

2nd May 2018

E-Zine



**Supporting™
Communities**
Empowering Society

Welcome to Supporting Communities 97th Edition of E-Zine, bringing you Best Practice from the Community Sector; Funding and Training Updates and Policy Developments in Northern Ireland, Great Britain and Republic of Ireland.

The Future of Housing Conference Marks 30 Years of Housing

Professor Paddy Gray and Supporting Communities are marking the end of an era with one last conference in partnership with the Ulster University Housing Management students.

This is the final year that the degree will be offered at UU, a course that launched the careers of many of us in the housing profession in Northern Ireland, ROI and further afield, so we thought it fitting to mark the occasion with both a conference and a celebration dinner.



Professor Paddy Gray and Sheenagh McNally, a former student and current Housing Association Development Officer with Empowering Communities

Paddy told us, *"This event will be particularly special to me as it will end 30 years of teaching housing to so many students who went on to become great professionals - with most of them remaining in housing.*

Everywhere I go I meet former students who are making a real difference to people's lives and I am so pleased I was part of that in a small way.

This will be a great opportunity to celebrate everything that is good about housing with the many friends I have made over the years."

Both events will be held on May 25th at the Park Avenue Hotel in Belfast.

For tickets and more information, see our [events page](#).



Supporting Communities
Headquarters
34-36 Henry Street
Ballymena BT42 3AH

T 028 2564 5676
F 028 2564 9729

info@supportingcommunities.org
www.supportingcommunities.org



Housing Executive Publishes Social Housing Enterprise Programme Directory

A list of social enterprises funded through the Housing Executive's Social Housing Enterprise Programme is now available. The Housing Executive has collated a list of social enterprises across Northern Ireland which has received funding support in an easily accessible directory.



The enterprises listed are based in or serve Housing Executive communities. They are making big differences in our communities by creating new jobs and sustaining existing jobs in the heart of our estates. They are providing training opportunities to help people improve life skills. They provide excellent services in our communities from cafés, handyman services, indoor play areas, health and fitness centres, tourism enterprises, a water bottling plant to mention a few.

Have a look and see what is in your area, give them a try and support your local community.

You can now download the Directory at;
<https://www.nihe.gov.uk/social-housing-enterprise-programme-directory>

Women at the heart of Community Transformation

Nearly 500 women attended a special graduation event on Thursday 26 April to celebrate successfully completing the first stage of the Women Involved in Community Transformation programme.

The programme which is aimed at increasing the participation and influence of women in community development, was established by the Department for Communities as part of the Executive Action Plan to Tackle Paramilitary Activity, Criminality and Organised Crime.

Over the past six months, the participants, who come from across Northern Ireland, have been taking part in a number of training modules, including Leadership and Mentoring, Women in the Justice System; Women in Peace-building; Citizenship and Personal Development and Health/Well-being as part of the programme and tonight was their opportunity to celebrate their achievements at the special black-tie event at Titanic, Belfast.

Addressing the participants at the event, Ian Snowden, Deputy Secretary for the Department for Communities, said: *"This programme is helping women and the communities where they live to develop a vision for positive change. It helps women develop the skills to work in their communities, enables them to make new connections with community and voluntary groups and supports them to become involved in positive community activity. It also supports the development of influential relationships for women to build participation in our political structures and grow civic leadership from the neighbourhood level upwards."*

"The programme has been a great success. I am certain that the transformational impact we wish to achieve for our communities through the programme will become a reality for all the participants."



The programme has been delivered in 26 locations across Northern Ireland by the Women's Intervention Partnership (WIP), a consortium which includes Training for Women Network, Co-operation Ireland, Intercomm and Foyle Women's Information Network.

Norma Shearer, Chief Executive of The Women's Network, said: *"This programme has been an amazing success with around 500 women from across Northern Ireland completing it. These women are the future, and in their hands, the future is secure"* The programme is one of 38 commitments within the Executive Action Plan and falls under the theme of 'Building Capacity to Support Transition' which recognises the vital role that women can play in helping to move communities away from paramilitarism.

The event marks the end of phase one of the programme. Phase two, which starts later this month and will run until March 2019, will consolidate the participants' learning via five pathways: Social Innovation; Community Leadership programme; Women in Civil Society; Communication and Engagement; Co-design/ Bespoke.

