

30th May 2017

E-Zine



**Supporting™
Communities**
Empowering Society

Welcome to Supporting Communities 77th 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.

Radius becomes first member of Empowering Communities

Radius Housing Association, the youngest and largest Housing Association in Northern Ireland has become the first organisation to register as a member of our new company, Empowering Communities.

The company which has been established to support and diversify on the work of its sole shareholder Supporting Communities is also a vehicle to deliver the requirements of the Independent Tenant Organisation role for Social Landlords.

The key role of Empowering Communities is to be 'The lead organisation in improving the quality of Tenant Participation practice by developing and delivering innovative and practical solutions on tenant Participation.'

Laura O'Dowd, Director of Empowering Communities highlighted that;

"As a member, Radius will now be able to access useful and practical information, training and personalised support in order to develop Tenant Participation within their organisation. They will also be able to participate in events organised by Empowering Communities, such as our 'How to do it' sessions and forums. We look forward to continuing to support and work alongside Eileen, Grainne and their teams in the future"

Eileen Patterson, Director of Communities, Radius stated;

"We are delighted to become a member of Empowering Communities. In Radius we are committed to real and meaningful tenant engagement and we understand that to achieve this we need to work in partnership with our tenants and the independent organisations that can support them. We are really looking forward to the Forums that Empowering Communities will be able to facilitate and which will enable us all to share best practice and develop new ways of engaging with our tenants."

For further information on Empowering Communities and details on how to become a member, please go to www.empoweringcommunities.ltd or contact Sheenagh McNally on sheenagh@empoweringcommunities.ltd.



(l-r) Sheenagh McNally, Empowering Communities; Eileen Patterson, Director of Communities, Radius; Grainne Mullin, Area Manager, Radius and Laura O'Dowd, Empowering Communities

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New Rural Community Award announced

The 'Sustainable Village of the Year' award has been launched as part of the Housing Executive's Rural Community Awards.

The Sustainable Village of the Year award will be the overall winner of the two existing award categories: the Cleaner and Greener Award and the Community Spirit Award.

[Download the application form for the Rural Community Awards 2017](#) ( 336 KB)

The aim of this new award is to acknowledge and celebrate the vital contributions made by a community who has went 'above and beyond' to help make their village a better place to live through developing and engaging residents in activities to encourage environmental, social and economic sustainability.

The Rural Community Awards help improve community spirit within rural neighbourhoods.

There is a total prize fund of £6,000 on offer, with six prizes of £1,000 being awarded to help and support those communities working to improve their respective areas.

Within each of the three categories (Cleaner and Greener, Rural Community Spirit and Sustainable Village of the Year) there are two prizes, one for villages with a population of less than 1,000 and one for populations 1,000-5,000.

The awards are open to all rural neighbourhoods although there is particular interest in activities which are inclusive and benefit tenants of Housing Executive estates.



(l-r) Robert Clements & Sinead Collins, Housing Executive; Nigel Brady, Bryson Energy and Siobhan McCauley, Housing Executive's Director of Regional Services

Siobhan McCauley, Housing Executive Director of Regional Services said: *"We are delighted to introduce the Sustainable Village of the Year Award, an additional award to recognise the overall achievements of groups who have excelled in both the Cleaner and Greener and the Community Spirit categories. As we enter the fourth year of the Rural Community Awards, the number of nominations across Northern Ireland continues to grow. We look forward to hearing from rural community groups this summer and giving them the opportunity to showcase how they have helped to improve health and well-being and boost community spirit within their villages."*

Nigel Brady, Director of Bryson Energy said: *"We are delighted to support the launch of these rural awards, especially with the new inclusion of the Sustainable Village award. As NI leading energy social enterprise we are committed to rural sustainable communities."*

Deadline for the submission of applications is Friday 14 July 2017 at 4pm.

Email your [application form](#) ( 313 KB) to rural.housing@nihe.gov.uk

or send it to:

The Rural Unit, Housing Executive, The Housing Centre, 2 Adelaide Street, Belfast BT2 8PB.

NICVA Releases Findings from Northern Ireland Faith Survey



As part of the Faith Based Strand of the Regional Infrastructure Programme (RISP), NICVA completed a piece of research which aimed to explore the community work undertaken by the faith sector in Northern Ireland, outside of regular worship and the training and support needs of these organisations.

