

E-Zine



**Supporting
Communities**
Empowering Society

Welcome to Supporting Communities 168th 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

Hargey launches Small Capital Grants Programme

A £950,000 fund to support the voluntary and community sector has been launched by Communities Minister Deirdre Hargey.



The Small Capital Grants Programme, which is delivered by Co-operation Ireland, is aimed at assisting voluntary and community organisations purchase items of equipment to enhance and sustain the activities and services they provide to the community.

Launching the fund, Minister Hargey said: "I am very aware of the difficulties the sector has faced over the last year and now, as we emerge from lockdown and venues begin to re-open, funding from this programme is more important than ever in helping groups to purchase much needed items of equipment that will help to minimise any disruption to the services that people rely so heavily upon. These grants can make a difference and they help to support voluntary and community organisations to provide vital services to local communities. I am pleased that this funding is reaching those most in need."

The programme provides grants of between £1,500 and £5,000 towards the purchase of items such as IT equipment, sporting equipment, catering equipment and material to support arts and cultural activities within the voluntary and community sector.

Applications are invited from constituted organisations that have an annual unrestricted income of no more than £100,000.

Peter Sheridan, Chief Executive of Co-operation Ireland, added: "We are delighted to assist in the delivery of the Small Capital Grants Programme which is in keeping with Co-operation Ireland's ethos of encouraging partnership and collaboration.

We thank the Minister for her commitment to the programme and look forward to building relationships with the hundreds of community groups who will benefit from this much needed programme".

Further details on how to apply are available on the [Co-operation Ireland website](#)[\(external link opens in a new window / tab\)](#)



Join The Amp

Sign up to be part of our survey community!

The more voices we have the louder we can speak out on issues of importance to communities in Northern Ireland.

Amplify your voice and register now to take part in the next survey.

[Read more about The Amp and sign up here.](#)



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Getting Weather Ready – the Regional Community Resilience

The Regional Community Resilience Group (RCRG) was formed in 2013 to help local communities prepare for and respond to weather related emergencies. During the summer period, we may occasionally experience periods of heavy, thundery rain which could overwhelm drains and culverts, potentially resulting in flash flooding. It is therefore important to remain vigilant and follow some simple precautions that can be taken during this time that may mitigate or even prevent flooding. In addition the current Covid-19 restrictions may also impact on how you and your community respond to a flood event.

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. Stay aware of weather warnings through TV / Radio / Apps. You can register on the Met Office website or download the Met Office app to receive weather warnings on <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/about-us/what/met-office-weather-app> and <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/warnings-and-advice>

3. If you notice blocked gullies, or ponding / drainage issues on the road contact DfI Roads on (<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/services/report-road-drainage-fault>), or; 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 or impede river flows, please report this to your local DfI Rivers office: <https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/contacts/>

Should you need access to community sandbag containers and have to place sandbags, you should consider the sanitisation of common touch points around containers and the need to maintain social distancing of at least two metres. Further advice and guidance can be accessed on the nidirect website at <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/campaigns/coronavirus-covid-19>.

It is important to emphasise that during a period of severe weather, should the need arise, you should follow the normal procedure and call Flooding Incident Line – 0300 2000 100 to report flooding.



Queen's Award for Voluntary Service Congratulations!

Volunteer Now is delighted that 15 volunteer groups in Northern Ireland have been awarded the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, in 2021. The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service is the highest civil Award given to local volunteer groups across the UK to recognise outstanding work done in their own communities.

