Value Conference

Social Value: How can it be Properly Implemented?

Theatre at The Mill,
Newtownabbey
Thursday 31st January 2019,
8.30am -1pm



To book & for more information contact amanda@socialenterpriseni.org

How Social Enterprises Enhance Corporate Supply Chains

FREE Online Training starting 22 January (4 weeks) – 4 hours per week

Join this FREE ONLINE course to get inspired and learn how social enterprise enhance corporate supply chains while contributing to a positive environmental and social impact.

Corporate supply chains represent a significant opportunity to achieve social impact.

For more info and to Enrol go to <https://open.sap.com/courses/sewf1-tl>

UnLtd Thrive - Access to Employment Accelerator by UnLtd Foundation for Social Entrepreneurs



Thrive: access to employment is for social ventures using business solutions to offer the most innovative ideas to improve access to employment for people distant from the labour market. That could be by providing training and support into employment, or through direct employment opportunities.

This is a session for you to hear more about the programme.

Target audience:

You must be working to increase access to employment, through training or job opportunities, for people that face barriers to work, such as, but not limited to:

- Disabled people (including learning disabilities) • Homeless people, or those in temporary accommodation
- Ex-offenders and people with criminal convictions • Long-term unemployed • People recovering from addiction • Refugees • Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET)

What is happening?

There will be a presentation about the programme and the opportunity to have a chat with the team about your venture and whether the programme is a good fit for you.

When & Where?

Wednesday 23rd January (2.00pm – 3.30pm) Social Enterprise Hub 53 Market Street, Lurgan BT66 6AA

Thursday 24th January (11.30am – 1.00pm) Social Enterprise Northern Ireland 171-175 York Road, Belfast BT15 3HB

For more information on the programme see the website <https://unltd.org.uk/thrive/>

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

Prince's Trust Team in Northern Ireland



YOUTH
CAN
DO IT

Take a look at the upcoming Team programmes for people aged between 16 and 24, happening in Northern Ireland. Joining a group of up to 15 other young people, over 12-weeks you'll get to know each other through residential, community projects and work placements geared to help you gain new skills and improve your confidence.

Want to boost your confidence?

- Take on your own group community project, making a positive difference to the place where you live
- Take part in an action packed residential trip
- Get two weeks' work experience in something you're interested in
- Develop your English and Maths skills

Simply select the course that interests you to find out who it's for, what you'll gain and how to sign up.

Doesn't fit in with your schedule or location? Search for an [opportunity near you](#) or check back again soon.

Together: Building a United Community Engagement Forum

"T:BUC - Understanding the rural impact"

Tuesday, 12th February 2019, 9.30am – 2.00pm
Killyhevin Hotel, Dublin Road, Enniskillen,

The Executive Office will use the event to update participants on progress regarding the implementation of T:BUC within rural communities, as well as outlining the wider context of T:BUC and how we each contribute to its delivery at local level.

This is an important opportunity to contribute to and explore the funding and interventions across rural areas delivering on the T:BUC strategy.

This Engagement Forum will provide;

- an insight into the level and extent of successful good relations projects in rural communities.
- the opportunity for participants to discuss and understand the issues and challenges for good relations work in rural communities.
- help identify the practical actions that can be delivered to enhance and/or sustain the rural good relations impact of T:BUC

All the details, including a link to the booking area on Eventbrite are in the link below.

<https://www.community-relations.org.uk/news-centre/together-building-united-community-engagement-forum-3>



Northern Ireland
Executive



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

Housing Rights Training Courses

Universal Credit: Becoming Rent Ready

Training Courses - Skainos Centre, Belfast
Wednesday, February 20, 2019 - 10:00 to 13:00

Overview

Welfare Reform poses a number of issues, in particular for those living in temporary accommodation and trying to move into the private rented sector.

Training on Becoming Rent Ready will give participants an understanding of issues such as completing an application for Universal Credit, rent in advance, waiting days and accessing discretionary payments and rate aid.

Outcomes

This course will:

- empower staff and volunteers to deliver appropriate advice and support to people dealing with housing issues arising from the implementation of Universal Credit.
- develop the financial capability of key frontline staff/ volunteers, to enable them to provide essential support to people moving into permanent accommodation.