Joint Forum Meeting March 2018



The first Joint Forum meeting of the year took place on 26th March 2018 in NICVA. The meeting was attended by representatives from voluntary and community organisations, local and central government departments.

The meeting began by considering the issues that had been raised by members at the voluntary and community group meeting in January, the list is attached. A broad range of issues had been highlighted which reflects the diverse range of organisations and sub-sectors represented by the membership of the Joint Forum.

The lack of government here and the subsequent uncertainty around funding year on year underpins the majority of issues. The voluntary and community sector is increasingly finding themselves in a vulnerable position faced with annual cuts leading to operational difficulties in some cases. It was highlighted that there is a need for an open and honest conversation to happen within the sectors and between the voluntary and community sector and government about how and why funding decisions are taken. There is a need for better joined-up working between the sectors including having space for a more proactive role from the voluntary and community sector. It was agreed that the current situation with funding decisions is unsustainable and this should be a priority issue for the Joint Forum going forward. It was proposed that a working group should be established to discuss government funding post 2019.

There was a particular focus on the issue of drug misuse which many members acknowledged is prevalent throughout many communities in Northern Ireland and has negative impacts for these communities as well as on families and individuals. It was suggested that a collaborative response is needed to address this issue and a working group between senior Department of Health officials and members of the Joint Forum should be established. This issue will be the main focus of the next Joint Forum meeting.

Joint Chair and Director of the Voluntary and Community Unit in DfC Arthur Scott also gave a brief outline on tendering, addressing bureaucracy and the government funding database. Arthur advised that there were various mechanisms of grant funding, however Central Procurement guidance is available on the Department of Communities website or click [here](#). In relation to addressing bureaucracy, the voluntary and community sector raised concerns that some government departments had regressed in their commitments and that there is a need to reinvent this.

Co-chairs Arthur and Glenda facilitated a session on stakeholder engagement and consultation with a focus on how to get better at consultation. A lively and engaging discussion ensued with several suggestions put forward that could contribute to more effective and meaningful consultation.

These included:

- Encouraging policy makers to have preliminary conversations with those who will be impacted by policy changes ahead of any policy proposal or consultation.
- Ensuring better joined-up working between government and policy makers and the voluntary and community sector.
- Ensuring policy makers are listening to the concerns of those who will experience the impacts of the policy and take these into consideration before making decisions.
- Utilising existing cross-sector relationships in preliminary discussions, consultation and decision making.
- Making stakeholders and consultees aware of any barriers to or pressure points in policy decisions (e.g. financial, political, legal)
- Emphasising the importance of post-consultation feedback and providing information to stakeholders about why a particular decision was taken.
- Explaining how consultation responses are weighted.
- Ensuring that the views of minority groups are adequately represented and given proper consideration.
- Ensuring equality screening takes place at the beginning of the policy making process.
- Discussing using different consultation response formats to make it more accessible.

The existing action teams also provided an update on their work. The Concordat Action Team advised that the final draft of the Concordat document (to be renamed) will be presented at the next Joint Forum meeting. Kate Clifford also provided an update on community planning and policy gaps in rural areas. Once this data has been collated, it would be presented in a paper to inform a need for the review of how tackling deprivation is currently addressed.

The next meeting of the Joint Forum will take place in June 2018.

Consultations

Supporting Communities and The Hummingbird Project Invite You to take part in a Quick Survey

- *Do you think that your committee would benefit from getting advice and support to deal with stressful situations?*
- *Do you feel that your committee needs help with building its resilience to support each other, gain the skills to know when people are struggling and signpost them to the right person to get help?*

Supporting Communities, in partnership with The Hummingbird Project, is keen to find out how Community representatives feel about these issues so that we can help to make the community groups we support to be stronger and better able to cope.



We would encourage as many community representatives/committee members to please complete this very short survey about some common issues communities and committee are facing and this will allow us to see the best way we can support your committee and community association in the future.