We are very pleased that volunteers are getting recognition and we send our congratulations to:

- Crusaders Football Club
- Dreamscheme Northern Ireland
- Friends of Antrim Castle Gardens
- North Antrim Agricultural Association Ltd (Ballymoney Show)
- A Safe Space To Be Me
- Rathfern Community Regeneration Group
- ATLAS Women's Centre
- Via Wings
- Decorum NI
- Ards Peninsula First Responders
- Hope 4 ME & Fibro Northern Ireland
- Bann Rowing Club
- 72 (Omagh) Squadron, RAF Air Cadets
- Donaghmore Horticultural Community (DHC)
- Fivemiletown United Football Club



More information on the recipients and the Award can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/queens-award-for-voluntary-service>

Do you involve volunteers? Are they making an exceptional impact on a local community? You could be awarded a Queen's Award for Voluntary Service next year! Full details on how to nominate are available at <https://qavs.culture.gov.uk/> **Nominations for the 2022 awards close on 15 September 2021.**

- Twitter: @queensawardvs
- Facebook: @queensawardforvoluntaryservice

Minister Hargey to reform gambling laws

Communities Minister Deirdre Hargey has announced plans to deliver the first significant changes to gambling laws here in over 35 years.

Following a public consultation on the issue, the Minister has proposed a two phased approach in order to progress changes in the current Assembly mandate.

Minister Hargey said:

“Gambling legislation has remained largely unchanged since it was enacted thirty-five years ago. As a result, gambling regulation here has not kept pace with industry and technological changes. In my view change is long overdue. It is clear from our consultation that people are content for some of the existing legal constraints on gambling to be relaxed. But they also believe that government, the gambling industry and others need to do much more to prevent, control and combat problem gambling. The pragmatic approach I am taking will mean that we deliver some much needed change in the short term, while simultaneously ensuring that complex areas of regulation and online gambling are given the time and consideration they need.”

The first phase will be legislation to deliver tangible changes in around 17 key areas mainly around premises based gambling including improving protection for children and young people, as well as some relaxations around hours of operation.

The legislation will be introduced in the Assembly in the next few weeks. Amongst other matters it will:

- create new offences in relation to allowing children to play gaming machines;
- create powers to impose a statutory levy on gambling operators;
- establish a mandatory code of practice for those holding gambling licenses;
- broaden the definition of cheating to include attempted cheating;
- make gambling contracts enforceable in law;
- remove some of the restrictions on promotional prize competitions; and
- permit Bookmakers and Bingo clubs to open on Sundays and Good Friday.

Phase two will require a much longer timescale and will include a completely new regulatory framework which will regulate online gambling, including gaming machines.

The Minister also recently announced that she is changing legislation to enable local voluntary groups and clubs to raise vital funds by selling tickets online.



Developing our approaches to blended working

Shauna O'Neill of NICVA writes.



None of us could have predicted the impact COVID-19 would have on every area of our lives.

COVID-19 forced many of our organisations to change our working practices in a very short space of time and introduce new ways of working so we could continue to deliver services as effectively and safely as possible. Within days of the first lockdown being announced, many of our staff within the sector had transitioned to remote working.

While the pandemic has presented us with significant challenges, it has also presented us with opportunities and we have seen an unprecedented shift in how many of us work with many services now being delivered remotely. It is important that we learn from what is working well and what is not and pave a way forward with a more flexible approach.

As restrictions begin to ease you may be thinking about returning to your workplace even on a part time basis. Join us for a conversation on how we might develop our approaches to blended working. We will highlight the latest advice on working safely in our place of work as well as highlighting the key considerations employers should give to a blended approach between home working and the office.



Sessions

Friday 11th June 10.30am – 12.00pm

[Approaches to Blended Working | NICVA](#)

Tuesday 15th June 2pm – 3.30pm

[Approaches to Blended Working | NICVA](#)

Friday 18th June 10.30pm – 12.00pm

[Approaches to Blended Working | NICVA](#)

These sessions will be held with NICVA's HR Manager Alex Hastings and NICVA's Deputy Chief Executive Una McKernan.

Numbers at each session will be limited to enable conversations so book early to avoid disappointment.

NI ASSEMBLY UPDATE



Assembly Business

The most recent plenary sessions of the Assembly considered a range of matters including A Fair Start - The Final Report and Action Plan of the Expert Panel on Educational Underachievement, Financial Reporting (Departments and Public Bodies) Bill: First Stage, Parental Bereavement (Leave and Pay) Bill: First Stage, Departments (Transfer of Functions) Order (Northern Ireland) 2021, North/South Ministerial Council: Transport, The draft Renewables Obligation (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2021 and the Climate Change Bill: Extension of Committee Stage.

