

Fermanagh & Omagh District Council Community Support News – October 2026

The Community Support Newsletter is published monthly. Regular updates are also issued by email. If you wish to receive these or place an article in the Newsletter, please contact Alison Gilmore on 0300 303 1777 ext 21217 / email alison.gilmore@fermanaghomagh.com

Please note the deadline for November's Newsletter is Tuesday 20 October

Council News & Events

October is Positive Ageing Month!

Take a look at the fantastic range of programmes, activities and events available throughout the month. There's something for everyone to enjoy, stay active, connect with others and try something new.

To view the full brochure, follow the link <https://tinyurl.com/mtr4yjmK>

Don't forget to visit our website <https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/.../positive-ageing-month.../>

Fermanagh & Cavan Job Fair

Thursday 1 October, 11am-2pm

The Enniskillen Hotel, Enniskillen BT74 6AJ

The event is **free to attend** and will bring together around 20 employers from across Fermanagh, Cavan and the surrounding areas, with more than 150 full-time and part-time vacancies expected to be available on the day.

Employers will be recruiting across a wide range of sectors, including:

- Administration
- Healthcare
- Cleaning Services
- Manufacturing
- Hospitality
- Customer Service
- Sales
- Engineering
- Tree Surgery
- Tyre Fitting & Vehicle Repair
- HGV Driving
- Information Technology
- Maintenance

and many more.

The Job Fair provides an excellent opportunity for jobseekers to meet employers face-to-face, learn about current vacancies and discuss career opportunities. Whether someone is entering employment for the first time, returning to work after a break, seeking additional hours or considering a career change, there will be a wide variety of opportunities available.

Many of the vacancies on offer will suit candidates with varying levels of experience, and employers will be available throughout the event to answer questions and discuss their recruitment requirements.

Attendees are encouraged to bring copies of their CV, as many employers will be actively recruiting on the day.

The event is organised by the Department for Communities, Department of Social Protection, Cross Border Partnership for Employment Services and Fermanagh and Omagh Labour Market Partnership.

For more information email ucemployeradviser.enniskillen@dfcni.gov.uk

EVAWG - Research participation: women's experiences of domestic abuse in rural areas **Have Your Voice Heard**

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is inviting women from across the district to take part in the second phase of an important research project exploring how living in a rural area can shape experiences of domestic abuse and access to support services.

This phase of the research will be conducted online via Microsoft Teams, allowing participants to take part from the privacy and comfort of their own home at a time that suits them.

If you are:

- A woman aged 18+
- Living in, or previously living in, the Fermanagh and Omagh district when you experienced domestic abuse
- Willing to share your experiences confidentially

we would like to hear from you.

As a thank you for your time, participants will receive a £20 payment for taking part in the interview.

Your experiences can help shape future services, inform policy development, and support women across our rural communities.

For more information, visit <https://bit.ly/4es8RWO>

The Unfinished Broadside

Tuesday 13 October, 7.30pm-9.00pm

Ardhowen Theatre

A unique showcase production, presented by Bready & District Ulster Scots, the production forms part of the programme celebrating **Ulster-Scots heritage** across the district and commemorating **America 250**, marking the 250th anniversary of the signing of the United States Declaration of Independence.

The Unfinished Broadside tells the inspiring story of **John Dunlap, the Ulster-born printer of the Declaration of Independence**, through an engaging blend of **drama, music, song and dance**. The original musical play, written by Jonathan Burges, explores the significant contribution of Scotland and Ireland, particularly Ulster, to the formation of the United States of America.

The production also provides an opportunity for local performers and Ulster-Scots musical groups to participate, helping to strengthen community involvement and celebrate our shared heritage.

Free tickets are available from The Ardhowen Theatre Box Office

Tel 028 6632 5440 or via <https://ardhowen.com/show/the-unfinished-broadside/>

Homicide Timeline Training Including Coercive Control

Wednesday 21 October | Ardhowen Theatre, Enniskillen

Registration and refreshments: From 9:00am

Training begins: 9:30am sharp Lunch provided Finish: 4:15pm

We are pleased to invite professionals and practitioners working across safeguarding, justice, policing, health, education, and the community and voluntary sectors to attend this event.

This specialist training session is funded and organised in collaboration with the Department of Justice Northern Ireland, PSNI, PCSP and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council.

The training event will be led by Sarah Ellis, Barrister at Law, working alongside Professor Jane Monckton Smith.

The Homicide Timeline provides a structured way of understanding patterns of behaviour and escalation over time. Rather than considering incidents in isolation, it supports professionals to identify patterns within relationships and recognise how coercive control, stalking, threats and other behaviours can develop and escalate over time.

The session will explore:

- Homicide timelines and behavioural escalation
- Coercive control and hidden patterns of abuse
- Risk indicators and opportunities for early intervention
- Learning from domestic homicide cases
- Effective multi-agency understanding, information sharing and response

This training provides an important opportunity for professionals across the Fermanagh and Omagh District to develop a shared understanding of escalating risk, strengthen multi-agency responses and support earlier identification and intervention where patterns of abuse and violence against women and girls are present.

Organisations are encouraged to share this invitation with relevant colleagues and teams and to register via [Homicide Timeline Training Including Coercive Control - The Ardhowen](#)

Any EAWG organisation wishing to have a stand at this event is asked to contact evawg@fermanaghomagh.com in advance to facilitate arrangements.

We hope you and colleagues from your organisation will be able to join us for this important session and contribute to strengthening our collective understanding and response to coercive control, escalating risk and violence against women and girls.

Irish Language Classes

Reáchtálfar ranganna pobail Chomhairle Cheantar Fhear Manach & na hÓmaí in athuair in Inis Ceithleann agus an Ómaigh go luath déanta i gcomhpháirtíocht le CLG Fhear Manach. Beidh ranganna ar fáil ag Bunleibheál, Meánleibheál (Íoctarach / Uachtarach) agus Ardleibheál ar feadh 10 seachtaine.

Beidh fáilte roimh fhoghlaimoirí úra agus roimh dhaoine ag teacht ar ais chuig na ranganna. Le tuilleadh eolais nó d'áit a chur in áirithe téigh chuig: <https://bit.ly/4xELws6>

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Community Irish Language Classes will return to Enniskillen and Omagh for 2026/27, delivered in partnership with [Fermanagh GAA](#). Classes are available at Beginner, Intermediate (Lower and Upper) and Advanced levels and will run for 10 weeks.

New and returning learners are welcome

For more information or to book your place please click here: <https://bit.ly/4xELws6>

New to the area?