Please go to;
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7F9ZNLNLP>

Use of a Mobile Phone while Driving - Review of Existing Offence and Associated Penalties

Department of Infrastructure

<https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/dfi-driving-policy-branch/71af5f0a/>

Closing date; 15th May 2018

NIFRS draft CCTV Policy

NI Fire & Rescue Service

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

Closing date; 21st May 2018

Revised Service Framework for Mental Health and Wellbeing 2018-2021

Department of Health

<https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/doh/mhsf/>

Closing date; 31st May 2018

Amendments to the Fire and Rescue Services (NI) Order 2006

Department of Health

<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-amendments-fire-and-rescue-services-northern-ireland-order-2006>

Closing date; 3rd June 2018

DoF draft Section 75 Action Plan and Disability Action Plan

Department of Finance

<https://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-dof-draft-section-75-action-plan-and-disability-action-plan>

Closing date; 15th June 2018

Draft Equality and Disability Action Plans (2018-2022)

Education Authority

<http://www.eani.org.uk/about-us/consultations/public-consultation-draft-equality-and-disability-action-plans-2018-2022/>

Closing date; 2nd July 2018

Special Focus

Fundraising Self-Regulation – where are we now?



NICVA's Fundraising Advice Officer, Lynn Kennedy writes about the developments in fundraising self regulation to date.

Back in September 2016 NICVA began its [sector-wide consultation](#) on the future of fundraising self-regulation in Northern Ireland.

The backdrop to this was government insistence on a new, more robust form of fundraising regulation due to the furore caused by several high-profile cases involving negative fundraising practices, most notably the case of [Olive Cooke](#).

Fast forward to today and charities here are now signing up to the new [Fundraising Regulator](#) and/or committing to its [Code of Fundraising Practice](#) in droves. Northern Ireland is now also represented on the Board of the new Fundraising Regulator in the form of Walter Radar, well known to many here from his time as the Big Lottery Fund's NI Director and his work in helping set up the Charity Commission.

March 2018 then also saw the [launch of the Fundraising Preference Service](#) (FPS) in Northern Ireland. 20% of the suppressions so far have been made on behalf of other people: this demonstrates that it may at least be an invaluable resource in protecting the more vulnerable from unwanted direct marketing from charities.

With GDPR also on the horizon, the Fundraising Regulator further demonstrated its commitment to supporting charities by working with the Institute of Fundraising (IoF) to produce produced '[bite-sized](#)' [guidance briefings](#) aimed at smaller organisations covering the implications of GDPR on legacy, charitable trust, community and corporate fundraising.

All of this is great news: the sector's continued commitment to good practice in fundraising is far and away the best means of ensuring that public confidence remains at the extremely high level evidenced in the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's [Public Trust and Confidence in Charities 2016](#) research.

As part of their joint commitment to supporting fundraising self- NICVA and the Fundraising Regulator are now inviting all NI fundraising organisations to a free "one stop" [Fundraising Regulation Seminar](#) on 12 June.

This aims to cover everything you need to know to keep your fundraising legal, ethical and fully respectful of those who entrust their money to your organisation.

As well as the opportunity to meet with Stephen Dunmore, Chief Executive of the Fundraising Regulator, there will be round table discussions and a panel of experts will also be available to answer your queries on best practice in fundraising.

To sign up for a free place, click [here](#)



Publications



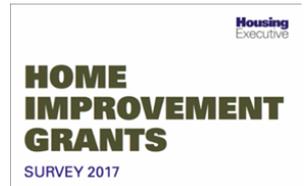
NICVA Public Perception Survey – Identifies high levels of public usage and trust in community & voluntary sector

New research published by the Northern Ireland Council for Voluntary Action (NICVA) has revealed both high levels of public usage and trust in the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector in Northern Ireland. Wellbeing and experience of culture, arts, sport and experience of heritage by adults in Northern Ireland, 2016/17

The full report is available at; http://www.nicva.org/sites/default/files/d7content/attachments-resources/public_perception_infographic.pdf

Findings from the Housing Executive Home Improvement Grant

The Northern Ireland Housing Executive recently published their findings from the 2017 Home Improvement Grants Survey. The Housing Executive's Grant Scheme provides grants for disabled facilities and mandatory repairs and, in exceptional circumstances, for discretionary renovation, replacement and home repair assistance. Overall, the findings from the survey were very positive. The vast majority (92%) of the 712 respondents were satisfied with the scheme.



Almost three quarters (72%) of respondents received help when completing the forms and almost half (46%) these people sought help from an advice organisation. This indicates that completing forms can be a difficult process for applicants.