The report of the plenary sessions of the Assembly are available at: <http://aims.niassembly.gov.uk/officialreport/officialreport.aspx>

Committee for Communities

The minutes of meetings of the Communities Committee are available at: [Session 2020 - 2021 \(niassembly.gov.uk\)](http://niassembly.gov.uk)

Consultations



Draft Flood Risk Management Plan 2021-2027 second cycle

Department for Infrastructure

[Consultation on draft Flood Risk Management Plan 2021-2027 second cycle | Department for Infrastructure \(infrastructure-ni.gov.uk\)](http://infrastructure-ni.gov.uk)

Closing date; 25th June 2021

Legal Aid for Mediation in Non-Family Civil Cases

Department of Justice

[Consultation on Legal Aid for Mediation in Non-Family Civil Cases | Department of Justice \(justice-ni.gov.uk\)](http://justice-ni.gov.uk)

Closing date; 29th June 2021

Energy Strategy for Northern Ireland

Department for the Economy

[Consultation on policy options for the new Energy Strategy for Northern Ireland | Department for the Economy \(economy-ni.gov.uk\)](http://economy-ni.gov.uk)

Closing date; 30th June 2021

Take your opportunity to help shape the future of housing supply

The Department for Communities is developing a new Housing Supply Strategy, as part of the Minister's comprehensive and ambitious programme of work to increase housing supply and address housing stress.

The strategy is intended to provide a long term framework for the development of policy, interventions and action plans to deliver the right homes in the right locations, to help meet current and foreseeable housing needs and demands. As such, it is anticipated that the strategy will make a major contribution to the achievement of strategic outcomes as described in the draft Programme for Government outcomes framework, New Decade New Approach and the Department's strategic plan, 'Building Inclusive Communities'.

This Call for Evidence consultation period will run until 16 July 2021. A further public consultation will take place on the draft Strategy later in the year.

Call for Evidence on a new Housing Supply Strategy NOW OPEN



The documents are available on the Department's website at <https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/articles/new-housing-supply-strategy>

And the Survey Link can be found at <https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/dfc-psu/housing-supply-strategy-call-for-evidence>

Member's Stories



Share Your Success Stories

You asked, and we heard you!

Our members want to see more good news stories from community groups showcasing their work, best practices, and achievements all over Northern Ireland. We have created a new section of our website dedicated to our

[Member's Stories](#). Here you can submit your own story for publication and read the news that community groups have shared.

We will help you craft your story and feature it in our Ezine to get the word out! You will also get a link to your group's story so you can share it with your followers on your social media channels.

Supporting Communities Reports on Tenant Participation Strategy Progress

The Tenant Participation Strategy for NI (2015-2020) called for the establishment of an [Independent Tenant Organisation](#). Supporting Communities won the tender for this contract in 2017 and has since taken on responsibility for overseeing the implementation of the Strategy and supporting all social housing tenants and staff to develop the skills needed for effective participation.

As we look forward to a new strategy for 2021 and beyond, we are pleased to report on the progress we have made to date. ([The report presentation is on our website.](#))

We have delivered the main objectives of the first Tenant Participation Strategy, including developing TP Guidance and establishing a Housing Policy Panel made up of tenants from 50% of Northern Ireland's social landlords. We are contributing to the Department for Communities' review of the existing strategy and look forward to strengthening and improving what has already been accomplished.

In his forward to the report, Supporting Communities' Chief Executive Colm McDaid said, "In our role as ITO, we have expanded our scope to help other social landlords set up structures that work for their businesses and their tenants. Tenant participation is thriving in Northern Ireland, but we cannot and will not rest on these laurels. I have laid out a [5 point plan](#) to take tenant participation to the next level, which we look forward to implementing with our partners in the housing sector."