To read the full report and findings, go to;

http://www.nicva.org/article/nicva-releases-findings-from-northern-ireland-faith-survey?utm_source=eNews+subscribers&utm_campaign=ca11175896-eNews+-+2+May+2017&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_3f6979e667-ca11175896-313465361

Carer's NI Annual State of Caring Survey is now open

The more responses Carers Northern Ireland can get from Northern Ireland the better the picture of carers' experiences here they can build which, in turn, they can use to lobby for increases in services and support for carers here.

This year in particular they're looking at hospital discharge and the quality of health/care services.

Please forward the link below to any carers or organisations supporting carers in your networks: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/stateofcaring2017>

For more information about Carers Northern Ireland, visit www.carersni.org



Advice heading into Summer – Department for Infrastructure

As we approach the summer period, we can experience some very heavy periods of thundery rain which could overwhelm drains and culverts and it is therefore important to be vigilant.



There are some simple precautions that can be taken during this time that may mitigate or even prevent flooding:

1. Ensure that contact details in your household and community plan are up to date, particularly for the elderly and vulnerable and new residents etc;
2. Regularly be aware of weather warnings through TV / Radio / Apps
3. If you notice debris that could block gullies and if safe to do so, remove the debris or report this to your local Transport NI office; <https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/contacts/>
4. If you notice debris that may have been discarded along river banks which when rivers are swollen could be carried downstream potentially causing a blockage, please report this to your local Rivers Agency office: <https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/rivers-agency-overview#toc-5>

If necessary, remember to use the Flooding Incident Line – 0300 2000 100 to report flooding

Fawcett Society: sex discrimination law review

The Fawcett Society has launched a sex discrimination law review which will include a consideration of the sex equality legislation in NI.

The Fawcett Society has launched a sex discrimination law review which will include a consideration of the sex equality legislation in Northern Ireland and the differences between Northern Ireland and the rest of the UK. The review has been established in response to the concern that rights may be eroded or weakened as a result of Brexit. It is inviting submissions from organisations/individuals in Northern Ireland.

This is an important review and we would encourage you to submit evidence. It is clear that in Northern Ireland men and women have less protection against sex discrimination than in other parts of the UK. The Equality Commission has called for action to address the significant gaps and weaknesses in our sex equality laws.

It has also called for no erosion of equality laws after the UK leaves the EU.

For further information see our recommendations on: [Gender Law Reform: Key Point Briefing \(pdf\)](#)
[The UK's exit from the EU](#)

Submissions should be sent to the Fawcett Society at lawreview@fawcettsociety.org.uk before 3 July 2017.

See more at: <http://www.equalityni.org/Footer-Links/News/Delivering-Equality/Fawcett-Society-sex-discrimination-law-review#sthash.cqQWSl5p.dpuf>



Sign up to Boardroom Apprentice!

Want to make a difference? Want to give something back? Boardroom Apprentice want to give you the opportunity to gain experience in the boardroom. You can use your skills and knowledge to drive the change to diversify our boardrooms. Through the initiative you can take part in a 12 month placement on a board in a wide range of sectors.



You can get more information and download the application form [on the website](#).
Closing date is Tuesday, 6 June at 3pm.

Advice for Housing Executive Tenants Home Contents Insurance



Did you know you're responsible for insuring your home's contents?

If you rent your home from the Housing Executive, they as your landlord are responsible for the bricks and mortar of your home but as a tenant your contents are your responsibility.

So if any of your furniture, belongings or decorations are stolen, damaged as a result of fire or vandalism or perhaps a weather related incident (eg burst pipes) then your contents insurance must be used to claim.

For more information on purchasing home contents insurance contact either:

- Supporting Communities on 028 2564 5676
- Your local Housing Executive Office on 03448 920 900
- Speak to an insurance broker in your area or
- Search comparison websites online

Make sure you get several quotes before deciding which company to use and ask if they would be happy to arrange for you to pay weekly or monthly so you can spread the cost.

Consultations

Charity Commission Consultation on Serious Incident Reporting



The Charity Commission for Northern Ireland has opened a public consultation on draft *Serious incident reporting* guidance for Northern Ireland charities. The guidance, and information on the consultation, can be viewed on the [Current consultations](#) page of the website. The Commission would like to hear from charity trustees, organisations and professionals which help charities, and members of the public who are interested in the good governance of charities. Your views and feedback will shape the final guidance, informing the Commission of gaps and areas for improvement.