Read [the full report](#) and [further information on Home Improvement Grants](#) can be found on the Northern Ireland



Please click the link below to access the April 2018 edition of inpartnership – the newsletter for PCSPs which highlights local events and initiatives. <https://www.pcsp.org/sites/pcsp/files/media-files/inpartnership-issue-april-2018.pdf>

Scope^{NI}

Available online, including articles such as a new oral history collection, the challenges facing older people and those facing deaf people seeking health or medical care.

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

Community Arts Partnership

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/>



Community Relations Council

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



NI Environment Link

The NIEL EU Matters for March 2018 is now available at; <https://www.nienvironmentlink.org/cmsfiles/EU-Matters-March-2018.pdf>

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



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/default.asp>

Community Development & Health Network Newsletter

The latest update is available at; <http://mailchi.mp/f1126755e86a/cdhn-news-events?e=09b1f9112e>



Community Development & Health Network

Events



Right Based Review of Children and Young People's Experiences of Mental Health Services Stakeholder Workshop

The Office of the Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People invites you to the above workshop on:

Wednesday 23 May 2018 - Central L/Derry (venue TBC)

Friday 25 May 2018 - NICCY Offices, Shaftesbury Square, Belfast

Both workshops will be held between 10am – 1pm and lunch provided

In September 2018 the Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People (NICCY) will publish a Rights Based Review of Children and Young People's Experiences of Mental Health Services. The aim of the Review is to assess the adequacy and effectiveness of emotional wellbeing and mental health services for children and young people (Mental Health Services), highlight good practice and identify barriers that prevent them from fully realising their rights to the highest attainable standard of mental health.

There are 3 strands of work being carried out as part of the Mental Health Review:

1. Gathering children and young people's (and their parents and carers) experience of accessing mental health services.
2. Carrying out an analysis and mapping exercise of available official statistical information on the operational aspects of mental health services.
3. Carrying out an analysis and mapping exercise of budgetary spend on mental health services.

NICCY recognises the important role that professionals have in working within emotional and mental health services or supporting young people that require the support of these services. NICCY is holding two half day workshops to present key emerging findings coming from the review. Attendees will be given an opportunity to reflect on emerging themes, provide additional evidence and inform practical solutions / recommendations.

The workshop will begin at 10am and finish at 1pm. Attendance is by invite only, however if you are unable to attend please feel free to suggest a colleague to attend in your place.

Places are limited so please confirm your attendance via <https://niccymentalhealthworkshop.eventbrite.co.uk> by **Friday 18 May 2018**

Housing Festival

Date: 21 June 2018
Location: The Treehouse, 38-42 Upper Arthur Street, Belfast BT1 4GH
Member rate: £55 +VAT Non-member rate: £80 +VAT



Housing Festival 2018 is a new type of housing event specifically for younger people working in housing and those who are new to the housing sector. It is organised by CIH NI Futures.

A new event (as in: new type, new format, new style of venue). We mean it when we say this, you have not been to a CIH event like this one.

An event where you'll get more out of it if you take part. You get out what you put in. If you come to Housing Festival 2018 you'll learn something. If you come to Housing Festival 2017 and get in the middle of it, you'll learn A LOT. You don't have to wear the conference costume, come as you are - it genuinely helps you get in the right mind set to learn.

For pretty much everyone

CIH wants to attract as many younger and new to housing folk as possible - but CEOs and Senior Managers are welcome too.

For conference programme and to book a place, go to; http://www.cih.org/events/display/vpathDCR/templatedata/cih/events/data/northernireland/Housing_Festival?utm_source=Chartered%20Institute%20of%20Housing&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=9418056_Ni%20events%2027.04.2018&utm_content=HF&dm_i=YRX,5LV00,EI48U7,LSCOH,1

Training



Volunteer Now Training

Keeping Adults Safe: Adult Safeguarding Champion and Appointed Person Training

Date: 23 May 2018 - 10.00am - 4.00pm
Location: Newry Library, 79 Hill Street, Newry BT34 1DG
Cost: £50 + VAT per person

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

Chartered Institute of Housing Training



Digital Inclusion - Belfast

Date: 24 May 2018
Location: CIH Northern Ireland, Belfast
Price Member rate: £95 Non-Member rate: £110

The internet has been part of everyday life for a number of years now. Something like 85% of people use the internet every day. But, for all too long, housing organisations have been reluctant to deploy the full power of the internet for fear of bypassing those amongst their tenants who have yet to join the digital age. While it is true that disproportionate numbers of social housing residents remain digitally excluded, the majority do use digital technologies, and they are often using them in ways that are unknown to their landlords. Among the key reasons why it is vitally important that social landlords engage with their tenants online are the need to move to online service delivery to reduce costs and increase efficiency, and the need for tenants to manage their finances online as benefits systems change.