<https://supportingcommunities.org/latest-news/2021/5/27/supporting-communities-reports-on-tenant-participation-strategy>

Supporting Communities has been working with the Department for Communities on a [pre-consultation](#) process to develop the next TP Strategy.

Unfortunately, the formal consultation has now been paused due to resourcing issues at the Department and will be picked up as soon as possible. The Department advises housing associations to extend their own tenant participation strategies while we await news on the next TP Strategy for Northern Ireland.

We look forward to building on the success of the first TP Strategy and adding new ingredients to the mix which we feel will take us to the 'next level' of tenant participation in Northern Ireland.

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Special Focus

Teachers' exception from fair employment laws

Blog by Geraldine McGahey, Chief Commissioner, Equality Commission NI
Act Now on Teachers' Exception from Fair Employment Laws

It was great to see unity of purpose across the Assembly chamber on Monday 17 May in the debate on removing the exception of teachers from the fair employment laws. It was clear that everyone in the Chamber agreed that teachers deserve the protection of the law at work just as much as everyone else. It is the Commission's view is that all teachers should be able to enjoy the same legislative protections as other workers, and that it is no longer acceptable to exclude the entire teaching workforce from the provisions of the fair employment legislation.

As things stand, it is not unlawful for schools to discriminate on the grounds of religious belief in the appointment and promotion of teachers. It also means that schools are not required to monitor the community composition of teachers, nor consider whether they are providing fair participation in the employment of teachers.

For all these reasons, the Commission has recommended the removal of the exception consistently since publishing research and a subsequent investigation into the issue in 2004.

It is our view that the exception should be abolished at secondary level, with early consideration given to whether the exception should also be removed

in primary schools. Since then we have continued to call for action – including for example in our 'Proposals for legislative reform' submitted to the First Minister and Deputy First Minister in 2009; our 2015 recommendations on 'Sharing in education' and our 2016 recommendations for the Programme for Government and Budget, as well as other consultation responses and engagements over the years.

Now it is our sincerest hope that this long-standing equality deficit will be addressed and I urge all our politicians to act for equality in the employment of teachers.

- [Download our briefing paper](#) (pdf format, 600kb)
- [view or print this article in pdf format](#)



More than a third of Scots impacted by Scotland's 'broken and biased' housing system

Research for housing and homelessness charity Shelter Scotland shows 1.5 million adults in Scotland (36%) are currently struggling with the condition, security, suitability, or affordability of their home, or been discriminated against while trying to find it. Around 3%, representing more than 130,000 adults, agreed they had experienced discrimination in the search for their current home and felt it was because of their ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, nationality, religion or disability.

The findings are based on an online poll by YouGov. The number of people in unsafe or insecure housing rises to a shocking 1.9 million when children are included in the total.

Shelter Scotland director Alison Watson said: "Scotland's housing system is broken and biased. It is failing people. Hundreds of thousands of people are being held back by the lack of a proper home that would support them to flourish. You don't have to be living on the streets to be severely impacted by the housing emergency. Hundreds of thousands are putting up with the unacceptable, counting their blessings that it's not worse. We have to stand up and demand better for everyone."



The charity said people who agreed they had experienced discrimination when trying to find their current home were almost three times as likely to be struggling with issues such as overcrowding, poor conditions, insecurity or affordability.

Case Study - Perry's story

Alison Watson added: "Our housing system is horribly unequal. The fight for home starts here. We're asking people to join us whether they are personally affected by this or not. Together we will campaign to end this injustice."

A Scottish Government spokesman said: "We want everyone to have a home that is warm, safe and affordable and the actions in our long-term housing strategy Housing to 2040 set out how we will achieve that. Creating a home requires more than bricks and mortar, which is why we have committed to realising the right to adequate housing and, as part of that, we will undertake a comprehensive audit of our current housing and homelessness legislation to ensure that it meets the needs of everyone including those who have faced barriers to housing. Scotland has led the way across the UK with almost 100,000 affordable homes delivered since 2007 and we are committed to delivery of a further 100,000 by 2032 – with at least 70% of these available for social rent."