Who should attend

This course will be of particular importance to housing advisors, benefit advisors, community/ residents groups, political party constituency staff, private, social and hostel accommodation providers and anyone providing training and advice on housing issues.

Housing Rights

Volunteer Now Training



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

Date: 6th February 2019
Time: 10.00am - 1.00pm
Location: Volunteer Now, 34 Shaftesbury Square, Belfast BT2 7DB
Cost: Standard Course £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.

Developing a Volunteer Strategy

Date: 13th February 2019
Time: 10.00am - 1.00pm
Location: Volunteer Now, 34 Shaftesbury Square, Belfast BT2 7DB
Cost: Standard Course £80 + VAT

What is a volunteer strategy? Why do you need one? How do you develop one and how do you roll it out?

This masterclass takes participants through the key questions around developing and rolling out a volunteer strategy and explores how you can make a strategy be a living document that drives volunteering forward within your organisation.

A Certificate of Attendance is awarded at the end of this masterclass.

Keeping it Legal: Volunteers & the Law

Date: 20th February 2019
Time: 10.00am - 1.00pm
Location: Volunteer Now, 34 Shaftesbury Square, Belfast BT2 7DB
Cost: Standard Course £30 + VAT

This workshop gives an overview of the legal obligations an organisation has regarding its volunteers. Discover how to ensure you don't accidentally employ your volunteers, know the relevant legislation around health and safety and duty of care, gain a framework for carrying out a risk assessment and explore the truths and myths around volunteering while on benefits.

A Certificate of Attendance is awarded at the end of this workshop.

For more information and to book places, go to; <https://www.volunteernow.co.uk/training/courses-scheduled/?search=&category=35&postcode=&distance=10000&training-search=1>

Champions for Home Safety

The Promoting Wellbeing Division (PWD) organise training for :

- Trust Staff and other statutory agencies
- Community and Voluntary Sector staff and volunteers
- Private sector organisations
- General public

who can champion Home Safety with individuals, groups and communities across the Southern Trust Area.

The Trust will provide practical support to their Home Safety Champions through:

- Training in ROSPA's City and Guilds course – *An Introduction to Home Safety'*
- Support with rolling out Home Safety Campaigns and activities
- Provision of information and leaflets in line with Home Safety Campaigns
- Provision of resources to support rolling out of Home Safety Campaigns

The 'Introduction To Home Safety' course includes:

- home safety in context
- causes of home accidents
- cost of accidents
- who is at risk
- maintaining a safe environment
- effective accident prevention interventions
- risk assessment
- evaluation
- action planning

Next Training Date: Monday 4 March 2019

Venue: Promoting Wellbeing Division, Training Room, St Lukes Hospital, Loughgall Road, Armagh, BT61 7NQ

Time: 9.30-5pm

Cost: Training is free of charge

The Role of the Home Safety Champion

- Attend the Introduction to Home Safety training
- To link with the Trust's Community Health Improvement Officer and Support Workers to promote safer homes/communities
- To cascade Home Safety messages in line with Awareness Campaigns to the general public and specifically families and carers of those children aged under 5 years and adults over 65 years.
- To order resources from PWD and other agencies to support your work with children, older people and their families

To register your interest in this training opportunity complete an application form and submit to :

Orla Clarke

Promoting Wellbeing Division

pwb.training@southerntrust.hscni.net

Funding



Fermanagh and Omagh District Council – Grant Aid, 1st call for applications

Applications for grant aid & bursaries **opens on Wednesday 16 January 2019 and will close at 5pm on Thursday 7 February 2019**. Bursaries are also open to individuals for Arts, Culture & Sport. Grant Aid & Bursaries funding relates to projects/activities in the 2019-2020 financial year.