Learning Outcomes/objectives

At the end of the Workshop, participants will

- understand the importance of digital inclusion and why it is vital to ensure that as many tenants as possible can function online;
- understand the elements of a digital inclusion strategy and how to implement them;
- understand options available for tenants who may never go online; and

- be able to access new and free digital inclusion resources to enable them to further develop their knowledge, interest and skills.

Trainer Info

John Popham has a background in senior management and partnership development in the public, private and voluntary sectors in the UK, including social housing. For the past 5 years he has been at the forefront of assisting non-profit organisations, particularly in the social housing sector, to use digital technologies and social media for engagement of staff, residents, and partner organisations. He is number 2 on 24 Housing Magazine’s list of Digital PowerPlayers, and the 2nd best tweeter in the UK on Digital Inclusion issues according to The Guardian. As a Digital Storyteller, he uses social media to tell the story of his own daily quest to use the internet for social good and of the projects he develops. He delivers engaging and inspiring presentations and workshops designed to pass on his enthusiasm for the power of the internet to improve lives to others and to create new champions for the cause. A key aspect of his approach is how exciting, entertaining, and inspirational use of the internet can act as a catalyst to bring the previously reluctant online.



Advice NI offers formal and non-formal training for those working in the advice sector, community & voluntary

sector, local authorities, legal & financial institutions who wish to develop their skillset; courses include nationally and locally accredited qualifications as well as continued professional development (CPD) training.

Advice NI also offers in-house training and/or workshops at a time, date or location convenient to you and can amend existing courses to meet your specific needs or fully develop courses based on your training requirements.

For the full range of course and more information, go to; <https://www.adviceni.net/training>

Housing Rights Training

Universal Credit in the Social Rented Sector

Belfast - Housing Rights

Thursday, May 17, 2018 - 10:30 to 12:00

The implementation of Universal Credit (UC) is bringing significant changes to how people access and maintain social housing. This session will focus solely on the particular impacts for those in the social rented sector.

This course will cover:

- Issues surrounding making a claim and payments of housing cost element of UC for social tenants
- Differences between housing cost element of UC and housing benefit
- Social sector housing costs, bedroom tax and welfare supplementary payments.
- Rates assistance for social tenants
- Assisting social tenants in financial difficulty
- Wider impacts of Welfare Reform

By the end of the session you will have a better understanding of the impacts of UC on the Social Rented Sector. You will understand the position of both tenants and landlords within the sector and will be able to work to ensure tenancies are sustained.

Sustaining tenancies - Keeping clients in their homes

Belfast - Housing Rights

Wednesday, May 23, 2018 - 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 one day session will focus sustain tenancies across the Social, Private and Home ownership sectors and will look at:

- Rent arrears and affordability
- Anti-social behavior
- Abandonment
- Disrepair
- Suitability

Housing Rights



Funding



Co-ownership 2018/19 Social Fund now open

Co-Ownership is currently welcoming applications for the 2018/19 social fund. This fund is now in its second year and has a budget of £10,000. Gillian Hughes, who oversees the social fund, says that “As part of our commitment to responsible business, we are delighted to be able to continue our social fund in 2018/19. We’ve been helping people into home ownership for 40 years and our customers are right across Northern Ireland. Through the social fund we aim to further increase our impact in the local communities where our customers live.”

One of last year’s successful applications was the ‘Garden in a Box’ project in Derry / Londonderry. This project aims to improve the health and wellbeing of older and socially isolated people by providing them with the tools, resources and support to grow, harvest and cook their own vegetables. Tommy Carlin who oversees the project has said, “This project has been a great success and we are delighted that it has brought so much joy to so many older people. The funding from Co-ownership Housing has been crucial to the success of the project. The support that people receive to maintain and grow the vegetables has worked particularly well and has been really appreciated by participants.”