Publications

Live Here Love Here is a positive, people powered campaign focused on improving our local environment and building a sense of pride in our local communities.



To sign up to receive the regular ebulletin, go to;
<https://www.liveherelovehere.org/cgi-bin/lhlh>

Scope^{NI}

Available online, includes a series of important articles on a range of matters including early years education, poverty, health inequality, child poverty and Covid-19 and women: a shrinking job market and a growing risk of violence at home

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



Please click the link below to access the latest edition of Inpartnership which includes a roundup of PCSP events and initiatives.

[PCSP Inpartnership June/July 2021 | Policing and Community Safety Partnerships \(pcsp.org\)](http://pcsp.org)

NI Environment Link

The Environment News, Research and Analysis newsletter is available at [ENRA-April-2021.pdf \(nienvironmentlink.org\)](#) and the Assembly News round-up [Assembly-News-May-2021.pdf \(nienvironmentlink.org\)](#)

For other NIEL publications and events, go to;
www.nienvironmentlink.org



Rural Community Network

The latest editions of Rural Brief and the Rural Matters are now available from the RCN.

To access the publications, go to;
<http://ruralcommunitynetwork.org/publications/default.aspx>



Catch up on what's been happening at the Board in Policing Matters at [Policing Matters June 2021.pdf.pdf](#)

Events

National Energy Action (NEA) - Fuel Poverty And Health In Northern Ireland Webinar - 15th June 2021



NEA's Fuel Poverty & Health Webinar will look at the causes and impacts of fuel poverty in Northern Ireland, with a focus on the health impacts. It aims to help delegates identify those likely to be at risk from fuel poverty and signpost to assistance. This course is designed for anyone wanting to learn more about fuel poverty, its causes, and links with physical and mental wellbeing. The course looks at the causes and impacts of fuel poverty with a focus on the health impacts. It aims to help delegates identify those likely to be at risk from fuel poverty and signpost to assistance.

Course objectives
Explain:

- causes fuel poverty
- health impacts of fuel poverty
- causes of and remedies for condensation dampness

- heat loss in the home
- grants and other forms of assistance

Duration: Webinar for a max of 15 participants - 2.5 hours.

Fee - FREE to eligible participants only
NEA NI's Warm and Well Project, supported by the Public Health Agency (PHA) and the Belfast Community Planning Partnership, can provide this training for free within the Belfast Area to Health and Social Care staff, Housing Professionals and Community & Voluntary organisations.

For more information contact: Nichola MacDougall
nichola.macdougall@nea.org.uk 07921465237

Open Local Government: Greater Belfast Workshop Next date: Tuesday 22 June 2021 12:30pm



NI Open Government Network - **This is a free event**
Join us at our workshop for the Greater Belfast area and help identify open government issues, to improve local democracy and public services. Registration is now open, details below.

The Open Local Government project will see the Northern Ireland Open Government Network (NIOGN) hosting a series of virtual workshops across NI, inviting groups and individuals to identify open government issues that affect them. Ultimately, the purpose of the project is to boost the health and effectiveness of local democracy by breaking down barriers to transparency, accountability and participation. You can read more about the project [here](#).
[Click here to register for the workshop on Eventbrite.](#)

After the workshops are complete, NIOGN will select two campaigns identified from the workshops to support over the next year. To prepare for the workshop, we ask you to think of at least one barrier to open local government that you or your organisation has experienced, as these will form the main discussion for the session. With attendees spanning the voluntary sector, the general public and statutory bodies, it will be a great way to engage with local issues and connect with participants in your area.

If you have any queries or would like to discuss the workshops further, please get in touch with NIOGN by emailing lucy@opengovni.org. We hope you will join us to work on open government issues together.



'Shaping Ourselves and Our Children'

Would you like to know how to be a better parent and learn the most effective ways of raising children to maximise their potential?

Then you will want to know about SOOC – 'Shaping Ourselves and Our Children'

Rural Community Network
SUPPORTING RURAL COMMUNITIES

in collaboration with...