You are welcome to join the Community Connect Hub

Omagh Community House Tuesdays 6 October, 1 December

Fermanagh House, Enniskillen Thursday 5 November

Come along on any of the above days, **10am-12 noon.**

You can:

- Have a chat
- Meet other people
- Get help and information

People will be there to help with:

- Housing
- Jobs and benefits
- Health
- Community advice

Just drop in. No booking needed.

Everyone is welcome.

Do you have a community challenge that could be addressed digitally?

The next STRIDE Expression of Interest Call 3:

Opens on 1 October 2026 and closes on 31 October 2026

If you're part of a community, voluntary, sporting, arts or educational organisation in Fermanagh and Tyrone and have a challenge that could potentially be addressed through digital innovation, we'd love to hear from you.

STRIDE works alongside communities to understand the challenge first and then explore practical digital solutions together.

Keep an eye on our [portal](#) and social media posts for more details soon on how to apply.

Changing Places facilities make a real difference

Standard accessible toilets don't meet everyone's needs. Changing Places provide vital equipment such as height-adjustable changing benches, hoists and space for carers, helping people with profound and multiple disabilities to access places with reassurance that there is a suitable, dignified and hygienic space to use the toilet or change continence pads.

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council has three venues with Changing Places facilities:

- **Omagh Leisure Complex**
- **Enniskillen Castle**
- **Strule Arts Centre, Omagh**

By raising awareness, we hope more businesses and venues will invest in Changing Places - creating communities that are truly accessible for all.

Find out more about what Changing Places are and why they matter – visit

<https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/parks-and-open-spaces/public-toilets/changing-places-facilities/>

Free Home Safety Checks

The Council offer these for all residents who are over 65, families with children under 5, and vulnerable adults, living within our council area.

The checks offer tips on all aspects of home safety, as well as specialist advice on topics like heating and energy saving. A room-by-room inspection usually takes around 30 minutes, and our Home Safety Officers can:

- Show you the potential risk areas in your home, for example slips and trips hazards, blind cords or poisoning risks
- Issue home safety equipment (subject to the eligibility criteria detailed below, and stock availability)
- Provide tailored advice on how to make your home safer
- Refer you for a free smoke alarm installation.

Apply for an Under 5 visit here: [Under 5 Home Safety Check Referral Form](#)

Apply for an Over 65 visit here: [Over 65/ Vulnerable Adults Home Safety Check Referral Form](#)

Help with your electricity bill

There is a new scheme to reduce people's electricity bills in Northern Ireland. Households will automatically get a discount to their electricity bill this year, in 2027 and 2028. **You do not need to apply and it is not means-tested.**

The Household Electricity Discount Scheme is funded by government. Under the scheme, households will either receive a yearly deduction from their electricity bill, or credit to their pre-pay/ keypad meter.

The scheme will run for three years from 2026 to 2028.

Discount or credit will be automatic – you do not need to apply.

The amount is not based on how much electricity you use or how much you top up.

This year's discount is £63.00 and it will be made from 6 October 2026.

You will be told the amounts for 2027 and 2028 before any discount is applied to your bill or credit added to your pre-pay/ keypad meter.

Full information is available at [NI Direct](https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/help-your-electricity-bill) : <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/help-your-electricity-bill>

or you can watch this video on [YouTube](https://youtu.be/m-qdx3oTeVE?si=2WsGB255HGSYIlx8): <https://youtu.be/m-qdx3oTeVE?si=2WsGB255HGSYIlx8>

Department for Communities' £100 Home Heating Oil Support Scheme

Now open for applications

Eligible households are encouraged to apply through [NI Direct](https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/help-your-electricity-bill) for the Department for Communities' £100 Home Heating Oil Support Scheme.

The £100 digital pre-paid card scheme will support households who use oil as their main source of heating.

One digital card per household will be payable where applicants use oil as their main source of heating and receive a qualifying income-related benefit, or a disability benefit, or have an annual income for single people or couples (including pensioners) of less than £30,000 after allowable deductions.

The scheme is now open for applications through [NI Direct](https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/help-your-electricity-bill) and will close for new applications on 31 March 2027.

You must make an application, as awards for the home heating oil support scheme will not be made automatically.

For further information or to make an application, visit <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/services/apply-online-home-heating-oil-support>

Fermanagh Lakeland Forum Redevelopment Project

The Construction Newsletter is now available. This edition includes information and updates on project progress, community activities and education and employability initiatives being undertaken as part of the project. To read the newsletter visit <https://bit.ly/3UmPqYX>

Looking for free activities to support your health and wellbeing this autumn?

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Community Wellbeing Programme is back with a wide range of **free** activities running from September to December 2026.

Whether you're interested in keeping active, meeting new people, learning new skills or improving your overall wellbeing, there's something for everyone.

View the full programme schedule: <https://canva.link/autumn-2026-schedule>

Find out more about the Community Wellbeing Programme and upcoming activities:

<https://www.facebook.com/CommunityWellbeingFODC>

Omagh Music Festival

Friday 9 - Saturday 10 October

Strule Arts Centre, Omagh

Organisers are aiming to build on the event's growing reputation as a vibrant showcase of local talent, heritage and live performance.

Central to the brief is the expectation that the festival will utilise the Strule Arts Centre, alongside venues across Omagh town centre, creating a dynamic, multi-location cultural experience that brings music into the heart of the community.

Previous festivals have leaned into this rich legacy, combining live performances with historical showcases, walking tours and exhibitions that tell the story of Omagh's contribution to Irish music.

For full details visit <https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/event/omagh-music-festival-2026/>

Gortin Glen Twilight Harvest Market

Saturday 17 October, 4pm-9pm

Gortin Glen Forest Park

As day turns to dusk, the forest will be transformed into a vibrant twilight marketplace, celebrating local food, producers, makers, arts and crafts. Visitors can enjoy live music, seasonal food and drinks, local traders, walkabout characters, interactive entertainment and family-friendly activities.

Free Biodiversity Guided Trails will take place hourly from 4pm to 8pm. Bring your wellies and a torch and discover more about the trees and wildlife of Gortin Glen. No booking required.

A **free shuttle bus** will operate from Drumragh Car Park, Omagh, from 4pm–7.30pm, with the final return bus at 8.30pm.

For more information, visit: <https://bit.ly/4iG1Nt4>

Events in Fermanagh and Omagh

Visit the following websites for details of what's on in the district:

<https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/events-and-festivals/>

<https://www.fermanaghlakelands.com/whats-on>

<https://exploreomaghsperrins.com/whats-on/>

Electoral Office for Northern Ireland

2027 Combined Election Polling Place Consultation

The Electoral Office is seeking views on Polling Places for the combined Assembly and Council Elections to be held next May (2027).

