



Supporting Communities NI

39th Edition of E-Zine

24th August 2015

Welcome to Supporting Communities NI's 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.



An Update on the Proposed Tenant Participation Strategy for NI

The Social Housing Reform Programme Team has produced an update on the consultation on proposals for a Tenant Participation Strategy for NI.

The following key points are highlighted here and a link to the Consultation Report is contained below.

A total of 171 online responses to the consultation were received as well as 35 from other organisations. Responses were largely positive and supported the proposals within the Strategy. A full analysis was carried out and findings detailed in a Response Report.

The Response Report was presented to Social Development Committee at the end of June. The Committee recognised the effort that had been put into gathering views on the draft Strategy from tenants, their representatives and those organisations with an interest in the social housing sector. The Committee requested sight of the finalised Tenant Participation Strategy and Action Plan prior to publication. The Response Report, as well as a copy of the consultation responses in full, was made available on the DSD website at the

beginning of August and can be viewed at the following link: www.dsdni.gov.uk/tenant-participation-strategy-consultation.htm

The consumer standard contained in the Strategy will be included in the new Regulatory Framework that is due to be published at the beginning of 2016. A detailed Action Plan is currently under development; this plan will accompany the Tenant Participation Strategy and will outline responsibility for delivery of each element of the Action Plan over the five year period.

The current planning assumption is that the finalised Strategy accompanied by the Action Plan will be presented to Social Development Committee in November, followed by publication by the end of the year.

The Reform Programme has its own webpage containing progress reports, the published documents and back copies of the bimonthly newsletter. To access the page, go to; <http://www.dsdni.gov.uk/index/hdiv-housing/shrp.htm>

Regulator's new guidance asks if your charity is "getting it right?"

New guidance from Northern Ireland's independent charity regulator is calling on all charities to ask if they are "getting it right" when it comes to ensuring they are complying with the law.

Available now on www.charitycommissionni.org.uk, the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's new *Getting it right* guidance is aimed at providing an accessible guide to support charity trustees in meeting their legal duties.

Commission Chief Executive, Frances McCandless, explained: *"It is important that charity trustees, as their organisation's leaders, understand the public trust which has been placed in their hands – the onus is on them to get things right."*

While we don't expect charity trustees to be legal experts, we do expect they will take reasonable steps to ensure they have an awareness of, and are complying with, the relevant legislation and best practice requirements.

Our Getting it right guidance provides valuable information on relevant charity and other legislation, helping trustees to ensure they get things right for the benefit of the charity."

As well as information on the range of legal and best practice requirements charity trustees face, the *Getting it right* guidance includes a short, twelve-step checklist to support trustees in identifying potential issues.

This checklist asks trustees to consider if they:

- ♦ know the rules in the charity's governing document and keep them regularly under review
- ♦ have and maintain a list of legislation that impacts on the charity
- ♦ regularly review the charity's activities and area of operation to identify legal obligations and best practice
- ♦ regularly review the charity's policies and procedures to ensure they are up to date and fit for purpose
- ♦ place legal compliance as a standing item on meetings of the charity's trustees
- ♦ ensure all new trustees receive an induction and are subject to trustee checks
- ♦ have read relevant charity guidance produced by the Commission
- ♦ seek advice from a professional or umbrella body where necessary
- ♦ have read and comply with the Code of Good Governance
- ♦ keep good records of trustee meetings to show how they have exercised governance over the charity
- ♦ keep good accounting and other records.

The *Getting it right* guidance also provides useful information for anyone who is concerned that a charity is not complying with its legal obligations, including how they can alert the Commission and what action may be taken as a result.

Myles McKeown, the Commission's Head of Compliance and Enquiries, commented:

"It is important to remember that the law is there to protect charities; failing to comply with the law can put a charity, its finances, its reputation or beneficiaries at risk."

No charity trustee wants the Commission to come calling with concerns over how their charity is being run - using our guidance can help you avoid that by ensuring you are already getting things right."

The Commission's *Getting it right* guidance is available to download free from the *Our regulatory work* section of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's website www.charitycommissionni.org.uk.



Queen's Award for Voluntary Service – Nominate Now!



Do you know of a volunteer group that deserves recognition for outstanding work?

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service is the highest award given to volunteer groups – the equivalent to an MBE.

It is for groups of volunteers who together make a real difference – previous winners say the Award has raised their profile, made them feel valued and inspired them to keep volunteering – so it is well worth considering! The winners are announced during Volunteers' Week every year and they receive a domed glass crystal and a certificate signed by the Queen.