About the Social Fund

Funding is open to constituted organisations which are interested in working with and receiving funding from Co-Ownership Housing to deliver a project in one of the following areas:



- Helping regenerate, rebuild, and revitalise neighbourhoods and communities
- Supporting elderly or disabled people
- Providing advice and educational services to promote either financial capability and inclusion, energy efficiency or biodiversity in the community

The entire fund may be awarded to a single organisation (or partnership) for a single project, or divided across several organisations and projects. The projects may be entirely new or already existing and funding may be held on behalf of an unconstituted group.

Applying to the fund will not be difficult but applicants should be clear on the need for their proposed project and its potential benefits. They must also commit to providing a social impact report once the project is complete.

[The application form is attached here](#)

The social fund builds on Co-Ownership’s commitment to responsible business and working for social good. In 2016, it became the first not-for-profit organisation, and first housing association, to achieve the highest standard of Corporate Social Responsibility in Northern Ireland – CORE, accredited by Business in the Community (BITCNI).

Enkalon Foundation

Since 1985 Enkalon Foundation awards have been open to community groups and organisations across Northern Ireland.

Historically the range of applicants has ranged from youth groups, senior citizens clubs, charities, self-help groups, animal welfare, arts and mental health groups. The Enkalon Foundation is a local grant-making trust which makes small grants primarily in the fields of cross-community, unemployment and generally helping disadvantaged people.

Scheme details

Amount Available: £200,000 (approx) - to Groups in Northern Ireland

Size of Grants: Up to £6,000 maximum.

Average grant size between £500 and £1,000.

For more information, go to;

<http://www.enkalonfoundation.org/generalfundapplications.html>



If you are looking at investment possibilities the Northern Ireland Central Investment Fund for Charities (NICIFC) is an option you may wish to consider.

NICIFC is a well-established Fund which has been operating for over 50 years. The Fund is managed by the Department for Communities through a recognised Fund Manager (currently Standard Life Wealth.) Its investment policy is guided by a locally based Advisory Committee appointed by the Department.

The Fund invests in fixed-interest securities and selected equities, with the allocation of these reviewed and adjusted periodically, in line with the Fund's investment policy.

The aim of the Fund is to provide an annual income along with long term capital growth. Established in 1965 through the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 1964, the Fund aims to provide trustees with the opportunity to invest all or part of their Funds with the benefit of expert supervision.

The Fund currently has over 140 charities invested along with over 400 charitable donations and bequests. The Fund is currently valued at over £38 million.

Key features of the Fund:

- competitive management fee
- no additional charges
- no minimum investment
- dividend paid twice a year



Based on the definitions of risk determined by Standard Life Wealth, the portfolio is categorised as being managed with a higher medium risk approach. The value of any investment may go down as well as up, as can the income generated from it.

If you are interested in this [Fund](#), further information is available.

Live Here Love Here Small Grants Scheme

The Live Here Love Here Small Grants Scheme takes a fresh approach to improving our local environment and building a sense of pride in our local communities.

Launched by Local Councils, the Department of Agriculture, the Environment and Rural Affairs, Northern Ireland Housing Executive, Choice Housing, McDonald's and Keep Northern Beautiful, the Small Grants Scheme provides support to volunteer projects that:

- Use innovative ways to reduce littering and dog fouling where you live
- Improve the way your local environment is looked after, whether urban, rural or coastal
- Contribute to the development of civic pride within a community with a focus on environmental improvement.
- To enhance or attract tourism to your community through environmental improvements.

Grants are available from £500 to £5,000 and are open to volunteer and community groups, all school and third level education organisations, youth groups and sports clubs undertaking civic pride projects in all Council areas.

The Small Grants Scheme is also open to all Housing Association and Housing Executive residents with support from Northern Ireland Housing Executive, Choice Housing, and McDonald's throughout all council areas in Northern Ireland.

For more information and a list of workshops in your area, go to;
<http://www.liveherelovehere.org/cgi-bin/generic?instanceID=20>



Power NI: Brighter Communities Fund

Power NI's brand new local funding initiative, Brighter Communities, makes £1000 available each month to NI community groups and individuals to help people implement innovative and creative projects which will change and improve their local community for the better.