The proposed Polling Places provide voters with the ability to vote in the same Polling Place for both elections. View the consultation and submit your response:

<https://www.eoni.org.uk/consultations>

Consultation closes on Friday 2 October 2026.

Public Consultation on Stronger Futures: A Northern Ireland Youth Work Policy Statement

The Department of Education (DE) invites you to take part in the public consultation for Stronger Futures: A Northern Ireland Youth Work Policy Statement.

Visit [Public Consultation on Stronger Futures: A Northern Ireland Youth Work Policy Statement | Department of Education](#)

The consultation closes on Friday 30 October 2026.

PEACEPLUS Update

Please see the link below to view our latest Newsletter, which provides an update on the progress made across the Fermanagh and Omagh PEACEPLUS Local Action Plan.

<https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/app/uploads/2026/07/Final-FODC-PEACEPLUS-Newsletter-Summer-July-2026.pdf>

We have also updated our News webpages to include PEACEPLUS in Pictures, showcasing the people, projects and activities that make up the Fermanagh and Omagh PEACEPLUS Local Action Plan. By sharing the stories behind the programme and celebrating participant achievements, we hope to raise awareness of PEACEPLUS opportunities and demonstrate how the programme is supporting positive change throughout the district.

<https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/community/the-peaceplus-programme/peaceplus-newsletters-and-press-releases/>

Our Events and Workshops page continues to provide updates on current opportunities, so please keep an eye on it to find out what is happening and how you can get involved:

<https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/community/the-peaceplus-programme/events-and-workshops/>

Financial Wellbeing Project

Are you struggling with your personal finances?

Would your staff like a Debt Awareness Session?

Would your group users benefit from a Financial Well Being Clinic?

Omagh Independent Advice Service and Community Advice Fermanagh are delighted to offer One to One Advice, Financial Well Being Clinics and Information Sessions to the general public and to all interested local voluntary and statutory groups.

Our project will provide advice and representation on the following:

- Benefit Entitlement Checks
- Better off Calculations
- Budgeting Advice
- Free, confidential Debt Advice

If you would like to avail of our services or help us arrange a Financial Well Being Clinic in your area please contact us on:

Omagh Independent Advice Services

Phone No. 028 8224 3252 or Email info@oias.co.uk

Community Advice Fermanagh

Phone No. 028 6632 4334 or Email website@communityadvicefermanagh.com

Cost of Living Help

<https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/community/community-help-support/cost-of-living-help/>

Consultations

Consultations provide you with an opportunity to have your say. They also help us to find out what you think and to understand your priorities and concerns about our district. Further information is available at <https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/your-council/consultations/>

Community Centres

Our community centres are available to hire for children's activities/parties, community events, health and sporting activities, special occasions and corporate events.

For further details visit <https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/community/community-centres/>

FODC Physical Activity Referral Scheme (PARS)

Delivered in partnership with the Public Health Agency (PHA), PARS is a **free 12-week exercise** referral programme facilitated by fully qualified staff for individuals with specific health conditions who have no absolute contraindications to exercise.

PARS includes online delivery with sessions also facilitated at Council leisure centres.

For further information visit [Physical Activity Referral Scheme](#)

FODC Move More Programme

A physical activity initiative delivered in partnership with Macmillan Cancer Support available to anyone who has had a cancer diagnosis, at any stage of their life.

Move More supports the lives of people with cancer through physical activity. Physical activity before, during and after cancer treatment can help prevent and manage the effects of treatment, such as fatigue, depression and risks to heart health.

Sessions are facilitated at Council leisure centres.

For further information visit [Macmillan Move More](#).

Irish Language Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

For up to date information and details of activities across the district

visit <https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/community/irish-language/>

Fermanagh and Omagh Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP)

A partnership between the Council, statutory providers and the community. The partnership is made up of elected and independent members and representatives from the statutory sector.

Follow us on Facebook via the link below

https://www.facebook.com/FermanaghandOmaghPCSP/?locale=en_GB

Charity Support

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council may provide support to charities in a number of ways including the provision of grant aid; the attendance of the Council Chair or Vice Chair at photo opportunities; use of Council facilities and the illumination of Council buildings to mark specific days of significance to a chosen charity which is associated with a particular colour.

For further information visit <https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/community/>

Please note, applications for the use of Council facilities or the illuminating of Enniskillen Castle and Strule Arts Centre in a particular colour, should be submitted to the Council **at least 6 weeks** before the date requested, to allow sufficient time for the application to be considered.

To make an illumination request please complete <https://form.jotform.com/222782646405055> or for any enquiries regarding Council support to charities, email communitysupport@fermanaghomagh.com

Community News

Community Support

The Community Services Department offers support to individuals and organisations within the community and voluntary sector promoting community action.

Officers within the Community Services Team are available to assist community groups and voluntary organisations make as big a difference as possible to local lives and issues.

For further information, please visit [Community – Fermanagh & Omagh District Council \(fermanaghomagh.com\)](http://Community – Fermanagh & Omagh District Council (fermanaghomagh.com))

Please contact your local Community Support Officer for any assistance you or your organisation may require:

Area	Officer	Email	Telephone 0300 303 1777
Enniskillen	Ruthanne Fawcett	<u>ruthanne.fawcett@fermanaghomagh.com</u>	Ext 21649
Erne East	Joanne Cunningham	<u>joanne.cunningham@fermanaghomagh.com</u>	Ext 21405
Erne North	Leza Cleary	<u>leza.cleary@fermanaghomagh.com</u>	Ext 21234
Erne West	Kellie Beacom	<u>kellie.beacom@fermanaghomagh.com</u>	Ext 21201
Mid Tyrone	Lee Hamilton	<u>lee.hamilton@fermanaghomagh.com</u>	Ext 20227
Omagh	Josephine Treanor	<u>josephine.treanor@fermanaghomagh.com</u>	Ext 20222
West Tyrone	Billie-Jo Irwin	<u>billie-jo.irwin@fermanaghomagh.com</u>	Ext 20220

Home Heating Oil Support

Drop-in support clinics

Tuesday 6 October, 10am-12pm

Friday 9 October, 2pm-4pm

Fermanagh House, Broadmeadow Place, Enniskillen

Community Advice Fermanagh will be available to help individuals complete applications for the **Northern Ireland £100 Home Heating Oil Payment Scheme** and access their payment codes.

What you should bring:

- National Insurance Number
- An email address
- If you have already applied and received correspondence about the scheme, please bring this along as Community Advice Fermanagh can help retrieve payment codes if required.

No appointment necessary – simply attend during the clinic times.