The group and a nominator (not directly involved in the group) can work together to complete a nomination. With funding from the DSD Innovations Fund, Volunteer Now can give one-to-one support (meeting slots available from 2nd-11th September 2015) to

a limited number of nominators and the organisations they wish to nominate, in order to help submit a high quality nomination.

First come first served – contact Sandra.adair@volunteernow.co.uk or Walter Rader, walterrader44@gmail.com.

You can click here <http://qavs.direct.gov.uk/> to submit a nomination. If submitted by 18th September 2015, the group will be considered for an Award next year.

Notes to help you can be found at <http://qavs.direct.gov.uk/guidance-notes> but do consider getting support from Volunteer Now to develop your nomination.

Think about making your nomination for the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2016 today!

Oil Buying Clubs Scheme - For lower cost oil, join our club

Households are benefiting from reduced heating costs as the Housing Executive and Bryson Energy work in partnership alongside community groups to establish a network of oil buying clubs across Northern Ireland.

To date 21 Oil Clubs have been established across the country and have completed initial oil buys in Ballinascreen (Draperstown) in County Derry and Richmount (Portadown) in County Armagh.

In Draperstown 9,050 litres was ordered for 14 members and the price negotiated by Bryson Energy was 35.8p per litre – won by Nicholl Oils, also 2,200 litres of oil was ordered for 6 members of Richmount Oil Buying Club at 36ppl from Lisburn Fuels.

On average 500 litres cost the members £179.50, the average price for 500 litres on the Consumer Council

website was £200.02, so an average saving of £20.52 was achieved (10.26%).

Raymond Gormley (Scheme Manager) from Bryson Energy said:

“Oil is the main fuel for almost 70% of homes in Northern Ireland and its price remains changeable. We are delighted with the positive response from those living in the Draperstown and Richmount areas and with the results from the first oil fills.”

If you would like to save money on your home heating oil and see if an oil club operates in your area contact Bryson Energy on

Tel 0800 1422 867;
Text 07939 843716 or
Email oilclubs@brysonenergy.org

Nominate your Brilliant Street

Do Something Brilliant is partnering The Mirror and Belfast Live to run the first Brilliant Street competition to inspire people across Northern Ireland to find out more about their street, think differently and celebrate the best in local neighbourhoods coming together.

To enter, you need to say why your street and neighbours stand out amongst all others. You can upload images and films along with your entry.

**MAKE
SOMETHING
BRILLIANT**

For more information, go to:
[http://www.dosomethingbrilliant.co.uk/brilliantstreet?
utm_source=eNews+subscribers&utm_campaign=1e4ee64050-
eNews+27+July+2015&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_3f697
9e667-1e4ee64050-313465361](http://www.dosomethingbrilliant.co.uk/brilliantstreet?utm_source=eNews+subscribers&utm_campaign=1e4ee64050-eNews+27+July+2015&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_3f6979e667-1e4ee64050-313465361)

The winning street will be awarded £500 to go towards a street party or improvements and profiled in Belfast Live, The Mirror NI and on Community Channel.

All entries must be received by 5pm on Monday 31st August 2015. All people nominating their street must be available for interview with Belfast Live and/or The Mirror during the week of 14th September 2015. They also need to be available for filming the 'Do Something Brilliant' feature, during the week of 28th September 2015.

Independence of the Voluntary Sector Survey - please take part!

Ulster University has been funded by the Building Change Trust to carry out research into the independence of the voluntary sector in Northern Ireland. The research aims to identify the challenges and opportunities facing the sector in Northern Ireland, as well as the sector's response. The research focuses on three dimensions: Independence of Purpose, Voice and Action.

Please share your views and experiences through the online survey via CommunityNI website at:
[http://www.communityni.org/news/
independence-voluntary-sector-survey-
please-take-part?
utm_source=eNews+subscribers&utm_ca
mpaign=999c77a827-
eNews+17+August+2015&utm_medium=e
mail&utm_term=0_3f6979e667-
999c77a827-313465361#.VdLpDtEg_IV](http://www.communityni.org/news/independence-voluntary-sector-survey-please-take-part?utm_source=eNews+subscribers&utm_campaign=999c77a827-eNews+17+August+2015&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_3f6979e667-999c77a827-313465361#.VdLpDtEg_IV)

Local Good Practice Highlighted

Queens Award for Voluntary Service bestowed upon 'Building Ballysally Together'



Pictured l-r—Mark Alexander, Causeway Area Manager for the Housing Executive, Adrian Eakin, Treasurer of BBT, Ann Smyth, Vice Chair of BBT, Lord Lt. Denis F Desmond, CBE, Lexie Hynds, Chairperson of BBT and Madam Mayor, Cllr Michelle Knight-McQuillan.