The consultation will be open for 8 weeks from 17 May 2017 until 5pm on 11 July 2017.

How can you respond?

You can take part in the consultation using any of the following methods:

1. Attend a seminar on Serious incident reporting at which you will have a chance to provide feedback on the draft guidance. The seminar will be held on Tuesday 13 June 2017 , 2:00pm – 4:00pm, at NICVA, 61 Duncairn gardens, Belfast BT15 2GB.

For more information and to book click on:

[Serious incident reporting what-trustees need to know](#)

2. Complete an online questionnaire available from the [Current consultations](#) page of the website.
 3. Download a consultation response form from the website www.charitycommissionni.org.uk and either:
 - Email it to consult@charitycommissionni.org.uk or
 - Post it to Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, 257 Lough Road, Lurgan, Northern Ireland, BT66 6NQ
-

Social Housing Enterprise Programme

As part of the Housing Executive's Social Housing Enterprise Programme we have a financial investment programme. This programme aims to support social enterprise initiatives which deliver services and create employment in our housing communities. The programme also supports individuals and groups develop business ideas or increase capacity to benefit communities.

Our small awards for Business Start-up, Education & Training Awards of up to £1,000 are now open.

Applications for large awards of £10,000, £20,000 & £50,000 are currently now open. Closing date for applications is Friday 16th June 2017 at 4.00pm.

If you want further information please contact:
Paul Carland, Connor Smith or Niall Eastwood on
03448 920 900
or email: socialinvestments@nihe.gov.uk

   nihe.gov.uk

 facebook.com/housingexecutive

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



Special Focus

Consultation shows preference for joining Fundraising Regulator

Sandra Bailie, Head of Organisational Development, NICVA reports on the consultation carried out with the sector.



Over the last few months the Fundraising Regulation working group have been consulting with the sector on the best option for fundraising regulation in NI. This is an update of progress to date. There were 47 responses to the online survey, 2 position papers submitted and 2 consultation events held.

Out of the 47 responses to the on line survey 34 were satisfied or very satisfied with Fundraising Regulator (FR) and 11 very dissatisfied or dissatisfied with FR; and 18 were satisfied or very satisfied with NI fundraising complaints service and 22 very dissatisfied or dissatisfied with NI service.

Some of the principles that were expressed through comments made were:

- ◆ Affordability
- ◆ Capacity
- ◆ Same regulation across UK
- ◆ Simplicity and clarity for donors
- ◆ Donor experience is paramount
- ◆ Proportionate - Small number of complaints
- ◆ Need for expertise and knowledge
- ◆ Action is needed to promote and protect public confidence in charities.

Some of the concerns expressed through the survey were:

- ◆ Having to pay fees
- ◆ “Stigma” of not joining
- ◆ NI requires investment in capacity building before being able to attain the standards of the revised Code of FR Practice.
- ◆ Not having local control
- ◆ Smaller groups in NI would not be aware of the codes of practice and therefore, unwittingly, be in breach of the regulator.

Most people who replied to the survey preferred the option of joining the Fundraising Regulator and there was no clear mandate for establishing a specific NI regulator/body. However, there are still some questions to be answered and concerns to be address so the working group plans to meet with the Fundraising Regulator as soon as possible to discuss these issues and then formally make a recommendation on the way forward.

It is vital that the FR develops good connections and relationships with NI through organisations like NICVA, IOF, CCNI and other network organisations; in order that we don't get lost as small fish in a big pond and that they understand our landscape and legislation.

The British Heart Foundation submitted a response in support of joining the Fundraising Regulator. They stated that *“This approach would provide a consistent, unitary and clear fundraising regulatory system for the public and the charitable sector in Northern Ireland and align with established arrangements in England and Wales. The simplicity and consistency offered by this Option would help ensure compliance across the whole charitable sector in Northern Ireland and would increase efficiency. In doing so it would also allow those charities to maximise their charitable spend and provides a ‘ready to go’ solution, with clearly established processes and procedures.”*