Your Voice Matters

Help shape the future of health and care in Fermanagh and West Tyrone

The Western Trust is developing a new Vision for how health and care services could be delivered in the future and want to hear from you.

Your views, experiences and ideas are important in helping plan services that meet the needs of local people and communities.

Have your say and be part of the conversation.

Find out more – visit <https://westerntrust.hscni.net/about-the-trust/fwt-future-health-and-care-services/>

Shape the Vision – Complete the questionnaire and have your voice heard in shaping future services <https://consultations2.nidirect.gov.uk/hsc/health-care-futures-fermanagh-west-tyrone/>

Closes Saturday 31 October 2026

Want a free Defibrillator?

Local community groups can now apply for a **free** defibrillator through the British Heart Foundation Northern Ireland.

Successful applicants will receive:

- A defibrillator and cabinet
- Installation costs covered (where needed)
- Free replacement parts for up to 10 years

If you're involved in a sports club, community centre, church group, social club or local organisation, you are encouraged to apply.

Every minute counts during a cardiac arrest. This simple piece of equipment could save someone's life.

Find out more and apply here: www.bhf.org.uk/how-you-can-help/how-to-save-a-life/defibrillators/apply-for-a-free-defibrillator-for-your-community

Give Blood – Save Lives

St Joseph's Hall, Omagh	Thursday 1 October, 1pm-8pm Friday 2 October, 12.30pm-7pm
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Red Knights Community Hub	Monday 12 October, 12.30pm-7.30pm
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Dromore Sports Complex	Tuesday 13 October, 12.30pm-7.30pm
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Book an appointment at <https://nibts.hscni.net/online-booking-for-blood-donation-appointments/>

Free Samba Drumming Workshops

Every Wednesday from 30 September to 9 December, 7–9pm

Cavan Scout Centre, Railway Rd, Drumavanagh, Cavan, H12 TC93

Cavan Arts Festival's Carnival School invites adults to pick up a drum and learn samba through this free weekly workshop series.

The workshops are led by experienced samba teacher Keith Smyth, and no previous drumming experience is required. Sessions are designed for adult participation and are completely free to attend.

Spaces are limited and can be booked via <https://forms.gle/ckM3pA1xT9jwkqCx7>

Hope Cafe - a community cafe by Enniskillen Presbyterian Church

Fridays 11am - 2pm. Everybody Welcome!

Come meet new friends in a warm space that offers affordable homemade soup, scones, pizza and other treats.

https://www.facebook.com/T4UCommunityCafe?locale=en_GB

Omagh Volunteer Centre

Volunteer Drop in – Tea and Chat

Fridays 1pm-2pm, to 9 October

Not sure if volunteering is for you? Come along for a cuppa and a chat!

Thinking about volunteering but don't know where to start?

Join us for a relaxed and informal Tea & Chat at Omagh Volunteer Centre.

There's no appointment needed, no pressure and no commitment – just a friendly conversation over a cup of tea.

Come along to:

- Meet the Volunteer Centre team
- Chat about what interests you
- Discover local volunteering opportunities
- Get help finding the right opportunity for you
- Talk about any barriers or support you might need
- Find out how you can make a difference in your community

Whether you're looking for a regular volunteering role, something flexible, a one-off opportunity or simply want to find out more – you are very welcome.

Tea, coffee & refreshments provided

No appointment necessary – just drop in!

Northern Ireland Piping & Drumming School (NIPDS)

Saturdays, 10.00am–12.30pm

Devenish College, Enniskillen

We are currently promoting our 2026/27 programme of community piping and drumming classes, with classes running in Lisburn, Enniskillen and Dungannon. Our aim is to make high-quality, accessible tuition available locally and encourage new participants of all ages to get involved in traditional music.

Our programme includes tuition in piping and drumming, with Drum Majoring also available in Dungannon and Lisburn.

Our current classes are:

- Lisburn – Saturdays, 10.00am–12.30pm
- Enniskillen – Saturdays, 10.00am–12.30pm
- Dungannon – Wednesdays, 7.00pm–9.00pm

Heritage music has continued to enjoy strong visibility and support across Northern Ireland and Scotland this year, highlighting the enduring cultural value of piping, drumming and associated traditions. We believe it is important to build on that momentum by creating accessible opportunities for new learners, younger generations and returning musicians to take part. Through local tuition and community-based activity, NIPDS aims to help sustain the skills, knowledge and traditions that sit behind this important part of our shared musical heritage, ensuring they continue to be passed on and enjoyed by future generations.

For further information/to enrol email sharon-canavan@nipds.network Tel 07745 169327

Belleek CCE

Saturday 3 October

Belleek Hub

Weekly music classes restart. New members welcome but need to contact branch secretary Bernie Mc Nulty via Belleek CCE Facebook page to register.

Monthly music sessions (second Sunday) from October to May.

Omagh Volunteer Centre

Volunteer Recruitment Fair

Tuesday 6 October, 4pm - 7pm

Omagh Library

Free Entry

The Fair's aim is linking 'those who want to help' with 'those that need help'.

The fair is an ideal opportunity for the local community to find out more about the value of volunteering, in addition to the range of local opportunities available and ways to get involved. Both students and members of the public can chat informally with representatives, as well as sign up with the Volunteer Centre and apply for specific volunteering roles and opportunities.

This is also a fantastic opportunity to network and raise awareness of the excellent work being carried out by voluntary organisations locally

To book email Martin at info@omaghvolunteercentre.org or call 028 8224 0772

Omagh Volunteer Centre Volunteers' Appreciation Event

Tuesday 6 October, 6pm

Omagh Library

Please forward the names of the volunteers from your organisation who would like to attend our event. Please book early as spaces are limited.

Please email volunteer@omaghvolunteercentre.org or call 028 822 40772

Parenting – Managing Big Emotions with Dr Sarah Meekin

Wednesday 7 October

Omagh Library, 7pm

Dr Sarah Meekin is Head of Psychological Services in Belfast Health & Social Care Trust (since 2010). She has an interest in promoting psychological knowledge, principles and practice across communities and services, believing that the better we understand ourselves and each other, the better we can build societies which promote growth and wellbeing.

Parenting is one of the biggest challenges any of us will probably face. The responsibility of helping our children learn how to manage all the big emotions and build their skills and resilience can feel overwhelming, especially on the days when we don't feel like we can even adult!

I hope to explore with you how understanding and managing our own emotions and psychobiology can help us to support our children compassionately. We will be looking at how to teach them about their emotional colours, and how this can help build brain and acquire skills for resilience and wellbeing – starting with ourselves!