Applications are invited in the categories listed below:

Grant Aid:

- Arts, Culture & Heritage
- Community Services - General
- Community Services - Revenue
- Culture Night - 2019
- Festivals & Events - Large
- Festivals & Events - Small
- Good Relations
- Irish in the Community
- Remembering & Commemoration - Decade of Centenaries
- Seeding Grants
- Sport NI - Everybody Active 2020 Programme
- Sports Events
- Summer Schemes

Bursaries:

- Arts, Culture & Heritage
- Irish Language
- Sports

Drop In – Grant Aid Information Sessions for Funding Streams will be held in the following locations:

- Tara Centre, Omagh Monday 21 January 2019 4.30 pm - 7.30 pm
- Enniskillen Library Tuesday 22 January 2019 4.30 pm - 7.30 pm

If you are unable to attend any of the above information sessions, Council Officers will be available by appointment to provide information.

Please contact the Funding & Investment Unit; see telephone number below.

Grant Aid information sessions will be held in conjunction with the Council's Community Services Funding and Advice Fair, the aim of which is to offer a wide range of funding information to Community and Voluntary organisations on available financial support.

Where possible applicants are asked to complete the application online, the link can be located on the Council's website: www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/funding-and-grants/ - Council Officers are available to assist with this process. Grant Aid Code of Conduct and Guidance Notes are also available to download.

For further assistance contact the Funding & Investment Unit, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council:
T: 0300 303 1777 E: grants@fermanaghomagh.com

Late, incomplete or retrospective applications will not be considered.

Grant Aid - for Older Peoples Groups

Applications are also open for Older Peoples Groups which must apply directly to the South West Age Partnership (SWAP) for the Council's Grant Aid, with the exception of Good Relations Grant Aid.

Closing date is 5pm on Thursday 7 February 2019.

For further information or to apply for Grant Aid please contact:- Allison Forbes
Tel: 028 8225 1824 or Email: aforbes@southwestagepartnership.co.uk

For more information and to apply please visit <https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/funding-and-grants/grant-aid-arts-community-sports/>

TBUC Camps Programme

The Executive Office, in partnership with the Education Authority (EA), are inviting applications from groups who wish to deliver a Camp, as part of the T:BUC Camps Programme in 2019 - 2020. The programme is about building positive relations among young people across all parts of our community.

A number of funding forums have been arranged to provide advice and guidance to organisations who are considering applying for funding under the Camps Programme 2019-2020. Interested groups can register to attend one of the information events at this link - <http://www.tbucevents.eventbrite.com>



The application process is now open and closes at 4.00pm on Thursday 31st January 2019.

For more information on the T:BUC Camps Programme 2019 - 2020 visit - <https://www.eani.org.uk/TBUC-2019-2020>

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

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**

Financial Assistance Call 1 2019

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council invites applications for financial assistance towards the programme areas outlined below.

- Service Level Agreements for Community Facilities
- Minor Grants Community Works Schemes
- Community Capital Schemes
- Summer Schemes
- Irish Language
- Local Biodiversity Enhancement
- Tourism Events
- Sports Active
- Community Engagement
- Community Events and Festivals

Application forms can be downloaded from www.newrymournedown.org or can be collected from reception in O'Hagan House, Monaghan Row, Newry or Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick.

The opening date: Monday 14 January 2019
The closing date: 4pm Friday 15 February 2019



Completed applications must be returned to either the reception in O'Hagan House, Monaghan Row, Newry or Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick. Late applications will not be considered.

Workshops on the application process will take place at 6.30pm at the following venues:

- Thursday 24 January Canal Court Hotel, Newry
- Tuesday 29 January Millbrook Lodge Hotel, Ballynahinch

For further information on the application process, please contact:

The Programmes Unit T: 028 3031 3024

E: programmesunit@nmandd.org

W: <http://www.newrymournedown.org/residents-grants-and-funding>

Walking Group Grants – Western Trust Area

The Public Health Agency has provided funding to support Walking for Health Groups delivering walking programmes in the Western Trust area. Funding will be allocated by the Western Health and Social Care Trust Health Improvement Department, Equality and Involvement Department as small grants of approximately £100 per group, depending on the number of successful applicants.

The purpose of the grant is to support new or existing walking groups through the provision of transport, access to facilities, promotional materials or items which will enhance and promote walking groups.