The Institute of Fundraising (IOF) submitted a response stating that *“IOF members could not find an overall clear consensus on a single choice of regulator. The consultation event held by IOF Northern Ireland highlighted that for UK-wide charities operating in Northern Ireland there would be a clear preference for the same system of Regulation as in England and Wales (and indeed Scotland). For Northern Ireland only charities there was more resistance to having the Fundraising Regulator as the single fundraising oversight body. The IOF members agreed that the Fundraising Regulator should be able to operate in Northern Ireland for those organisations who want to come join as levy payers or subscribers.”*

Need to resource improving fundraising practice

There was a clear appetite for improving fundraising practice and a real need expressed for support in terms of fundraising practice and resourcing issues of best practice. A significant number of people suggested establishing a specific “Northern Ireland Fundraising Practice programme and/or group”, where interested parties could work collaboratively to promote best practice and, if necessary, identify and secure additional resources. Capacity building for the sector is a must.

The survey showed that support was needed to build capacity in fundraising practice most people would benefit from online information and guidance (64%) as well as access to fundraising health check (62%) and training sessions (55%).

The IOF response also reinforced the need for more investment in the development of fundraising practice and compliance in Northern Ireland. The IOF members in Northern Ireland believe that compliance and standards improvement needs to go hand in hand with investment in fundraising skills in fundraising and building fundraising capacity in charities.

Publications

Open Government Network NI

The Northern Ireland Open Government Network is an alliance of individual citizens and representatives of voluntary/community organisations with the following vision: *“To contribute to delivering more open, transparent and accountable government that empowers citizens to shape decisions that impact on their lives.”*

The latest e-bulletin from the Open Government Network is available at;
[http://us11.campaign-archive2.com/?e=\[UNIQID\]
&u=eb8190c447fef4459558bfc18&id=34ed73f568](http://us11.campaign-archive2.com/?e=[UNIQID]&u=eb8190c447fef4459558bfc18&id=34ed73f568)

Latest Rural Matters

The special Balmoral Show edition of Rural Matters, the Housing Executive magazine for the rural community, is out now.

It highlights the launch of the Housing Executive Homelessness Strategy, social enterprise and home improvement grants and the Rural Community Awards which will be launched at the show this week.

[Download the latest edition of Rural Matters \(!\[\]\(642aa997563f9a325b310230bb5078b7_img.jpg\) 1753 KB\)](#)

In this edition you can also read about:

- Welfare changes
- Identifying need for new rural housing and our
- Rural Residents Forum



Racism and intolerance towards minority ethnic groups in Northern Ireland

This new Research Update by Lucy Michael explores racism and intolerance towards minority ethnic groups in Northern Ireland. This Research Update is based on data from the 2015 Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey, which recorded the attitudes of 1,200 people living across Northern Ireland. Full results of the 2015 survey are available on the [ARK website](#).



[The Research Update is available here.](#)

The Northern Ireland Housing Bulletin October – December 2016 is released



A report entitled “Northern Ireland Housing Bulletin October – December 2016” has been published by the Department for Communities (DfC).

The Northern Ireland Housing Bulletin is produced each quarter by the Analytical Services Unit of the DfC. This bulletin contains statistics on starts and completions, homelessness, the House Price Index and new National House Building Council (NHBC) registered dwellings sales and prices.

The full report is available at;
<https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/news/northern-ireland-housing-bulletin-october-december-2016-released>

NI Environment Link Publications

The most recent NIEL e-bulletin is available on the NIEL website at;
<http://www.mailings.tc/t/r-85C731ACF46D432A2540EF23F30FEDED>



The European Environmental news bulletin is available at;
<http://www.nienvironmentlink.org/cmsfiles/EU-Matters-April-2017.pdf>

In addition, NI Environment Link has a calendar of events being run by stakeholders and member groups; to find an event of interest to you, or near you go to; <http://www.nienvironmentlink.org/events/>

Community Arts Partnership

The most recent edition of Community Arts Weekly is available at;
<http://us4.campaign-archive1.com/?u=b8a8a675fc3c8c08286c7e4ee&id=51323912f1&e=f98d0fc214>

Here you will get access to up to date information on local community arts events, projects and funding.