Booking Essential with Omagh Library

t: 028 8244 0733 e: omagh.library@librariesni.org.uk

Omagh Forum AGM & Annual Awards Evening

Wednesday 7 October, 7.30pm

Greencastle Community Centre

As well as the business of the AGM we have a range of speakers and are delighted to welcome **Siobhan Casey, Commissioner for Older People** and other topics that will be covered are;

- Ageing Well Locally
- The Hear and Here Project
- Civil Contingencies

Prior to the AGM there is an opportunity to view the newly opened community facility - Croi an Chaislean Ghlais – onside the GAA facilities in Greencastle. A fantastic fundraising effort which secured £631,000 from a fundraising draw and Bricks and Pillars as well as £297,000 in grants from other funders including £200,000 from FODC. A total of £928,000, which is an incredible achievement and includes a Changing Spaces facility for people who may be limited in their own mobility so need equipment to help them to use the bathroom.

We will have music by Drumragh Ukulele Group on arrival. Find out more about local services and activities such as Community Guiders – the Hear and Hear Project, Ageing Well Locally and Civil Contingencies

The Hear and Here Project is led by FRCN (Fermanagh Rural Community Network) and Omagh Forum is the partner in the Omagh area. They are looking for Community Guiders, that is anyone

who works or volunteers in communities in a face-to-face capacity. It is designed to make people more confident and knowledgeable about referring/signposting to a variety of services, as well as improving the relevant skills in order to have these kinds of conversations in the first place.

Ageing Well locally – find out more about the work of SWAP, South West Age Partnership, in this month of October which is Positive Ageing Month, and hear about the Age Friendly Strategy which has been developed by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

Civil Contingencies - Rural Community Network is working with Omagh Forum and other RSN's on rural civil contingency planning. Hear more about the research already undertaken locally on emergency preparedness for events such as severe weather or power failure and about the workshop taking place on 13 October to bring people together to explore how rural communities prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies.

We will also have a range of **information stands** at the event so plenty to see and learn about. One such is the **Involvement Team from the WHSCT** who wish to talk to people about the Health Care Futures for the Fermanagh West Tyrone area.

A great opportunity to network and learn from others and we would love to see you there. Please email info@omaghforum.org or telephone 028 8225 1559 to confirm your attendance **by Friday 2 October**.

Feeling Anxious? Campaign

Thursday 10 September – Saturday 10 October

As part of the HSC "Feeling Anxious?" campaign, organisations are asked to support the campaign by raising awareness of anxiety and the range of self-help and support available. The campaign provides practical self-help advice, wellbeing resources and signposting to services through www.mindingyourhead.info.

The Communications Toolkit can be found at <https://www.mindingyourhead.info/campaigns/look-after-your-mental-health-campaign-2025>

If you have registered interest for a physical campaign pack, these are in the process of being distributed to organisations and you should receive yours in the next few days. We would welcome your support in sharing messages with staff, service users, stakeholders and local communities. Together, we can help ensure that more people know where to turn for support when they need it.

Post campaign survey

Following the campaign, we would be grateful if you could take a few minutes to complete a short evaluation survey. Your feedback will help us understand the campaign's reach and impact, identify what worked well, and inform the development of future mental health campaigns and resources [Feeling Anxious? 2026 HSC campaign – we'd love your feedback! – Fill in form](#)

Importance of Cardiovascular Health & Anxiety

Wednesday 7 October, 12.30pm – 1.15pm

Online via Microsoft Teams

As part of this year's regional Mental Health Campaign, **Feeling Anxious?** we are delighted to welcome Consultant Cardiologist Monica Monaghan who will share her expert insights into the link between anxiety and cardiovascular health, and the importance of prioritising our wellbeing. There will be an opportunity to ask questions at the end of the session

To register, please click the link below:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-importance-of-cardiovascular-health-anxiety-tickets-1996439046932?aff=oddtcreator>

For further information or queries, please contact health.improvement@westerntrust.hscni.net

Free Energy Advice Workshops

Wednesday 7 October, 3.00pm–5.30pm

Thursday 8 October, 10.00am–12.30pm

Fermanagh House, Enniskillen

The workshops will be facilitated by **National Energy Action (NEA)**, a leading fuel poverty charity, and will provide practical advice on:

- Keeping your home warmer
- Saving money on energy bills
- Using energy more efficiently
- Reducing heat loss, damp and condensation
- Accessing available energy support

The workshops are **free and open to everyone**, but places are limited and should be registered on a first-come, first-served basis.

Book at <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/iFGLQF996x>

Alternatively email annette@fermanaghtrust.org

Spooky Swap Shop and Crafty Workshop

Free family event: Omagh Library, Thursday 8 October, 2pm-4pm

Are you looking for a fun and family-friendly way to get ready for Halloween?

Swap your child's preloved costume for something new-to-them and help give costumes another lease of life. **Drop your costume into Omagh Library up until Friday 2 October.**

Don't have a costume to swap? No problem! Everyone is welcome to come along and join in the Halloween fun.

Please make sure every costume has a **CE mark on its label**.

Omagh Healthy Living

Women's Thursday Meet Up

Starts on Thursday 8 October, 10.30am

in Omagh Community House

This is a new fortnightly group aimed at giving women a friendly, relaxed space to meet others, have a cuppa and a chat, get out of the house and take a little time for themselves.

Register your interest now – Email catherine@omaghforum.org or Tel 028 8225 1559

Hospital Road Youth Club

Fund raising event

Saturday 10 October, 9am-4pm

Hotel Rue Omagh

Are you looking for comprehensive wellness? Divine Holistics is hosting a day of healing, wellness and community support. Come and raise vital funds for our youth club.

Fermanagh Rural Community Network

Awards 2026

Celebrating Your Achievements

Fermanagh Rural Community Network (FRCN) are pleased to announce the 25th year of our **Community Awards** scheme to celebrate the work of Community Organisations in County Fermanagh

All Organisations are encouraged to submit at least one nomination. Organisations can submit Nominations for the following categories:

1. Award for: Local Community Activity (In the last 12 months)

2. Award for: An Individual who has Made a Difference in Your Area

Prizes will be awarded.

Only Nominations on the FRCN Awards 2026 Nomination Form will be accepted.

Nomination Forms are available to download from the FRCN website:

www.fermanaghrcn.org/news or by contacting FRCN on 028 6632 7006

or by e-mail: info@fermanaghrcn.org

Deadline for all Nominations Monday 12 October 2026

In Co-ordinating this Awards scheme, Fermanagh Rural Community Network as the Local Rural Support Network for County Fermanagh, is proud to celebrate the skills, services, and projects developed and delivered by Organisations and Communities throughout the County

Alzheimer's Society

Young-onset Dementia Peer Support Group

Thursdays 15 October, 19 November, 17 December, 6pm - 7.30pm

(third Thursday of each month)

Fermanagh House, Enniskillen

A new group for people living with young-onset dementia (diagnosed under age 65), their family members and carers.