Criteria:

- Only Walk Leaders trained through the Walking for Health scheme are eligible to submit a grant application;
- Only one grant will be allocated per Walking Group/Walk Leader;
- Groups applying for grants must have at least one trained walk leader facilitating all walks;
- Your walking group or host organisation must have a bank account in place in order to access funds as personal cheques cannot be issued;
- Your group must deliver a walking programme of at least 12 walks during 2019, including at least one walk as part of Walking Month in May;
- The Walking for Health logo should be used on all promotional materials and is available on request;
- Funding cannot be used to support one off or fundraising events;
- Funding cannot be used to pay individuals to lead walks, as it is expected that trained walk leaders lead walks in a voluntary capacity or as part of their core work role in line with the Walking for Health Programme ethos.

Contact Lesley.Finlay@westerntrust.hscni.net for a small grants application form which should be **returned no later than Wednesday 6 February**. You will be required to complete a brief evaluation form to confirm how funding has been used. Please keep all receipts.

Should you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact Lesley on 028 7186 5127 ext 217127

The Pathway Fund

The Pathway Fund is open to all facilitators or registered providers of early years education and learning provision focused on children 0-4 such as:

- Registered Sessional Day-care Settings (Out of Schools, Summer Schemes, Playgroups, Crèches)
- Registered Full Day Care Settings (Day Nurseries)
- Registered Childminders

In 2019/20 the Pathway Fund will be administered over two streams and applicants can apply to one or the other, not both. Only one application per organisation will be accepted.

Stream A applications open on Thursday 3rd January 2019 and close on Monday 4th February 2019 at 4:00pm.

Stream B applications open on Thursday 3rd January 2019 and close on Monday 28th January 2019 at 4:00pm.

For further information please contact The Pathway Fund office on 028 9066 2825 (option 2) or email thepathwayfund@early-years.org



FREE PRIZE DRAW

WIN!

ONE OF 13 IPADS ENTER OUR FREE PRIZE DRAW TODAY!

We're launching a new website in 2019 to offer you an improved experience via our online services and to celebrate we're giving away 13 iPads. If you want to get up to date communications regarding your tenancy tick the box and enter your email, if you don't have an email address still enter, you could be the winner of a brand new iPad. **GOOD LUCK!**



Enter here or online at www.nihe.gov.uk/comp

FILL IN YOUR DETAILS BELOW

First name..... Surname

Tenancy number Postcode.....

Email Address

TICK HERE TO CONSENT TO YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS BEING USED FOR COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING YOUR TENANCY AND FUTURE ONLINE SERVICES

Entry closes on 28th February 2019

By entering, the participant agrees to be bound by these terms and conditions. Only one entry per household. Winners must be over 18 years of age and be a Housing Executive tenant. A winner will be selected at random for each Housing Executive area from all entries received. If you are a winner, the Housing Executive may request you to participate in any publicity or promotion organised including promotional photographs. The decision of the Housing Executive shall be final and no correspondence or discussion shall be entered into. Housing Executive employees and agency staff are not permitted to enter. In accordance with The General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679) and the Data Protection Act 2018, by submitting your email address you consent to the storage of your email address on the Housing Executive's internal records management system for communications regarding your tenancy and future online services.

You may withdraw your consent at any time by notifying the Housing Executive, in which case your email address will be securely removed from our records management system.

To find out how we use your personal information and your individual rights you can view the full version of our Privacy Notice at www.nihe.gov.uk/privacy_notice

**ENTER
BY 28-2-19**

Post to:- Competition Entries, Housing Executive, 2 Adelaide Street, Belfast, BT2 8PB
You can also hand in at your local office or give to your Patch Manager.

Housing Executive

nihe.gov.uk

[facebook.com/housingexecutive](https://www.facebook.com/housingexecutive)

[@nihecommunity](https://twitter.com/nihecommunity)

USEFUL NUMBERS

Repairs **03448 920 901** - OPEN 24 HOURS

Housing Benefit **03448 920 902**

General Enquiries **03448 920 900**

If you are deaf, hearing or speech impaired you can contact our services using our standard telephone numbers by using Next Generation Text (NGT). To contact us by NGT please dial **18001** in front of the telephone numbers above.

HS/48/10/18