This is the highest award given to local volunteer groups across the UK to recognise outstanding work in their communities. The Awards were created in 2002 to celebrate to the Queens Golden Jubilee and are the equivalent of the MBE for volunteers. The group received the award from the Lord Lieutenant of County Londonderry on the 16th June 2015.

SCNI supported a group of local residents to form Building Ballysally Together (BBT) in 2005 and the group have maintained a dedicated team of volunteers who seek to give the local community a voice and improve the services and facilities in the local area. BBT run a community house that is home to a healthy eating café which provides affordable meals and a meeting place for local residents. In addition to this they

run a Growing Places project where members of the local community can come together to learn how to grow their own food. Building Ballysally Together have also been instrumental in bringing about positive change in the estate through their ongoing lobbying and representation at meetings such as NR Partnership, Inter-Agency, etc. They also provide educational classes and events throughout the year for everyone in the Estate.

SCNI has been there throughout the journey providing funding advice and support, HR support, administrative and governance support to the group over the years and would like to congratulate Building Ballysally Together on their Award and wish them continuing success in the future.

Ashfield Gardens and Dromore Road Development Agency in Fintona has had two dilapidated murals replaced and a new one added to their community house. This project was funded through the Housing Executive's Community Cohesion BRIC programme.

The finished artworks explore Fintona's heritage, music, cultural diversity and space exploration, and helps to represent the hopes and aspirations in the community. The Area Manager, Oonagh McAvinney, recently unveiled the new art with the help of some of the young people involved and the artist who worked with them, Eoin McGinn. Eoin's inspiration for the new history mural came from talking with older people in the area who remembered trams in the Fintona area. A series of workshops in the spring, involving young people who live in Fintona, teased out what their interests and aspirations for their community as well as the type of artwork they would like to see when they visited or passed the Community House.

The work was expanded to display 'Welcome' in different languages. Like all projects in the Community House, this was an inter-generational project involving all ages. This type of work has helped to break down negative stereotypes and increase community spirit within the local area.

At the unveiling Oonagh McAvinney, the Housing Executive Area Manager, commented:

"I was delighted to be invited to unveil the artwork in Fintona which our Community Cohesion Unit funded. The music and cultural diversity and space exploration artworks are a real testament to the creativity, openness and aspirations of Fintona's young people"

Local community volunteers, Sandra Fisher and Pauline Camac were both thrilled with the new artwork.

Sandra went on to comment: *"The artwork on the community house was well past its use by date. The opportunity to involve people from across the community to create something new was terrific. Our community house looks so well and it has given a real sense of pride and ownership to the association."*

Liaison Officer from Supporting Communities, Anita Doonan commented:



"Having worked with the community in Ashfield Gardens over the last 18 months, I was delighted to hear of this opportunity for them. The community have been involved in several projects and this Mural project reinforces the strong community spirit and willingness to work together creating a strong and cohesive society. All age groups were involved in the project which demonstrated the inter-generational relationship at Ashfield Gardens."

Having spoken to the participants and the volunteers, the project had a positive impact and showcased the local talent and abilities of the young and old people."



NI Assembly

Assembly Report

At the full meeting of the Assembly held on Tuesday 30th June 2015 the Minister for Social Development, Mr Mervyn Storey MLA introduced the Housing Amendment Bill and tabled the Pensions Schemes Bill for accelerated passage; the second stage of the Pensions Schemes Bill was duly passed.

Social Development Committee

The Committee for Social Development will hold its next meeting on Thursday 3rd September 2015 at 10am in Room 29, Parliament Buildings. The Committee will meet in closed session to consider its strategic planning for 2015/16. The Committee is currently considering the Housing Amendment Bill and consultation on the proposals is ongoing until Friday 4th September 2015. The details of the consultation is available on the Committees webpage at: <http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/assembly-business/committees/social-development/legislation/housing-amendment-bill/>



Northern Ireland
Assembly

Publications

SCOPE Magazine

NICVA has published Scope magazine; the current issue contains articles on The Case for Gender Quotas in Politics, BIG Lottery Youth Fund, Self-harming, the role of the public sector in growing the economy, election 'fever' in east Belfast.