Scheme details

The Power NI Brighter Communities programme is seeking applications from small or large community, sporting, charity, youth and all age groups who can propose a tangible project, activity or item which can be realised or executed once the funds have been received and within an 8-week timescale. Each month the winning group or organisation will get the opportunity to showcase their efforts and hard work through social media updates and reports outlining the project journey and ultimate successful actualisation.

Apply for up to £1,000 in funding to help your group reach its maximum potential – whether that is for equipment, kits or for a special project that will make a BIG impact!

Eligibility

Your group must:

- Be based in Northern Ireland
- Not have any political links
- Use the money for a tangible cause such as equipment or activity rather than running costs
- Agree to all PR & marketing activity following the journey of spending your Brighter Community Fund

For more information and to apply, go to; <https://powerni.co.uk/brightercommunities/>

Heritage Lottery Fund: Our Heritage

Our Heritage is rolling grant programme for any type of project related to national, regional or local heritage in the UK. You can apply for a grant of more than £10,000 and up to £100,000.

Scheme details

Under this rolling programme, they fund applications from:

- Not-for-profit organisations
- Private owners of heritage, including individuals and for-profit organisations
- Partnerships of the above

If you are applying as a partnership, you will need to nominate a lead applicant. The lead applicant should provide a signed partnership agreement showing the involvement of each partner and how the project will be managed.

If private individuals or for-profit organisations are involved in a project, either as a partner or as the lead applicant, public benefit must outweigh private gain.

Here are some examples of the types of organisations they fund:

- Community or voluntary groups
- Community Interest Companies
- Charities or trusts
- Social enterprises
- Community/parish councils
- Local authorities

- Other public sector organisations, such as nationally funded museums
- Private owners of heritage, including individuals and for-profit organisations.

Heritage includes many different things from the past that they value and want to pass on to future generations, for example:

- Archaeological sites
- Collections of objects, books or documents in museums, libraries or archives
- Cultural traditions such as stories, festivals, crafts, music, dance and costumes
- Historic buildings
- Histories of people and communities
- Histories of places and events
- The heritage of languages and dialects
- Natural and designed landscapes and gardens
- People's memories and experiences (often recorded as 'oral history');
- Places and objects linked to our industrial, maritime and transport history
- Natural heritage including habitats, species and geology.

For more information, go to; <https://www.hlf.org.uk/looking-funding/our-grant-programmes/our-heritage>



Fund Supporting Summer Play Schemes is Open for Applications

Each year the Hilden Charitable Fund allocates a small budget to help community groups run summer play schemes for the benefit of disadvantaged children aged five to 18 years in the UK.

Grants of between £500 and £1,500 to support the following:

- Summer play schemes for children aged five to 18 years.
- Local schemes lasting for two to six weeks.
- Schemes with strong volunteer support.

The Hilden Charitable Fund

Some priority will be given to projects that show they are inclusive of children from refugee families and show involvement of Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups.

Applications are invited from voluntary agencies in the UK with an income of less than £150,000.

For more information, go to; <http://www.hildencharitablefund.org.uk/>

The next deadline for applications is 1 June 2018.

Greggs Foundation's Local Community Projects Fund 2018 Opens for Round 2

The Greggs Foundation's Local Community Projects Fund provides grants of up to £2,000 to not-for-profit organisations in Great Britain for projects or for equipment for people in need at the heart of local communities.

Projects can support a variety of people:

- Disabled or suffering chronic illness
- Living in poverty
- Voluntary carers
- Homeless
- Isolated older people
- Other demonstrable significant need.



Eligible projects should also be able to demonstrate that they have achieved at least one of the following Key Performance Targets for their beneficiaries:

- Decreased social isolation
- Improved health and wellbeing
- Improved resilience/coping mechanisms
- Improved life skills
- Improved opportunities

Any not for profit organisation can apply, however, larger organisations with a turnover in excess of £300,000 are unlikely to be successful.

The Local Community Projects Fund is administered by seven charity committees throughout Great Britain. Please note that the programme is over-subscribed and there is huge competition for the grants available. In 2017 only 27% of eligible applications were awarded

For more information, go to; <https://www.greggsfoundation.org.uk/>

The deadline for applications is 22 June 2018 (midnight) with decisions being announced by 17 August 2018.