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL
Equality | Diversity | Interdependence

SOOC Lifescore
SHAPING OURSELVES AND OUR CHILDREN

Online (zoom)

- Information on child social & emotional development
- Diversity - understanding how biases & prejudices are shaped
- Understand how children develop self-esteem & confidence
- Learn how life at home shapes our children!
- Supporting children's understanding of others
- Communication skills & behavioural management
- Learning through play, interactive play session with your child

Fantastic SOOC Pack with Certificate and books on Child Development & Diversity for every participant

Session	1	2	3	4
Fri July	9th	16th	23rd	30th
	1:30 - 4:30pm			

To book your place please email teresa@ruralcommunitynetwork.org or call 028 8676 6670
Places are limited & allocation on first come basis
Closing date is 30/06/21

****We would particularly welcome Daddies, Grandas and any other men who are regularly involved in childcare for their wee ones**

A short 4 week programme for Mums/Dads/Grandparents/Guardians/Carers of young Children And It's - FREE!!

****Generous**
Childcare/babysitting allowance available if required**
(APPROX £100 FOR 2 OR MORE CHILDREN & FULL ATTENDANCE)

The project is supported by the EU's PEACE IV Programme managed by the Special EU Programme Body.

Training



Advice NI Training Course

Supporting Clients with Addictions

Advice NI is pleased to introduce a new Wiseradviser E-Learning Course recently launched called Supporting Clients with Addictions. This is a great course and is about clients with gambling, alcohol, or drug problems.

The overall objective of this course is to enable front-line staff to recognise when clients may have an addiction problem and to be able to handle such situations with sensitivity, offering appropriate support and signposting to external sources of help.

This course is worth 1 CPD Point under the NIAQS (Northern Ireland Advice Quality Standard) and will take up to 1 hour to complete.

If you have already completed the Addictions e learning course there are lots of other e learning courses available including two recently launched courses on Basic Banking Rights & Debt & Pensions. All of our Wiseradviser e-learning courses are **FREE** to organisations providing free and impartial debt and money advice.

You can access and find out more by logging onto your Wiseradviser Account as normal at <http://www.wiseradviser.org/northern-ireland>

After this you select;

- Course Search Tab
- Enter course name i.e Supporting Clients with Addictions NI
- Enter Course & select Here

Any queries please email wiseradviser@adviceni.net

The Adviser NI courses are Blended Learning consisting of pre-recorded content available for Anytime Online access on our Learning Management System. Here learners have access to video lessons, resources and learning activities. Throughout the course there are also scheduled Live Online group tutorial sessions on Zoom.

[Click here to find out more](#)



[Check the Courses Scheduled page here](#) for the next available dates.

Safe Communication Online with Children and Young People Webinar

Tuesday 15th June 2021 from
1.00am to 12.00 midday.
Online free event

Are you communicating with children and young people online through your work or volunteering? This session will look at the safeguarding issues your organisation needs to consider. There will be a short presentation followed by a Q & A session.

Joining instructions will be sent out the day before the Webinar.

The New Environment: Assessing Risk When Developing Volunteer Roles

Tuesday 22nd June 2021 from
10.00am to 12.00 midday
Standard course fee from £15 +VAT

In this new environment, we will explore why we need to assess risk when developing volunteer roles and how volunteer managers can implement this process within their volunteer programme.

Joining information will be sent out the day before the session.

For more information and to open an account go to;
[Click here for instructions on how to create a Training Account.](#)

Funding



Minister launches £1m Rural Halls Refurbishment Scheme

Rural Affairs Minister Edwin Poots MLA has announced the opening of a £1m Rural Halls Refurbishment Scheme.

The pilot scheme will provide capacity building training and a grant to rural community and voluntary organisations to deliver capital refurbishment works to rural halls, with the intended aim of keeping community facilities viable and to support existing rural organisations to remain sustainable and identify new volunteers.

The Rural Halls Refurbishment Scheme will make individual awards of up to a maximum of £40,000 available to rural community organisations.