To read the current issue, go to;
<http://scopeni.nicva.org/>

Law Centre NI

The July e-newsletter is now available from the Law Centre NI. To view and to share, go to;
<http://us7.campaign-archive1.com/?u=ae690a33dc6a1581f08bf755b&id=fe1aceacd3&e=c2b6ae91b3>

NI Policing Board

The Policing Board has published the July edition of its magazine, Policing Matters. To download a copy and to share, go to;
http://www.nipolicingboard.org.uk/final_pdf_-_policing_matters_july_2015.pdf



It's a Wonderful World in Belfast

The cultures of the world will come together in colourful, noisy, fun-filled collaboration and celebration in Belfast's Botanic Gardens on Sunday 30th August when the city hosts its 9th Belfast Mela in association with Turkish Airlines. Sponsors, performers, friends and supporters gathered at The Merchant Hotel for a colourful curtain raiser which gave an early glimpse of what will be happening when Mela fever descends on Belfast.

More than 30,000 people are expected to attend the annual extravaganza, stepping into a freshly created world of diversity where the sights, sounds, smells and cuisine from around the globe come to life for one amazing day. Tibetan tradition, Bulgarian dance, Andalucian flamenco, African drumming, Afro-Caribbean funk and reggae, Punjabi folk, Chinese lion

dancing, Irish trad ... a garden of flowers, magically come to life; an international souk and Little Bollywood for the tiny tots ... there's a whole world of entertainment for the whole family.

Unveiling the 2015 programme, Nisha Tandon OBE, Director of ArtsEkta, the organisation behind Belfast Mela, said, 'Communities across the city and beyond are the lifeblood of the Mela and we are proud to provide this exciting, exuberant showcase for such a vast range of ethnic groups.

Our minority ethnic communities look to Mela as a platform to express their cultural identity, experiment creatively and introduce others to their inner world. As the artistes focus their attention on the festival, so do visitors and we are proud that Belfast Mela is also growing in stature as a 'must-see'

event for tourists, and is contributing significantly to the local economy'.

Belfast Mela will run in Botanic Gardens, Belfast from 12noon – 6pm on Sunday 30th August 2015.

Full programme details are available on line. On the day tickets are £5 for Adults, £4 for Concessions or £15 for Families. Avoid queues and secure discounts by booking online at www.belfastmela.org.uk, with tickets priced at £4 for Adults, £3 for Concessions and £12 for Families. Booking fee of £1 per web transaction.

belfast
mela

Obesity, Health and Body Image Policy Hack

Friday, 25th September 2015 - 9.30am to 3.30pm
Venue: Farset Labs, Weavers Court, Belfast

We can reduce levels of poor health related to obesity in Northern Ireland by.... If you have thoughts, ideas and experience that can help provide answers to this key statement then register your interest to attend this one day NICVA policy hack event. There are 25 places at this event and we will try to ensure a good mix of experience and expertise.

For more information and to book a place, go to;
http://www.nicva.org/event/obesity-health-and-body-image-policy-hack?utm_source=eNews+subscribers&utm_campaign=f2758063fb-eNews_10_August_2015&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_3f6979e667-



Preparing for the 2016 Programme for Government

Monday, 14th September 2015 - 9.30am to 1.30pm
Venue: NICVA, 61 Duncairn Gardens, Belfast

What will the restructuring of government departments look like and how will it impact on your work and the policies that matter to you and the people you work with? What's the current thinking on next Programme for Government and how can we influence it? Is it possible to produce a Programme for Government that encourages outcome based, cross departmental solutions to the social, economic and environmental problems we face across Northern Ireland?

This NICVA conference will explore each of these questions through a mix of speakers, panel discussion and interactive conversations with delegates.

For more information and to book a place, go to;
http://www.nicva.org/event/preparing-2016-programme-government?utm_source=eNews+subscribers&utm_campaign=f2758063fb-eNews_10_August_2015&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_3f6979e667-f2758063fb-313465361

Northern Ireland's independent charity regulator, the Charity Commission, will hold its first public meeting on Monday 21st September 2015 at the Duncairn Centre in Belfast.

The meeting will provide an opportunity for anyone with an interest in charities to catch up on the progress of the Commission over the previous 12 months, as well as meet Northern Ireland's Charity Commissioners. Attendees will be given an overview of the Commission's activities and future plans by Chief Commissioner, Tom McGrath, and Frances McCandless, Commission Chief Executive.

