

12th June 2017

# E-Zine



**Supporting  
Communities™**  
Empowering Society

Welcome to Supporting Communities 78th 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.

## TPAS Scotland, Housing Professionals Conference

On 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> June, representatives from Supporting Communities and our new company Empowering Communities attended the annual TPAS Scotland's Housing Professional's Conference titled; '*Happiness, Headache or Heartache*'.

Our staff certainly didn't have a headache or feel any heartache throughout the two days during which they had the opportunity to hear from a range of speakers including; Michael Cameron, CEO Scottish Housing Regulator (*pic right*) who in his presentation, highlighted their commitment to ensuring that tenant led scrutiny was embedded into the heart of their regulatory framework.



The conference also allowed for the opportunity to participate in workshops that covered areas such as:

- ◆ Participatory Budgeting in Multi-Storeys
- ◆ Involving Customers- Customer Promise Assessments
- ◆ Communicating landlord's performance information and increasing tenant awareness in performance information
- ◆ Working with young people



*Sheenagh enjoying the workshops*



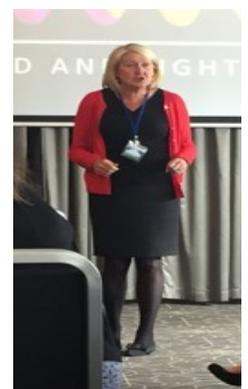
The second day of the conference commenced with a keynote session from Anne Cooke from the Scottish Government (*pic left*) who outlined the impact of the Scottish Housing Charter and how tenant scrutiny has had a positive impact in service improvements within social housing in Scotland.

In finishing off the event, Justine Bradd from Edinburgh Tenants Federation gave an overview of a very interesting project in Leith. This project is based on a model developed by Participation in the Practice of Rights in Belfast, the Scottish Human Rights Commission and Edinburgh Tenants' Federation who have been supporting residents in Leith to use international human rights as a tool for challenging poor housing conditions.

**Speaking about the event, Laura O'Dowd, Supporting Communities stated;**

*"The two days were very informative and we have come away feeling inspired, as well as gaining more practical methods and tools that will be of benefit to organisations and their tenants here in Northern Ireland."*

*I would like to say many thanks and congratulations to Lesley Baird, Chief Executive, TPAS Scotland (*pic right*) and the rest of the TPAS Scotland team on a very successful conference."*



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# Housing Executive Social Housing Enterprise Investment Scheme

**Housing**  
Executive

In September 2015 the Housing Executive introduced the Social Housing Enterprise Programme. As part of the strategy it was agreed that financial investment may be awarded to individuals or groups living or working in NIHE estates to enable development of personal or organisational capacity to improve develop economic activity in the area.

The small awards for Business Start-up, Education & Training Awards of up to £1000 are now open.

[Download the application form for small awards](#) (  256 KB)

You can still apply for smaller awards of up to £1000 (until funds have depleted).

Applications will be reviewed every two months, with the next review scheduled for the end of April 2017.

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.**

[Download the application form for large awards](#) (  289 KB)



Follow the links below to see videos which showcase some of the successful social enterprises which were supported in the last tranche of investments:

[Investing in your Future - Creating Vibrant Communities](#)

[Investing In Our Future: So what are you waiting for?](#)



If you want further information please feel free to contact:

Paul Carland, Connor Smith or Niall Eastwood 03448 920 900 or [socialinvestments@nihe.gov.uk](mailto:socialinvestments@nihe.gov.uk)

You can also view the [Social Housing Enterprise Strategy](#) (  1351 KB) document.

## 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 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](mailto: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>

## 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](http://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**

## 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.**

## Review of Road Safety Strategy

Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service

<https://www.nifrs.org/consultation/>

**Closing date; 28<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

## USING HOUSING BENEFIT REGULATIONS TO SUSTAIN A TENANCY AND PREVENT HOMELESSNESS

### From Housing Rights

For many years, Housing Rights has provided housing advice to people entering and leaving custody in Northern Ireland's three prisons. The housing advice in prisons project is funded by NIHE and the Northern Ireland Prison Service and is an essential way of preventing homelessness on release and sustaining tenancies for these vulnerable members of society. One of our advisers discusses how her intervention not only sustained a tenancy for her client but also prevented the client's 20-year-old son from becoming homeless.