There is more information and updates on the Partnerships' website at; <http://comartspartner.org/>

Law Centre NI

The most recent E-bulletin can be accessed at; <http://us7.campaign-archive1.com/?u=ae690a33dc6a1581f08bf755b&id=c0bde17b94&e=c2b6ae91b3>



Rural Community Network

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/publicationdocument.aspx?>

Scope NI

Available online, including articles such as; Faith Based Charities, NI's Budget Crisis and what Theresa May has in store for the Third Sector

Scope can be accessed at;
<http://scopeni.nicva.org/latest-scope-articles>



Please click the link below to access the March 2017 edition of inpartnership – the newsletter for PCSPs which highlights local events and initiatives.

<https://www.pcsp.org/sites/pcsp/files/media-files/inpsip-Jan-17.PDF>

Community Development and Health Network

The most recent edition of the CDHN e-newsletter is now available.

To access the newsletter, go to;
<http://us9.campaign-archive1.com/?u=1efc35d04e4c921abca05f196&id=6b2d37b6bb&e=09b1f9112e>



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
AND HEALTH NETWORK

Events



drink wise age well LOTTERY FUNDED

WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT 2017

drink wise & jive

LARGEST JIVE DANCE

1st July 2017 (1pm)

EBRINGTON SQUARE

**** Derry/Londonderry ****

Must be aged **16+**

Tickets **£10**

Should be able to dance basic jive steps for 5 minutes

Free jive classes available at various locations (Places limited)

Register online register.primoevents.com/ps/event/DrinkWiseJive or contact Drink Wise Age Well on **028 8283 9240** for further information on how to get involved.

Together: Building a United Community Engagement Forum

Date & Time: Thursday 15 June - 9.30am to 2.00pm

Venue: Girdwood Community Hub, Cliftonpark Avenue, Belfast

This is an open invitation to the fourth T:BUC Engagement Forum.

The keynote speaker Professor Brandon Hamber has undertaken extensive research and consultation on reconciliation and he will discuss his work and ideas which will help stimulate workshop discussions.

There will also be a performance piece from Partisan Productions featuring young people and their views on shared space.

The Forum has a significant role to play in strengthening the delivery and implementation of T:BUC.

Your participation, your views and your involvement in this event are crucial.

Please register via [Eventbrite](#).



Brexit engagement: Department for Communities

Date & Time: Wednesday, 7 June - 10.00am to 12noon

Venue: NICVA, 61 Duncairn Gardens, Belfast

The Department for Communities will attend this session to provide a briefing on the work their team have undertaken so far and to hear the sectors concerns about policy impacts of Brexit relevant to the work of DfC.

This information session will also be used to inform the NICVA position on Brexit in its engagement with decision makers here, in Westminster, in Dublin and in Brussels.

[Book your free place here](#)



Training



Chartered Institute of Housing Training

The Chartered Institute of Housing is the independent voice for housing and the home of professional standards

Mental Health and Housing

Thursday 29th June 2017

Housing teams dealing with housing management often struggle to understand mental illness, personality disorders and learning disability. This full day workshop aims to increase understanding of mental illness (including hoarding disorder) and learning disability, the effect on housing and the practical tools and responses available to the housing professional.

Learning Outcomes/objectives:

- ◆ clarify what is meant by personality disorder and the implications for housing providers
- ◆ understand psychosis and consider practical helpful responses
- ◆ recognising mental illness and learning disability in customers at an early stage
- ◆ understanding lessons from serious case reviews e.g. Fiona Pilkington
- ◆ the law; an understanding of mental health, safeguarding and equalities legislation in Northern Ireland
- ◆ clarify services, assess criteria and interventions related to mental health needs and how to effectively access them, including:

- ◆ confidence in using Risk Assessment Matrix to assess vulnerability
- ◆ use of Community Care and Mental Health Assessments
- ◆ family Intervention Projects
- ◆ the Office of Care and Protection
- ◆ explore relevant case law

Who should attend

This course is aimed at frontline housing staff including housing management, tenancy sustainment, income recovery and repairs.

Trainer Info - Jack Moore

Following a successful housing career, with a BA (Hons) in Housing, Jack is principal diversity trainer for (and a Fellow of) the Chartered Institute of Housing. He is an affiliate of the Institute of Equality & Diversity Practitioners. He is also an assessor for various awarding bodies from Level 1 to Level 5 on equality and diversity.