The group will provide a safe, facilitated environment to share experiences, build social networks and maintain independence through activities.

Booking is essential. For more information and to book please contact:

Martin Bradley, Dementia Adviser 07725 475715

Rita O'Loughlin, Dementia Adviser 07889 148927

Rachael Dorrian, WHSCT Dementia Navigator 07585 998890

OUR Generation Shared Learning Event,

"Inclusion, Peace and Wellbeing: Youth Work in Post-Conflict Societies",

Thursday 15 October

Killyhevlin Hotel, Enniskillen

The day will include a range of workshops and discussions exploring some of the challenges currently facing young people and those who work with them, including responding to racism, compassion fatigue, conflict analysis with young people, and a deeper discussion around masculinity and young men.

Register at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/inclusion-and-wellbeing-shared-learning-event-tickets-1992915043543?aff=oddtcreator>

Stewards for WildeDay

Friday 16 October and Saturday 17 October

<https://www.fermanaghlakelands.com/whats-on/wildeday-p1084991>

WildeDay is fast approaching, and preparations are now well underway. A comprehensive programme of events is planned across Enniskillen, making it an exciting day for the local community and visitors alike.

We are currently looking for volunteer stewards to support the smooth running of activities throughout the day. If you are available to help, or if you know someone, a community group, or an organisation that may be interested in getting involved, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Full steward training will be provided in advance of the event, so no previous experience is necessary. Date and time of training will be sent out in a following email.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to support WildeDay. Your help would make a real difference to the success of the event. It would be really helpful if you could let me know as soon as possible.

Contact: T.kane@ulster.ac.uk Teresakane26@hotmail.com Mobile 07528 012523

Rural Isolation Webinar

Wednesday 21 October, 2pm-4pm

In partnership with Rural Action, Co-operation Ireland is delighted to host this webinar.

Drawing upon their extensive experience working with rural communities, Rural action will discuss what Rural Isolation is and how widespread it is across NI. They will also go through the material factors affecting isolation in Rural communities. Finally, they will discuss how best to support people who are isolated and enumerate several resources and organisations to help in your area.

If you would like to register for this training, click [here](#)

While spaces are ample, if there are too many attendees, there will be another session the following week on **Wednesday 28 October, 2pm-4pm**. If you would like to instead be registered for this alternative session you **must email** cbennie@cooperationireland.org to be placed on the registration list.

Fermanagh Fun Farm

Spooky Season

Saturday 24 – Saturday 31 October

Get ready for some Halloween fun - Families can pick and carve their own pumpkin, enjoy witches story time, take part in Halloween arts and crafts and decorate their own Halloween biscuits.

Children can also complete a Halloween passport trail, meet the Halloween characters and enjoy the farm's animals and indoor and outdoor play areas. Tickets are available to book online.

<https://www.fermanaghfunfarm.co.uk/> Telephone 028 6638 5060

Winter Gardening & Sustainable Home Growing Workshops

Wednesdays 30 September – 21 October – 11 November, 2.30pm–4.30pm

or

Fridays 2 October – 23 October – 13 November, 2.30pm-4.30pm

Daisy Hill House & Gardens, Ballyconnell, Co. Cavan

We've been busy in the background reflecting on the valuable feedback from our first 'Grow Your Own Future' programme, delivered during the Spring/Summer, and we're delighted to now offer a further workshop series!

This time, we'll be focusing on growing through autumn and winter and making the most of your harvest.

The series includes 3 practical workshops delivered over 6 weeks, with plenty of useful tips, hands-on learning and simple ideas that you can put into practice at home.

For full details and to register visit <https://climatecommunityempowerment.org/winter-gardening-sustainable-home-growing/>

If you have any questions or would like any further information, please email

annette@fermanaghtrust.org or tel 028 6632 0210

Places are limited and booking is essential.

Erne Paddlers

The summer may be over, but the paddling doesn't stop. As well as river kayaking at various local locations, Erne Paddlers will run kayaking skills sessions over the winter months in the pools at Omagh Leisure Centre and at Fivemiletown College Community Annex. With activities for children from 7yrs up to adults, we have something to suit everyone and all levels of experience. Keep a look out on our social media pages for more information.

You can also visit www.ernepaddlers.org.uk/events for full details and to book tickets online.

Erne Paddlers is a not-for-profit registered charity and an inclusive club and we want as many people as possible to experience the health and wellbeing benefits that paddlesports can bring. We have a flexible pricing structure with a range of discounts available including assistance rates. Check us out on Facebook, Instagram and X for regular updates. You can get in touch via social media, email@ernepaddlers.org.uk or call/WhatsApp 07468 911398.

Home-Start Lakeland

Volunteer Recruitment

We are a local family support charity who support families with young children in Co Fermanagh. Volunteers visit families in their own home once a week for 2-3 hours offering activities with children, emotional and practical support. We are currently recruiting volunteers to meet the increasing demand for our services. If you think you could help, please call 028 6634 6818 or email info@homestartlakeland.org.uk

Erne District Chinese Families' & Friends' Association

Alternate Saturdays to 19 December, 2pm-4pm

St Michael's Community Hall, Enniskillen BT74 6AA

Fun for Everyone –
Crafts & Workshops
Cultural Activities
Chinese New Year Preparation
Family Friendly

Key Dates

Saturday 5 December	Christmas Workshop (2pm-4pm)
Saturday 19 December	Christmas & Winter Solstice (3.30pm–5.30pm)

Volunteers Welcome! Join us and be part of something special

Email ernechinese@hotmail.com Telephone 07485 711652

Celebrate Culture • Community • Creativity

Community Energy Saver Project

Keep Warm and Well Workshops

Worried about high energy bills and keeping your home warm this winter? In the Fermanagh and Omagh district, National Energy Action (NEA NI) is running Keep Warm and Well workshops, supported by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council and Ulster Garden Villages, to help you take control of your household energy bills.

Simple changes to your daily routine can make a massive difference!

We can offer these sessions online or face-to-face for community groups, clubs and organisations across the district.

What you will learn:

- Top Tips: Easy low-cost or no-cost ways to save energy.
- Heating Controls: How to understand and manage your heating system.
- Stop Heat Loss: Practical ways to keep the heat where it is needed.
- Damp & Condensation: How to spot the causes and fix them.
- Switching Suppliers: How to compare energy deals and save money.
- Advice and support: information and details of relevant organisations.