#### Sustaining tenancy for client in custody

My client, Matthew\*, entered custody on a four-year sentence. He had been living in a two-bedroom, NIHE flat with his 20-year-old son. I was initially contacted by the Housing Executive who routinely contact the Housing Rights advisers based in the prisons for help dealing with tenants in custody. The length of Matthew's sentence meant that he would not be entitled to Housing Benefit and the Housing Executive asked me to speak to Matthew about terminating his tenancy. Although they were aware that Matthew's son Kyle\* was living in the property, they explained that Kyle had no tenancy rights and that it was expected that he would leave the property.

#### Discussing options with client

I met with Matthew to find out what he wanted to do about the property and to see if he knew what Kyle's plans were. Matthew didn't want to give up the tenancy and was concerned that Kyle would have nowhere to go if he had to leave the property. I discussed the possibility of Kyle remaining in the property as a "nominated occupant". This would mean that Kyle would remain in the property and would look after Matthew's responsibilities, including taking care of the property and paying rent, but Matthew would continue to be the legal tenant of the property.

Unfortunately, when Kyle first asked to remain in the property his request was refused. He was told that he had no rights to ask for an assignment of the tenancy and that he would have to leave the property as it was in a high-demand area and he had no rights to remain. Kyle received a letter from NIHE telling him that his request for an assignment of the tenancy had been refused and asking him to return the keys of the property within the next 14 days.

#### The difference between assigning a tenancy and a nominated occupant

Assigning a tenancy means that the tenancy is transferred from one person's name into another's. It is a completely different procedure to requesting that someone become a nominated occupant. It's quite common for a tenant in custody to nominate a person to look after the tenancy until the tenant's sentence has been served. Often, this will be the tenant's partner, but

an adult child can also serve as the nominated occupant. The nominated occupant will not have any tenancy rights, but will need to ensure that all the tenant's responsibilities have been discharged. The nominated occupant will not always be eligible for Housing Benefit. In this case, Kyle could apply for Housing Benefit as he had been living in the property at the time Matthew's entitlement to receive Housing Benefit stopped.

#### Applying for Housing Benefit

After speaking with his father, Kyle applied for Housing Benefit. However, his claim was rejected on the grounds that he had no liability for rent in the property. I requested a revision of this decision claiming that under Regulation 8 of The Housing Benefit Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006, Kyle should be "*...treated as if they were liable to make payments in respect of a dwelling...*" as he was "*...a person who has to make the payments if he is to continue to live in the home because the person liable to make them is not doing so and...he is some other person whom it is reasonable to treat as liable to make the payments.*"

The decision not to award Housing Benefit was overturned and a back payment was made to cover the rent from the date Matthew's entitlement to Housing Benefit stopped. Kyle has been able to stay in the family home and Matthew is relieved that his tenancy will be looked after while he is in custody and he doesn't have to worry about his son having nowhere to live.

#### Main learning points from this case

Initially, there was some confusion over Kyle's status in the property. It seems that the Housing Executive were treating his request to be a nominated occupant as a request to assign the tenancy into his name. The fact that the property was located in a high demand area was raised as a reason for refusing to allow the tenant's son to remain in the property. We successfully challenged this decision, pointing out that the demand in the area is not something which must be considered when approving a request for a nominated occupant.

Appointing a nominated occupant is a way to safeguard a tenancy for a tenant who cannot currently carry out his or her responsibilities. The fact that someone has gone into custody does not automatically give a landlord grounds to end a secure tenancy. A secure tenancy can only be ended in certain prescribed circumstances.

In this case the nominated occupant request was eventually approved. Kyle received Housing Benefit to cover the rent and there were no other breaches of the tenancy so the tenancy remained secure in Mathew's name.

This case ended well, my client will be able to return to his property on release and his son has been able to stay in his home in the meantime.

# Publications

## 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](#) ( 1753 KB)



## 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](#).



## NI Environment Link Publications

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



Available online, including articles such as; tackling food waste, voting and Adult social care reform and the Third Sector

Scope can be accessed at; <http://scopeni.nicva.org/>



Please click the link below to access the May 2017 edition of inpartnership – the newsletter for PCSPs which highlights local events and initiatives.  
<https://www.pcsp.org/sites/pcsp/files/media-files/inpartnership-issue-june-2017.pdf>

## Issue 25 of "All Aboard" the news-sheet of the Central Appointments Unit is now available



<https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/execoffice/all-aboard-25.pdf>

Included in this edition is a list of the public appointment vacancies expected to arise during the second half of 2017. Any vacancies arising after we go to print will be added to the nidirect website.