The meeting, the first in what will be an annual public meeting for the Commission, will take place on Monday 21st September, from 3pm to 5pm, at the Duncairn Centre, Duncairn Avenue, Belfast, BT14 6BP.

To confirm your attendance, please email admin@charitycommissionni.org.uk - spaces are limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-serve basis.

The Dad Factor in NI - the positive impact of Dads on their children's lives



Parenting NI

Monday, 21st September 2015 - 10.30 for 11.00am start
Venue: Long Gallery, Parliament Buildings

The Dads Direct Group invite you to attend the launch of this briefing paper, a key piece of work promoting good practice and highlighting the positive benefits of dads on their children's lives. The event is free and anyone working with Dads and Families are encouraged to attend. The launch takes place at the Long Gallery on the 21st September starting 10.30am with tea and coffee.

If you would like to attend please RSVP no later than 14th September to sharon@parentingni.org.

Environment Minister Mark H Durkan is calling on everyone to get involved in the European Heritage Open Days (EHOD) which will take place on 12th and 13th September.

Brochures are now available at [Discover Northern Ireland](#)

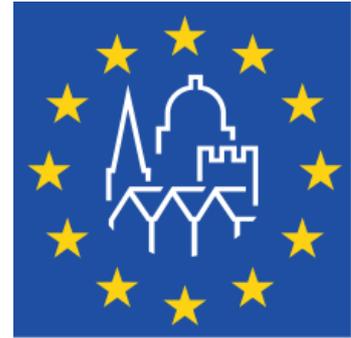
Celebrating its 18th Birthday, it is hoped that more people than ever will take the opportunity to have a 'nosey' around our many fascinating historic buildings during EHOD's milestone year. Last year EHOD had a record year with over 75,000 visitors.

Mark H Durkan said: "This is a milestone year for EHOD when it will

be celebrating 18 years of literally unlocking the doors to our past and present heritage. Some properties are open for the EHOD weekend only so this is a unique opportunity to explore our rich cultural and built heritage.

Brochures are available online now so why not start planning your EHOD weekend. With over 400 properties and events there is something for everyone, young and old, on your doorstep or further afield.

All events are free but some require advance booking so I encourage everyone to check out the website now to avoid disappointment."



Working together to redefine asset management will take place Wednesday 9th September 2015 at 12pm – 3.45pm in Helm Housing, 38-52 Lisburn Road Belfast. The event is sponsored by Mears Group and will be chaired by Michael McDonnell, Chief Executive of Helm Housing.

How can social housing providers make sure they are offering the right homes of the right quality in the right places? At 'working together to redefine asset management' in Belfast, CIH will lead the conversation on a fresh, new approach to asset management.

Programme

- 12pm Lunch served
- 12.45pm Welcome from the chair
- 12.55pm Richard Medley, Director (Assets & Neighbourhoods), CIH consultancy and Jez Lester, Assistant Chief Executive (Asset Management), Incommunities
- 2.25pm Jane Nelson, Executive Director, Mears Group and Lynda Sagona, Director of Housing and Communities, United Welsh

2.50pm Paul Isherwood, Director of Asset Management, Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) and Andy Kennedy, Programme and Planning Manager, NIHE

3.35pm Discussion and close

Booking information

This event is aimed at social housing providers and government officials.

Standard rate - £75 + VAT
CIH member - £65 + VAT

Book online, email alison.cromie@cih.org or call them on 028 9077 8222



Want to Promote your Services to the over 60's?

The 2015 Northern Ireland Pensioners Parliament will take place on Thursday 24th and Friday 25th September 2015 and will involve around 180 older people from across the province gathering in Belfast for the event. The parliament will also see participation from policy experts, influential people and high level politicians during its packed agenda. There are opportunities to avail of exhibition space, programme advertising and inserts in delegate packs.



All bookings for the Pensioners Parliament must be made by Friday 4th September 2015.