Dates & Locations

When: 29 June 2017

Where: CIH Northern Ireland, Carnmoney House, Edgewater Office Park, Belfast, BT3 9JQ

Price: £95 (members) / £110 non-members

For more info visit:

http://www.cih.org/training/display/vpathDCR/templatedata/cih/training/data/NI/Mental_health_and_housing_29May



Level 2 Certificate in Housing Practice

Commencing September 2017

The Level 2 Certificate in Housing Practice provides a general introduction to the housing sector, and includes the following 4 mandatory units:

- Housing provision & housing organisations
- Customer care in the housing context
- Careers and opportunities in housing
- Developing skills for working in housing

Who is it for?

- ◆ People who are new to housing or work in a frontline housing role and want to improve their understanding of housing
- ◆ People not currently working in housing but considering working in a frontline housing role.

Level 3 and 4 Certificate Training Courses are also available.

For more information and to register, go to the CIH website at; <http://www.cih.org/qualifications>

Housing Rights Training

Welfare Reform and housing: a practical guide

Belfast - Housing Rights

Thursday, June 22, 2017 - 10:00 to 16:00

As Universal Credit roll out date approaches, this must-attend session will ensure you know how Welfare Reform will affect the housing situation of vulnerable and low income households in Northern Ireland.

As well as looking at ongoing developments with Welfare Reform, this day course will also include practical case studies and exercises that will help you to have an understanding of the changes coming in and be better equipped to prepare your clients for the impact of Welfare Reform.

This seminar will cover:

- ◆ Universal Credit and Housing Credit
- ◆ The 'bedroom tax' and other reforms in the social rented sector
- ◆ The benefit cap
- ◆ Abolition of the social fund, and
- ◆ Changes to challenging benefit decisions

Who should attend?

- ◆ Both new and experienced advisers
- ◆ Housing providers
- ◆ Constituency workers
- ◆ Community/residents groups
- ◆ Hostel workers

There is a charge for this course.

For more information and to book a place, go to;
<http://housingrights.org.uk/event/welfare-reform-and-housing-practical-guide>

Volunteer Now Training

Integrated Keeping Adults and Children Safe: Training for Staff and Volunteers

The integrated training programme is aimed at those who engage with children, young people and adults at risk.

It covers:

- Legal context and policy context of safeguarding children and adults
- Awareness of vulnerability
- Awareness of abuse issues
- Procedures for reporting concerns
- Procedures for creating a safe environment and assessing and managing risk

Housing Rights

Sustaining tenancies - Keeping clients in their homes

Belfast - Housing Rights;

Monday, June 12, 2017 - 10:00 to 16:00

Derry/Londonderry - Holywell Trust

Tuesday, June 13, 2017 - 10:00 to 16:00

With limited new builds, long waiting lists for social housing, and more people than ever renting privately, keeping people in the place they call home is vitally important. This one day accredited course looks at practical solutions to key issues that can impact peoples' ability to stay in and enjoy their homes.

This course will cover:

- paying for the home and managing arrears
- dealing with antisocial behaviour
- issues around abandonment
- tackling disrepair
- making homes suitable if circumstances change

Who should attend?

This course will be of particular importance to housing advisers, community/residents groups, benefit advisors, political party constituency offices, private, social and hostel accommodation providers and the legal profession.

Accredited through the Open College Network*.

For more information on these and other Housing Rights Courses, go to;
<http://housingrights.org.uk/training-events>

- Confidentiality
- Code of behaviour for staff/volunteers

Places are allocated on a first come, first served basis and are limited to a maximum of 5 per organisation.

Date: 7th June 2017

Time: 10.00am - 4.00pm

Location: Cookstown Library, 13 Burn Road, Cookstown BT80 8DJ

Cost: £45 per person

For information on Volunteer Now courses, visit the website at; <http://www.volunteernow.co.uk/training-and-standards>

Chief Officers 3rd Sector

CO3 offers a range of training programmes and networking events designed to support Chief Officers and Senior Managers to build their leadership development and help create new connections.

HR Management for SMTs

Wednesday, June 7, 2017 - 12:30 to 14:00

Think People, 12th Floor, Causeway Tower, 9 James St South, Belfast, BT2 8DN

CO3 is delighted to announce the next networking series for Associate members on the theme of Human Resource Management. This series of four sessions will allow Associate members who have an HR remit to develop peer to peer relationships with people in a similar field over a prolonged period. This series is primarily for Associate members (ie individuals who are at Senior Management Team level) but will also be open to Chief Executive of smaller organisations who have HR as part of their remit.