For further information on public appointments visit the Executive Office website or nidirect at:  
<https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/articles/public-appointments> or  
<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/information-and-services/government/public-appointments>

# Events



## Housing and Accommodation Rights

Thursday 22nd June 10am - 4pm

Registration 9.30am

Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast

Participation and the Practice of Rights (PPR) invites you to attend 'Housing and Accommodation Rights: Lessons from the Grassroots' on Thursday 22nd June to hear from grassroots human rights activists working to realise the right to housing.

Through workshops and plenary sessions, activists will identify and share key lessons from their change-making work and discuss what it takes for global promises of rights to be made real in people's lives.

Includes speakers and presentations from Belfast, Dublin, Cork, Scotland, South Africa and USA

### Workshops include:

1. Consultation and power – engaging with the state
2. Building Alliances for Change: A Scottish Example
3. Generating Political Will
4. Asserting rights when you are denied legal rights



For more information on the programme and to register, go to;

<http://events.eventzilla.net/e/housing-and-accommodation-rightslessons-from-the-grassroots-2138908486>

drink wise age well LOTTERY FUNDED

WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT 2017

drink wise & jive

LARGEST JIVE DANCE

1<sup>st</sup> July 2017 (1pm)

EBRINGTON SQUARE

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](http://register.primoevents.com/ps/event/DrinkWiseJive) or contact Drink Wise Age Well on 028 8283 9240 for further information on how to get involved.



# 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](http://www.cih.org/training/display/vpathDCR/templatedata/cih/training/data/NI/Mental_health_and_housing_29May)

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## 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>

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## Housing Rights Training

### Welfare Reform and housing: a practical guide

Belfast - Housing Rights on Thursday, June 22, 2017 - 10:00 to 16:00

# Housing Rights

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>

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## Volunteer Now Training

### Adult Safeguarding Champion: Theory into Practice - 4th July 2017

The Adult Safeguarding Champion (ASC) role combines responsibility for strategy, operations and oversight for an organisation in relation to adults at risk of harm under "Adult Safeguarding: Prevention and Protection in Partnership" (2015) and the "Adult Safeguarding Operational Procedures" (2016).

Some organisations will also have Appointed Persons, with delegated responsibility for day to day adult safeguarding operations. This is a full day's training for Adult Safeguarding Champions and Appointed Persons.

It covers:

- ◆ The role and responsibilities of the Adult Safeguarding Champion/ Appointed Person
- ◆ The safeguarding adults structure for Northern Ireland

- ◆ Determining the correct course of action in relation to safeguarding concerns
- ◆ Consent, capacity and coercion
- ◆ Organisational and Trust responsibilities
- ◆ Monitoring and reporting duties of the ASC.

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

Time: 10.00am - 4.00pm

Location: Volunteer Now, 34 Shaftesbury Square, Belfast, Co. Antrim BT2 7DB

Cost: £50 per person

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



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## 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](http://www.nicva.org.uk)

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## Chief Officers 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

### 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](mailto:Sarah@co3.bz) or tel. [028 90245356](tel:02890245356)

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



Action for Warm Homes

Free workshops for community groups

### Energy Efficiency in the Home Getting the most from the energy we use

**NEA is offering to hold a limited number of workshops on energy efficiency in the home for community groups in Northern Ireland**

The two hour interactive workshops are focused on making energy efficiency come alive for those who attend

#### The following topics are included:

- Energy and where we use it
- Energy efficient heating
- Controls on the central heating system
- Energy efficient lighting and appliances
- Keeping the heat where it is needed – reducing heat loss
- Comparing and switching energy suppliers

**For further information and for booking please contact Paul Wallace [paul.wallace@nea.org.uk](mailto:paul.wallace@nea.org.uk) Tel 028 9023 9909**

The workshops are supported by the NIHE

# Funding

## UK Social Enterprise Awards Opens with New Categories



The Awards, which are hosted by Social Enterprise UK (SEUK), recognise social enterprise organisations for their business excellence and contribution to society.