Email alison.mckenna@agesectorplatform.org, Tel 028 9031 2089 or visit the Pensioners Parliament website at; https://www.agesectorplatform.org/ni-pensioners-parliament/overview?utm_source=eNews+subscribers&utm_campaign=999c77a827-eNews_17_August_2015&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_3f6979e667-999c77a827-313465361



Housing Rights Training Course

Anti Social Behaviour and Housing

3rd September 2015 Derry/Londonderry (Holywell Trust)

9th September 2015 Belfast (Housing Rights)

10.00am - 4.00pm



This 1 day course will look at:

- ◆ Obligations of the tenant and social landlord prior to taking action
- ◆ Procedures for tackling anti social behaviour
- ◆ Pre and post court options for tenant and landlords
- ◆ Re-housing options mitigating circumstances and alternative remedies
- ◆ Relevant case law on anti social behaviour and how this should shape both social landlord's approach and tenant's behaviour potential upcoming changes to the law surrounding anti social behaviour

From £70 voluntary / community sector and from £135 for public / statutory sector

For more information and booking go to; <http://www.housingrights.org.uk/training-events>

Rutledge Training - 2015

We are currently enrolling for the Training for Success programme, which gives 16 to 18 year old school leavers the opportunity to gain further qualifications and valuable work experience.

Trainees on the programme will receive £40 per week plus travel expenses.



After 6 weeks on the programme the trainee will receive a startup bonus of £50.

New and existing trainees can also refer a friend to the programme and receive £50 for each referral (terms and conditions apply).

If you would like to contact a member of staff about the programme please contact - Rutledge Training, 22 Waterloo Street, L'Derry or phone Michelle or Caroline on 028 71370300 or 07749446166.



We Love Yew Heritage Interpretation Fund



To support communities in articulating their yew tree heritage, small grants of up to £150 are available to help cover expenses (e.g. costs of materials, hall hire, equipment, etc).

To qualify for a grant your interpretation project must:

1. Be based in the UK.
2. Be celebrating the yew tree heritage and articulating it to and with the community.
3. Be safe for all participants.
4. Be realistic for £150, or to have secured any extra funding where needed.
5. Have a date for completion within 4 months of receiving the grant and before June 2016.
6. Have a named individual responsible for the grant and carrying out the project.
7. Have an organisation's bank account the grant can be paid to.
8. Have at least one written reference from a member of a recognised community organisation (e.g. Parish Council, church, school, community group, etc).

How to apply

If you have any enquiries please email info@conservationfoundation.co.uk or call 020 7591 3111

Visit: <http://www.liveherelovehere.org/Small-Grants.aspx>

Stoves UK giving away £20,000 of Kitchen Appliances to Community Kitchens

British Cooking Appliance Brand – Stoves is looking for Community Projects to support as part of its new £20,000 Community Kitchens campaign.

Aimed at placing the kitchen at the heart of local communities, this biannual campaign will transform kitchen facilities in community projects across the UK, awarding deserving initiatives with thousands of pounds worth of kitchen appliances.

The nominated projects need to be owned, developed and led by the communities they serve and the nominations must explain why

kitchen appliances would add value to the project.

Silver and bronze winners will receive Stoves appliance packages worth between £2,000 and £3,000, with two overall winners per year winning £5,000 in prizes.

Get involved

If you think your project deserves to win, simply fill in the nomination form and explain why in no more than 300 words.

Nominated projects could include initiatives such as the refit of a village hall kitchen, community centre, women's refuge or a cookery school.

Make sure and include your contact details.

Once the nominations period has closed, a shortlist will be announced. This will then be put to a public vote.

How to nominate

For more information on the scheme and to nominate please visit: www.stoves.co.uk/community-kitchen/

The deadline for nominations is 13th September 2015.

Woodland Trust – Free Trees to Community Groups and Schools

This August marks the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War and the Woodland Trust would like you to take part in a once-in-a-generation tribute to all those who gave their lives by creating a growing legacy that will stand tall for centuries to come.

Over the next four years they are offering three million free trees to help communities, schools and youth groups remember their local heroes. The Woodland Trust not only want to create a lasting legacy for those involved in World War I, but also improve their local area - and would like people to get involved while supplies are still available.

Trees are available to schools and local groups such as Scouts, Guides, sports clubs and parish councils, who can apply for a pack via the Woodland Trust website. The Trust is encouraging people to organise tree planting events in their local area as part of its First World War Centenary Woods campaign that aims to see millions of trees planted across the UK.

Eligibility

To apply for a free tree pack you must be able to meet the following criteria:

- Your group is not-for-profit
- The trees will be planted on a publicly accessible site
- You have permission to plant from the legal landowner
- Your community has been consulted and is supportive of the project
- There will be plenty of community involvement
- Packs are appropriate for the area
- The intended planting site isn't too close to buildings, power lines, roads or other services
- You have identified the grid reference for the planting site

Packs will be delivered in November containing native, UK-grown saplings. There are a number of different pack sizes to choose - ranging from 30 trees for a small copse to 420 for an area equivalent to an international football pitch.