Book a session for your group today!

Email: Nichola.MacDougall@nea.org.uk Phone: 028 9023 9909

Support While You Wait – 12-week programme

This programme is funded by the Department of Health and delivered by Action Mental Health Foyle (13b Pump Street Derry/Londonderry).

The programme is for adults awaiting any NHS treatment.

We are providing practical, emotional, and wellbeing focused support to help take back control, build resilience, improve physical & mental health and reduce social isolation.

If you would like further information or make a referral, please call AMH Foyle on 028 7137 3502 or email foyle@amh.org.uk

BT Switch to Digital Voice

As the network is scheduled to close in January 2027, it is essential that customers complete their switch to Digital Voice well before this date to avoid any disruption to their service.

- Don't delay – take action as soon as possible to arrange your switch to Digital Voice
- Confirm your appointment when contacted
- Get in touch promptly if we ask you for additional information or to discuss your options
- Book an appointment if you have not already done so

We're continuing to host webinars for customers, giving them the opportunity to keep up to date with all things Digital Voice. Three sessions will be held every month – during the day, in the evening, and even on a weekend. Customers can sign up to the webinars using this link – <https://crowdcomms.com/digitalswitchover>.

You can find out more about the Digital Voice programme on the link below

<https://www.bt.com/about/all-ip/connected-together> or email digital.voice.comms@bt.com with any queries.

Women's ReconciliNation Project (WRP)

Available to any woman 18yrs+ living in the North or 6 border counties in the South. Delivery of the programme is flexible - fully in-person, hybrid, self-directed learning.

All participants will receive a WRP Certificate on completion of the 6 modules.

For further information about the project, please visit <https://www.fwin.org.uk/blog/introducing-womens-reconciliation-project-wrp> or contact Janey Mc Cauley - Women's ReconciliNation Project (WRP) Training Officer – Email janey@fwin.org.uk or call 028 7126 6291

Oak Healthy Living Centre, Lisnaskea

We are delighted to share with you our programme of activities for September – December 2026

<https://www.oakhealthylivingcentre.com/current-programmes/>

Call us on 028 6772 3843 for more information.

Aisling Centre

37 Darling Street, Enniskillen BT74 7DP

For further information on any programmes, please email Aisling Centre on info@theaislingcentre.com or telephone 028 6632 5811 (unless stated otherwise).

Groups & Programmes:

- **Aisling's Charity Shop** – Open Thursdays and Fridays 9.30am-4pm. Please note we are currently not accepting donations of books or any items with safety requirements.
- **Charity Shop Volunteers Needed** – For information, contact Reception. At Aisling's you will be joining a great team of people and supporting mental health services.
- **Self Care Drop-In** – Monthly drop-in sessions. Suggested donation £3 per person.
- **Forget Me Not** – Support group for those bereaved by suicide.

Other Groups & Events:

- **Alcoholics Anonymous** – 3 meetings per week at Aisling Centre.
- **Aware** – Mental Health Support Group. For further information, please contact info@aware-ni.org
- **Cherish Sure Start** – Creche facility from Monday-Friday as well as various programmes for both children and parents. For further information call 028 6862 1970.
- **Escapists** – Support Group for Carers.
- **Island Artists** – Open to new members. For more information, please contact Maura on 07968 225704.

Yoga Timetable (please contact individual facilitators to book):

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| • Christine | Mondays at 6pm | 07722 550040 |
| • Leila | Tuesday evenings (time tbc) | 07594 026531 |
| • Alasdair | Wednesdays at 6.30pm | 07776 290903 |
| • Genny | Thursdays at 12pm | 028 8754 1994 |
| • Theresa | Thursdays at 6pm (men only) | 07923 694523 |
| | 7pm and 8.15pm (both mixed) | 07923 694523 |

Tara Centre, Omagh

Ongoing Services: Counselling/Psychotherapy/Art Therapy/Complementary Therapies

Autumn/Winter Programme

- **Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 October** - Workshop: Bio-Energy Healing / Triple 8. VSS subsidised or £110 including booking fee
- **Saturday 17 October**, 10am-1pm - Homecoming: Samhain - Turning Inward, Honouring What Matters. **Free**
- **Friday 13 and Saturday 14 November**, Fr. Jim Cogley - two-day retreat exploring loss, healing, spirituality and the deeper questions of our lives. Cost £60.00, VSS subsidises the cost for those who meet the criteria
- **Tuesdays 11am-12.30pm** - Meditating Together - Mary Daly & Maura Twohig, Free
- **Tuesdays 2.30pm-3.30pm** - Chair Yoga - Drop-ins welcome! Teresa Sexton (6 weeks £40.00)
- **Wednesdays**: Dru Yoga | Qi Gong for Self-Healing - Drop-ins welcome! Mandy Currans (6 weeks £40.00)
- **Thursdays 6.15pm-7.45pm** - Hatha Raja Yoga - Josephine Rafferty (6 weeks £40.00)

For full details visit <https://taraomagh.com/programmes-workshops/>

To book any of the above events call reception on 028 8225 0024.

Grants available for some of the costs associated with the provision of counselling/psychotherapy, art therapy, complementary therapies and some workshops/seminars

- **Omagh Men's Support Group** - Mondays, 7.30pm - 9.30pm. Contact Gerry 07799 472968.
- **PATHS Meetings** - 2nd Tuesday of month 8.00pm-9.30pm. Contact Jimmy 07879 414385.
- **Clann Cheoil Na hÓmaí Singing Group**, Thursdays 7-9pm. This cross-community group dives into Irish Traditional songs in the Irish language – which is just as fun as it is challenging! Everyone welcome! Contact Seán 07979 530616 for more information.

Training Opportunities

Fuel Poverty, Health, and Energy Efficiency Webinars

NEA NI is delivering three vital webinars this October under the **Community Energy Saver Project** (supported by Ulster Garden Villages and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council). These are open to staff and volunteers from charities, voluntary groups, and frontline community workers in the Fermanagh and Omagh district. As winter approaches, these sessions will equip you with the knowledge needed to support vulnerable residents facing high energy costs.

Places are limited and criteria apply.

1) **Understanding Fuel Poverty and Health: *Impacts on Physical and Mental Health***

Thursday 1 October 2026, 9:30am – 12:00pm Online via Zoom

This course is designed for frontline staff who work with vulnerable and low-income groups who are at risk from living in cold and damp homes. It covers the impacts that living in fuel poverty can have on individuals' physical and mental health and how these can influence a person's interaction with the energy market.