Funding may be used for a range of small scale refurbishment works and must be located in a rural area.

The Programme is open for applications from Monday 17th May 2021. Further information and applications can be found at <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/rural-halls-refurbishment-scheme>

The closing date for applications is 11 June 2021 at 3.00pm.

Ecclesiastical Launches £1m Movement for Good Awards 2021

For a third successive year, Ecclesiastical Insurance is inviting nominations to its £1 million Movement for Good Awards.

The programme has two funding phases:

1. Phase 1 will award 500 charities with £1,000 each. Nominations will be accepted from 24 May to 13 June 2021. The more nominations a charity receives, the greater their chance of winning. Winners are selected by a draw.
2. Phase 2 will take place later in the summer with further details to come. Charities can register to be kept up to date.

Anyone can nominate a charity to receive one of the £1,000 awards as long as the charity:

- has been in existence for at least six months
- is a not-for-profit organization
- has satisfied the due diligence of the promoter.
- is registered with one of the following:
 - Charity Commission for England and Wales
 - Charity Commission in Northern Ireland
 - Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator
 - Charities Regulator for the Republic of Ireland
 - Jersey Charity Commissioner or the Guernsey Registry (Channel Islands) or the Central Registry (Isle of Man)
- does not discriminate unlawfully in any way

- does not support any specific political party or affiliated group
- does not relate to any controversial subject matter that is contrary to the values and expectations of the promoter



Eligible charities could range from smaller, volunteer-run groups to larger, well-known organisations.

A charity can win only once but they can be nominated multiple times. The more nominations a charity gets, the more likely they are to win £1,000.

The winners will be selected at random from a pool of nominations and announced on the www.movementforgood.com website from 21 June 2021 to 2 July 2021.

To Nominate

Entry is free.

Full details, including the terms and conditions, and the online nomination form can be found on the website as can a range of resources for charities to raise awareness within their community.

The deadline for entries for a £1,000 grant is 23:59 on Sunday, 13 June 2021.

Nationwide Building Society Community Grants Opens for 2021 Applications

Nationwide Building Society is offering grants of between £10,000 and £50,000 for projects of either one year or two years. Projects should target one of Nationwide's three outcomes:

- Preventing people from losing their home.
- Helping people in a home.
- Supporting people to thrive within the home environment.

The funding will support core costs (up to 20% of the grant amount requested); staff and volunteer costs; small-scale capital costs; activity costs; development and capacity building costs; and building works and refurbishment costs.

Nationwide has made two changes to its 2021 programme:

- Charities should have been running for at least three years and have a £25,000 minimum average income over three years.

- There is now a cap on the number of applications per region. This has been introduced in order to manage volumes and to preserve a success rate of approximately one in four (25% of those who apply within each region will receive funding). The cap means the date on which applications close in different regions may be earlier than 17 June 2021.

Applications will be accepted from 17 May to midnight on 17 June 2021.



For more information and to apply, please visit https://nationwidecommunitygrants.co.uk/?utm_source=social&utm_medium=linkedin&utm_campaign=community_grant_charity_applications&li_fat_id=2e8707d3-1e07-4c35-86c4-a9bfbcadb6f7

UK Community Renewal Fund

The UK Community Renewal Fund 2021-22 will help support local areas to pilot imaginative new approaches and programmes that unleash their potential, instill pride, and prepare them to take full advantage of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund when it launches in 2022.

There will be a pre-determined national allocation for Northern Ireland, set at £11 million. By treating Northern Ireland as one geographical area they will ensure all communities have equal access to apply for the Fund. Priorities

To nurture innovative thinking and offer flexibility, projects may align with one, or deliver across several, of the following investment priorities:

- Investment in skills
- Investment for local business
- Investment in communities and place
- Supporting people into employment

90% of funding available through the UK Community Renewal Fund is revenue funding, with a small amount of capital funding.

How to apply

In Northern Ireland, the UK government will oversee a project competition directly.