The dates proposed are:

- ♦ Wed 7th June, 12.30pm- 2pm
- ♦ Thur 7th September, 12.30pm – 2pm
- ♦ Wed 22 November, 12.30pm – 2pm
- ♦ Wed 17th January 2018, 12.30pm – 2pm



Strategic Planning with Roger Courtney

Friday, September 8, 2017 - 09:30 to 16:30

CO3 Offices, 34 Shaftesbury Square, Belfast, BT2 7DB

This one day workshop strategically planned for October, for those of us who will be launching new Strategic Plans in April 2018, will support leaders to develop their strategic and operational planning processes to enable organisations to achieve their potential. It will be led by Roger Courtney who has facilitated hundreds of Third Sector executive teams in developing their strategic plans.

Most Third Sector organisations have a strategic plan these days, but the evidence suggests that in most cases the plans are of little use in guiding the development of the organisation, or helping to make difficult decisions. The process of drawing up the plan, also often leaves many people who will be delivering it less than enthusiastic.

This workshop will ensure that your strategic and operational planning processes enable your organisation to achieve its potential. It will be led by Dr Roger Courtney one of the UK's leading writer's on strategy in the Third Sector.

Cost: £99 CO3 Member £130 Non Member

To book contact: Sarah@co3.bz or tel. [028 90245356](tel:02890245356)

For more information on CO3 events and courses, go to; <http://co3.bz/>

Free Research Training for Beginners

Date & Time: Wednesday, 19 July 2017 - 10.00am to 1.00pm

Venue: Ulster Rugby, 134 Mount Merrion Ave, Belfast



NICVA is running a free research training session in partnership with Ulster Rugby on 19th July from 10am-1pm. The training will be held at the Kingspan Stadium and is open to anybody who currently works or volunteers in the voluntary and community sector. The training is designed for those with a limited background in research.

For more information and to book your place visit the NICVA website

Funding

Free Community Arts Projects now open for applications!

Do you have a community or youth group wanting to be creative, and for free? Now is the time to apply!

How?

- [Fill in the application form](#)
- Tell us about your group
- Choose an artform
- Submit it and we will get back to you soon.



Want to see what other groups have done in the past year?

- [The North Down Community Network taking part in the Mayors Parade](#)
- [The Migrant Centre NI exploring the sense of 'Belonging' through film workshops](#)
- [Highfield Community Centre Trash Fashion showcase](#)
- [A fantastic group of kids enjoying our Street Art Summer Camp](#)

This is your publicly-funded chance to get creative, it's your right to participate in the cultural life of your community. If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact Gabri at gabri@capartscentre.com.

The M&S Energy Community Fund

The M&S Energy Community Energy Fund is back, with £300,000 to support renewable energy projects and technologies across the UK.

Last time around we distributed the money to inspiring organisations, shortlisted from hundreds of entries, that brought the benefits of energy initiatives to their communities.

In the end almost 80,000 votes were cast and 25 projects received funding, including the seven judges' prize winners.



Could it be you this year?

Are you a not-for-profit project that wants to use renewable energy to provide community benefits?

Whether you're a community energy group, a sports club or simply an organisation that wants to have a positive impact on the environment, this is for you.

Applications for funding open on Monday 22 May 2017 and will close on 23rd June 2017.

Crowdfunding is on offer again this year, so you can choose to raise additional funds whilst collecting votes for your project. Last year community groups crowdfunded an amazing £28,798 in donations for their renewable energy projects!

You will need to supply all the information about you and your organisation in the online application when we open for entries.

So get ahead with the guide and pull together everything you need into one place now.

For further information visit <https://www.mandsenergyfund.com/>



Live Here Love Here

Do you have an idea for a great environmental project that will benefit your community? 