The tree packs have been funded by lead partners IKEA FAMILY, Biffa Award and Sainsbury's, WHSmith, Wilko and players of People's Postcode Lottery.

How to Apply

For more information about the Woodland Trust's Free Trees scheme and Green Tree Schools Award, visit: www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/freetrees or email communitytrees@woodlandtrust.org.uk

The next deadline to apply for packs is Thursday 3rd September 2015.

Rank Foundation

The Rank Foundation is a grant giving charitable trust, restricted to causes within the UK it concentrates exclusively on developing leadership amongst young people; supporting disadvantaged young people and older people and people with disabilities; the promotion of Christian principles through film and other media.

They seek to work with local groups and organisations that want and have the potential to:

- ◆ Engage with young people in open, thoughtful and exciting ways that foster their all-round development.
- ◆ Deepen and extend the abilities of those who work with young people.
- ◆ Be 'pebbles in the pond' to act within local networks and communities, to collaborate with, and be examples to other groups and agencies.
- ◆ They have developed a unique approach that invests in, and supports, pioneering work grounded in local communities. We look for work that is based in relationship; and that seeks to develop leadership, service and community.

The network of projects involved includes churches, youth cafés, creative arts projects, street work with young people, volunteering initiatives, outdoor education, a farm, and building projects.

For guidelines and information visit
www.rankfoundation.com



Supporting
Communities

N.I.

FREE

Funding
Surgery

Thursday
17th September 2015
in
Newtownards Library,
Queens Hall, Regent Street,
Newtownards, Co. Down
BT23 4AB
from
11.00 am to 3.00 pm



Call Roisin on
(028) 777 40722 or Email:
roisin.hamilton@supportingcommunitiesni.org
to arrange an individual consultation and register
for an appointment

- Practical Advice on completing Successful Funding Applications

- One to One Support, Top Tips and a range of ideas to make sure your application stands out from the crowd

- Funding Enquiry Service; access information on a variety of funders!

Church of Ireland - Marshal Beresford and Church Fabric Funds

The Marshal Beresford Fund and Church Fabric Fund help towards the building or repair of churches or chapels. The grants from the Marshal Beresford's Fund and Church Fabric Fund are allocated half-yearly in April and November. Completed application forms must be returned to the Representative Church Body by either 1st March or 1st October for the relevant half-year. If a parish is awarded a grant it will be allocated from either the Marshal Beresford's Fund or the Church Fabric Fund and not from both funds. Grants are usually not allocated towards a project until the half-year after the proposed completion date for the works relevant to the grant application.

For more information please visit: <http://ireland.anglican.org/news/5792>

The next deadline for receipt of applications is 1st October 2015.

Inter Faith Youth Trust -

Grant Programme for Inter Faith Week 2015



The Inter Faith Youth Trust will be awarding small grants up to £500 for organisations running events or projects connected with Inter Faith Week 2015 running from 15th – 21st November 2015.

Grants are awarded for proposals for inter-faith activities by children and young people from Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Sikh and other faiths and those of no formal faith in understanding and co-operation. The age range for young people is 11-25 years.

Priority will be given to projects which:

- Actively involve young people in planning, running, and evaluation of the project.
- Promote positive action i.e. young people from different backgrounds coming together to address shared problems like improving green spaces
- Are run by non-statutory organisations, such as youth clubs, scout/guide groups, local voluntary and community organisations.

Grants can provide part-funding. Grants are not available for converting young people to a different faith.

Grants are given only to UK based organisations and are given for the agreed purposes set out in the completed grant application form. Grants are for use in accordance with the Trust's charitable objectives. The Inter Faith Youth Trust as funder takes no responsibility for carrying out the work.

For more information on how to apply and to download an application form please visit: www.ifyouthtrust.org.uk

Applications must reach the Trust by Tuesday 15th September 2015.

B&Q Waste Donation Scheme

B&Q operate a waste donation scheme through all stores. They donate unsaleable products and waste materials for re-use by recognised community groups, e.g. schools, charities, The Scout Association etc. They donate items such as slightly damaged tins of paint, off-cuts of timber and broken tiles for mosaic projects. Items are donated on the understanding that they will be re-used. Please note that these are unsaleable/waste items and therefore B&Q cannot guarantee the suitability for re-use.

Items available for donation will vary from store to store and there is no guarantee that items will be available for donation when an enquiry is made. The recipient is responsible for ensuring that unused items are disposed of responsibly. It is company policy that health and safety is taken into consideration, therefore electrical, petrol and gas items are not available for donation. Any waste or surplus stock offered is done so on the guarantee that it will not be re-sold.