Financial due diligence checks will be undertaken on non-public sector applicants. These checks will include an assessment of the applicant's financial standing including the ability to deal with cost overruns, the ability to fund the project and repay funds if required. The outcome of these checks may exclude applicants from further consideration.

Bids should be submitted by applicants to the Ministry of Housing, Communities, and Local Government **by noon on Friday 18 June 2021** by emailing UKCommunityRenewalFund@communities.gov.uk. Bids received after the deadline will not be considered. They will then confirm which projects will receive funding from late July onwards.

For more information visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-community-renewal-fund-prospectus/uk-community-renewal-fund-prospectus-2021-22#uk-community-renewal-fund-an-overview>

Roof repairs fund for listed buildings opens

A £200,000 fund aimed at supporting roof repairs to listed buildings is now open.

Owners can avail of £5,000 for repair works associated with roofs including chimneys and gutters while £10,000 is available for the repair of thatched roofs. This is part of a £350,000 Executive package of support being provided to the built heritage sector this year.

For more information, please visit <https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/news/roof-repairs-fund-listed-buildings-opens>



Tampon Tax Fund

£11.25 million to be made available for charities working with disadvantaged women and girls; the threshold for applications reduced to £350,000

Charities can now apply for funding to support projects helping thousands of women and girls across the UK, as part of the latest and final round of the Government's Tampon Tax Fund.

A pot of £11.25 million has been made available to charitable organisations to bid for, with priority given to those working to end violence against women and girls, as well as organisations that support a network of charities.

For this round of funding, the grant threshold has been reduced from £1 million to £350,000. This means that more organisations will be able to apply, increasing accessibility to organisations that support this vital work.

The Tampon Tax Fund was introduced in response to VAT being imposed on sanitary products by the European Union, and following this round will have provided more than £90 million of funding supporting women and girls charities.



As per the government's manifesto commitment, the Chancellor announced at the Budget in March 2020 that the tax would end on 1 January 2021 following the UK's exit from the EU, as per the government's manifesto and wider government strategy to make sanitary products affordable and available for all women.

Grants may be for 12 or 18-month projects, and all activities must be concluded and funds spent by 31 March 2023.

To Apply

For more information please visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/final-round-of-tampon-tax-fund-launched>

The deadline for applications is Sunday 4th July 2021.

Garfield Weston Foundation Accepting Applications Again

After closing its capital funding streams last year to focus on revenue grants during the Covid-19 crisis, Garfield Weston Foundation is now open to applications across all its grants programmes: capital, core costs and projects.



Regular grants of up to £100,000 can be used for:

- Capital costs - for tangible things, such as a building project, repairs, equipment etc.
- Revenue/unrestricted core costs - towards the general running costs of the organisation. The grants are typically unrestricted and can be used towards costs such as general salaries (but not a specific position or job), rent, programme costs etc.
- Project costs - for a very specific project or activity and would include all the costs involved in delivering the project, including staff costs and a reasonable percentage of overheads if relevant.

Match funding is required. The Foundation recommends that applicants have around half of their funding identified before applying. A grant is unlikely to be for more than around 10% of the total costs of the budget. For more information please visit <https://garfieldweston.org/>

There are no deadlines. Applications for grants of up to £100,000 can be made at any time and are reviewed on an ongoing basis.

Brighter Communities Applications Now Open

Funding is available to Northern Ireland community groups to help them implement innovative and creative projects which will change and improve their local community for the better.



A fund for charitable, sports and community organisations in Northern Ireland for equipment purchases or projects and activities that enhance their offering within their local community is accepting applications.

Grants of up to £1,000 are available through the funding programme.

Applicants must:

- Be a community organisation based in Northern Ireland.
- Not have any political links.
- Use the funds within 6-8 weeks of receiving them.
- Agree to all PR and marketing activity following the journey of spending their grant.

Funding will be awarded only to tangible projects and cannot be used for overall running costs or overheads.

For more information please visit <https://powerni.co.uk/brightercommunities/>

Applications may be made at any time and will be considered on a monthly basis.