They also seek to identify and reward the achievements of individuals working within the social enterprise sector. UK social enterprises of any size may apply, providing that they trade primarily for social and/or environmental purposes, earn at least half of their income through trading activity, and commit at least half of their profits to social purposes or back into their business. They must also be able to show that their social purpose is evidenced in their governing documents.

This year there are 13 award categories:

- Category 1 – UK Social Enterprise
- Category 2 – One to Watch
- Category 3 – Prove It: Social Impact
- Category 4 – 'Buy Social' - Market Builder
- Category 5 – Social Investment Deal of the Year
- Category 6 – Health & Social Care Social Enterprise
- Category 7 – Consumer Facing Social Enterprise

- Category 8 – Education, Training & Jobs Social Enterprise
- Category 9 – Environmental Social Enterprise
- Category 10 - Tech for Good: Technology Social Enterprise (new for 2017)
- Category 11 – Women in Social Enterprise
- Category 12 – International Impact
- Category 13 - Community Business of the year (new for 2017)

Organisations which are not social enterprises are eligible to enter Category 4, Category 5 and Category 10, whilst Category 11 is open to women working in the social enterprise sector only.

All the categories listed above are open to organisations from England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

Category winners and the overall UK winner will receive an award presented at the ceremony.

Winners also receive a package including PR support, mentoring and business support consultancy

**The application deadline is 7 July 2017 (midnight)**

For further information visit, <https://www.socialenterprise.org.uk/uk-social-enterprise-awards-2017>

## Arts Council NI: Arts and Older People

The Arts & Older People Programme was set up to increase opportunities for older people to engage with the arts.

It achieved this by providing funding to arts-based projects that addressed related social issues such as poverty, isolation and loneliness, as well as promoting positive mental health.

**The deadline for applications is Thursday 15th June 2017 at 4pm**

For further information visit, <http://artscouncil-ni.org/funding/scheme/arts-and-older-people-grants-programme>



## H B Allen Charitable Trust

The HB Allen Charitable Trust supports general charitable purposes. The Trustees have no restrictions on them as to the kinds of project or the areas they can support.

The Trustees are prepared to fund core costs as well as capital projects, but they are unlikely to provide initial funding for newly established organisations.

There is no typical grant size, though the Trustees make a large number at £5,000.

**The next meeting is expected to take place in February/March 2018.**

For further information, visit <http://www.hballenct.org.uk/>

## Final call for DRILL funding applications now open!

The DRILL (Disability Research on Independent Living and Learning) programme is a £5 million research scheme led by disabled people and funded by Big Lottery Fund. DRILL is now looking for proposals for research or pilot projects on one of the following themes: the economy, civic and public life, community and social life and anything else!



**The call will close on the 8th August 2017.**  
Information on current projects and on how to apply can be found on the DRILL website.

If you would like to chat to someone please contact Fiona McMahon:  
Email: [fionamcmahon@disabilityaction.org](mailto:fionamcmahon@disabilityaction.org)  
Telephone: 028 9029 7880 Textphone: 028 9029 7882.

## Lord and Lady Lurgan Trust

The Trust gives grants in the UK, usually in London and in NI and South Africa. Grants are awarded twice a year and the total level of grants annually is approximately £80,000. Grants are usually single payments of between £1,000 and £5,000.

The grants in NI are not restricted by categories but rather by the Trustees' perception of need; this remains so in South Africa as well where many of the grants still reflect the particular interests of Lord, and particularly, Lady Lurgan.

***The next closing date for applications is on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2017.***

For further information visit  
<http://lurgantrust.org/apply.html>

## Armagh Funding Surgery

In  
Armagh Housing  
Executive District Office,  
48 Dobbin Street,  
Armagh  
BT61 7QQ



**Supporting  
Communities**  
Empowering Society

Will be held on  
**Monday  
26th June 2017**  
from  
**11.00am - 3.00pm**

**To register for an appointment contact**  
Supporting Communities Funding Officer  
Roisin on (028) 77740722 or  
Email: [roisin@supportingcommunities.org](mailto:roisin@supportingcommunities.org)

- 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!

# 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](mailto:socialinvestments@nihe.gov.uk)

   [nihe.gov.uk](http://nihe.gov.uk)

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

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