Live Here Love Here are providing grants from **£500 to £5,000** and are open to any groups undertaking

DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION PACK

 /livehereandlovehere

www.livehereandlovehere.org

Grants are available from £500 to £5,000 and are open to volunteer groups in the following Council areas:

- ♥ Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council
- ♥ Ards and North Down Borough Council
- ♥ Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council
- ♥ Belfast City Council
- ♥ Derry City and Strabane District Council
- ♥ Fermanagh and Omagh District Council
- ♥ Mid and East Antrim Borough Council
- ♥ Mid Ulster District Council
- ♥ Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
- ♥ Choice Housing (all Council areas)
- ♥ Northern Ireland Housing Executive (all Council areas)
- ♥ McDonald's (all Council areas)

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
12 noon – Wednesday 21st June 2017

LIVE HERE LOVE HERE is a partnership between Local Councils, Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Choice Housing, Northern Ireland Housing Executive, McDonald's and Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful.



**LIVE
HERE
LOVE
HERE**



Ireland's Coca-Cola Thank You Fund Opens for 2017 Entries

This year, Coca-Cola is celebrating 131 years of operation and is providing €100,000 in grants of €30,000, €10,000 or €5,000.

Applications will be accepted from non-profit organisations that have new and innovative projects or initiatives that address the 2017 theme: 'Working with communities in Ireland and Northern Ireland to inspire and support young people.'

The proposed project must exclusively benefit people who are over 12 years of age and under 25 years, and activities using money received from the Fund must be based on the island of Ireland.

Projects should address one or more of the following three categories:

- Bridging the divide between education and the workplace.
- Fostering diversity and inclusion among young people.
- Empowering young people to become the leaders of the future.

The deadline for applications is 14 July 2017 (midnight).

For further information visit <http://www.coca-cola.ie/stories/how-to-apply-in-five-simple-steps>



LIDL Community Works

Tell Lidl why your community group or project deserves funding and each of the 38 stores across NI will make £6,000 available to local community groups!

For more information visit <http://www.lidl-ni.co.uk/en/lidl-community-works.htm>



Building Better Futures Fund

The 'Building Better Futures' fund will help charities, community and voluntary groups, and social enterprises by providing small, unsecured loans that are not currently available from traditional financial sources.

UCIT are delighted to provide a new loan fund for community groups, voluntary organisations, charities and social enterprises. The scheme which is being jointly funded by Building Change Trust, Belfast Charitable Society and UCIT provides small, unsecured loans ranging from £1,000 to £25,000. The loans can be used for a wide range of purposes, including buildings and repairs, purchase of equipment, making facilities more energy efficient or funding shortfalls in larger grant assisted projects. The Building Change Trust was established in 2008 by the Big Lottery Fund with a National Lottery grant of £10million as an investment for community capacity building and promotion of the voluntary and community sector in Northern Ireland. Belfast Charitable Society was established in 1752 to tackle disadvantage and poverty and in doing so it built the Poor House and Belfast's first Infirmary, which remains as Clifton House.

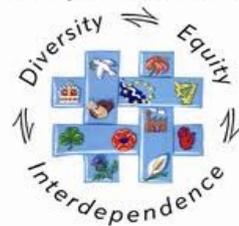
Today, the Society continues to work to tackle disadvantage and promote philanthropy while sharing its vast heritage with others.

Further information about the scheme is available by contacting UCIT on Tel: 028 9031 5003 or visiting www.ucitltd.com

NI's Community Relations and Cultural Diversity Grant - Open for Applications

The Community Relations Council's Community Relations/Cultural Diversity Grant scheme awards approximately £400,000 in grants each year to community relations projects in Northern Ireland.

Community Relations Council



Voluntary and community groups can apply for grants of up to £10,000 (most grants will be awarded for a smaller amount) to develop their capacity to engage in community relations work and to enhance the community relations potential of projects they undertake.

The scheme is aimed at locally based groups such as community development groups, cultural organisations, women's groups, church groups, tenants associations and other organisations and groups involved in community relations, reconciliation projects and cultural engagement for projects primarily involving adults.

Project objectives should match at least one of the following objectives:

- Develop opportunities for groups to explore their own cultures, beliefs and traditions increasing their capacities to develop relations with those from other cultures.
- Develop opportunities for groups to extend their knowledge and understanding of others' culture, beliefs and traditions.
- To enable groups to challenge stereotypes of their own and other communities in order to acknowledge and address differences.
- To increase the ability and confidence of groups and organisations to identify issues which divide them.
- To develop networks of communication, trust and co-operation between divided communities.
- To promote models of good practice for community relations work in Northern Ireland.

The deadline for applications is 30 November 2017.

For further information visit: <https://www.community-relations.org.uk/>