For more information please contact your local store directly and speak to a Duty Manager. Before any materials are donated, the store will complete a Waste Donation Form which must be signed by a representative of the group.

Identification will be required as proof that you are a member of that group.

For further information visit:

www.diy.com/corporate/community/waste-donation/

King George VI Youth Awards

The King George VI Youth Awards funds youth work activity for young people aged 14 to 21 up to £500 for travel, sport and equipment.

Scheme details

The King George VI Youth Awards have been helping young people for over 20 years.

The Awards are funded from investments made after the sale of the King George VI Youth Hall in May Street, Belfast. The King George VI Youth Council is responsible for investing the proceeds of the sale and for 2 awards for young people – the sports awards, administered by the Sports Council NI and the youth awards, administered by Youthnet.

The Youth Awards are open to young people aged 14 – 21 and either individual or groups can apply.

The maximum award is £500 and applications are considered by a panel which meets at least 4 times per year. The panel is made up of representatives of Youthnet member organisations.

Please note that the Awards are only open to young people who are resident in Northern Ireland.

Who can apply?

- Young people aged between 14 and 21
- Groups or individuals can apply.
- You must be resident in Northern Ireland.

What can I apply for?

You can apply for almost any youth work activity, which should be linked to the aims of the Northern Ireland Youth Work Curriculum but there are some exceptions:

Travel:

Awards are made for travel for activities taking place within Northern Ireland, Great Britain and the Republic of Ireland only. Overseas trips are not eligible for an award.

Sport:

Applications for sport will only be considered where the applicant can show that the sport is part of a curriculum based youth work programme. Individuals making an application for sports activity or coaching must be able to demonstrate that they will pass their skills on to a youth group. Single activity sports groups/ clubs are not eligible for an Award.

Equipment:

Applications for the purchase of equipment should be directly related to training or youth work provision for young people. Awards will not be made for musical instruments, band uniforms or tuition.

You should show some evidence of fundraising on your application.

Exclusions

- Awards are not made for general running costs- capital building costs or salaries.
- Funding will not be given in retrospect.
- Overseas trips are not eligible for an award.
- Awards are not made to headquarter or parent bodies or other trust funds.

Application Deadline: 4pm 12th Oct 2015

For further information Email: info@youthnet.co.uk or Visit: <http://www.youthnetni.org.uk/King-George-VI-Awards-8106.html>



Small Grants Scheme – Northern Area Mental and Emotional Well-Being and Suicide Prevention

The Public Health Agency (PHA) has identified non-recurring funding to address the themes of Suicide Prevention, Self-Harm, Mental Health & Emotional Well-Being and have commissioned Causeway Rural and Urban Network to facilitate this process.

Grants are available at the level of £1,000 per project. Applications may be considered for more strategic projects over £1,000 limit dependent on evidence of need and availability of resources.

Applications will be assessed on the potential to improve health and well-being and on the ability to complete the work by the end of January 2016, including evaluation, by mid-March 2016. Dates for applications are as follows:

Small Grant Scheme aims:

- Promote awareness of issues around mental health problems
- Encourage communities to be pro-active in promoting positive mental health and emotional well-being, and tackle the contributing factors of self-harm and suicide
- To build sustainable resilient communities through positive collaboration of organisations/groups
- Promote innovative interventions/programmes that promote positive mental health and emotional well-being, and tackle the contributing factors of self-harm and suicide

Applications also should promote protective factors and build resilience, including e.g. early intervention, emotional well-being awareness work, increasing the capacity for self-help and measures to improve quality of life.

The Northern Small Grants Scheme for Mental & Emotional Well-being and Suicide Prevention is rolled out annually, through the **following 4 Community Networks** (i.e. the Northern area is split up, **so applicants need to apply to relevant network dependent on community need for a particular area**).

NETWORK	Areas Covered
CRUN Causeway Rural & Urban Network	1. Coleraine
CWSAN Cookstown & Western Shores Area Network	2. Cookstown
	3. Magherafelt
NACN North Antrim Community Network	4. Moyle
	5. Ballymoney
	6. Ballymena
	7. Larne
SACN South Antrim Community Network	8. Antrim
	9. Newtownabbey
	10. Carrickfergus

Closing date for applications will be Wednesday 16th September 2015 at 12 noon.
To apply/query to a particular locality within the North, please contact the relevant network.