2) **Introduction to Domestic Energy Efficiency in Northern Ireland**

Thursday 15 October 2026, 9:30am – 12:00pm Online via Zoom

This course was designed to provide a basic introduction to domestic energy efficiency for frontline staff providing householders with energy efficiency advice. It aims to make delegates aware of how householders can reduce the impact of the energy price rises by using their energy more efficiently, limiting waste, whilst maintaining a warm and comfortable home.

3) **Changing Energy Related Behaviour**

Tuesday 27 October 2026, 9:30am – 12:00pm Online via Zoom

Habits and behaviours can be hard to change, but they can have a huge impact on how much a household spends on energy. Energy advisers need to be able to provide guidance around habits and behaviours when talking to householders. The Changing Energy Related Behaviour course will look at some of the theories and findings in the field of decision making, focusing specifically on simple practical things they can do to encourage people to act on the energy-related advice they receive.

How to Register

To check your eligibility and secure your place, please contact **Nichola MacDougall** at NEA:

Email: nichola.macdougall@nea.org.uk

Phone: 028 9023 9909

If you would like to discuss in-house training events/tailored training, please do not hesitate to contact nichola.macdougall@nea.org.uk

Who Gets to be Healthy?

Understanding how Health Inequalities impact our Communities

Monday 5 October, 10am-3.30pm

ARC Healthy Living Centre, Irvinestown

The Elevate programme offers free training on using community development approaches as a way to reduce health inequalities. You can watch this short video [here](#) which tells you how previous participants benefited from the training. The training is delivered over a full day, with both online and face-to-face dates depending on what suits you best. Just click [here](#) to book your place. The training is designed for community, voluntary and statutory sectors

Free ASIST: Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training

Tuesday 13 and Wednesday 14 October, 8.45am-5pm

Fermanagh House, Enniskillen

ASIST is a two-day interactive workshop in suicide first aid and more.

This course teaches participants to recognise when someone may have thoughts of suicide and work with them to create a plan that will support their immediate safety. Although ASIST is widely used by healthcare providers, participants don't need any formal training to attend the workshop - anyone 18 or older can learn and use the ASIST model.

Please note: Full attendance at both sessions is essential to complete training

Register at <https://bookings.pharesourcehub.co.uk/>

An email confirmation will be sent automatically. If you do not receive this email, please ensure you check your Spam / Junk folder before contacting the Clear Project

National Energy Action NI

Level 3 Award in Energy Awareness

Tuesday 24, Wednesday 25 & Thursday 26 November

Venue: TBC in Enniskillen

Boost your skills to provide expert domestic energy efficiency advice

Energy Awareness 6281-01 is designed for frontline workers who provide energy advice to households, either face-to-face, over the phone or online.

This well-established course covers the key principles of domestic energy use, fuel poverty, and energy efficiency, equipping learners with the practical knowledge and skills needed to deliver clear, accurate, and impactful advice.

Typical participants join us from:

- Local Councils & Public Sector teams
- Voluntary Organisations & Community groups
- Housing Associations & Housing Officers

- Energy Companies & Utility providers

Funding and Discounts Available

Under the Community Energy Saver Project, supported by Ulster Garden Villages and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, we can provide a limited number of fully funded or discounted places. These are typically open to staff and volunteers from charities, voluntary groups, and frontline community workers in the Fermanagh and Omagh districts.

Places are limited and criteria apply. Book your place today.

To check your eligibility for a funded place or to book a place, email Nichola.MacDougall@nea.org.uk or Telephone 028 9023 9909

Aware NI

Looking for free mental health courses in Northern Ireland?

Do you want to learn more about mental health, improve your emotional wellbeing, or find practical ways to support your own wellbeing?

AWARE NI is offering a range of **free** mental health education courses, with both online and face-to-face courses available across Northern Ireland.

Our courses are designed to support individuals, parents, teachers, and people affected by cancer. All of our mental health education programmes help participants build resilience, confidence, coping skills, and mental wellbeing. For full details visit

<https://aware-ni.org/news/free-mental-health-programmes-september2026#coursescancer>

Fermanagh Trust

Expand Your Skills – 250+ free Online Courses Available Now!

We can offer access to over 250 **free** online courses through our new PEACEPLUS Funding. You can register and start learning immediately!

Our courses cover a wide range of topics to support both personal development and professional training needs. From GDPR, Cyber security, Dementia awareness, Neurodiversity awareness to Food Hygiene and manual handling, to Microsoft Excel and Setting Goals there is something to suit everyone!

- **Accredited qualifications**
- **Personal development programmes**
- **Available anytime, anywhere, on any device**
- **Offered in 40+ languages**
- **Save time and money for you and your organisation**

For further information/to register visit www.fermanaghtrust.org
or email sonya@fermanaghtrust.org Tel 028 6632 0210

WHSCT Recovery College

Free courses on mental health and emotional wellbeing that run in Derry/Londonderry, Enniskillen, Limavady, Omagh and Strabane.

Our workshops are **free** and open to absolutely everyone – carers and supporters, people with or without a mental health diagnosis, staff, students – anyone who wants to improve or maintain their mental health and emotional wellbeing. We keep things informal and relaxed, and all workshops have been written and are delivered by people who have lived experience alongside mental health professionals, so students get the lived and learned experience of the topics.

For further information or if you would like hard copies of the prospectus

T: 028 8225 2079 or E: recoverycollege@westerntrust.hscni.net

Health Improvement Equality & Involvement Department

Training Brochure September 2026 to March 2027

In this edition, the training courses are found under the headings of Children & Families, Emotional Health & Wellbeing, Nutrition, Physical Activity, Sexual Health, Smoking Cessation and the Traveller Health and Wellbeing Programme.

The courses will be delivered either online or face to face in a range of locations across the WHSCT.

For further information, please email health.improvement@westerntrust.hscni.net or telephone 028 7186 5127

Join our mailing list to hear about future training opportunities - please [fill out the registration form](#).

Funding Opportunities

Our Future Health

For the next 6-8 months Our Future Health is travelling across Northern Ireland to make it easier for people living in Northern Ireland to take part. They will work with community groups and organisations in Northern Ireland to help us reach and engage with local people about Our Future Health.

In September, a new programme launched in which community groups in Northern Ireland can each apply for up to £10,000 to deliver engagement activities in their local area. [Read more...](#)

Rural Innovation & Social Enterprise - RiSE Programme

Rural Innovation & Social Enterprise (RiSE) is supported by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB). The programme is being delivered by Rural Action in partnership with Irish Rural Link, Social Enterprise NI and Social Enterprise Academy Scotland.

Rural community organisations across Northern Ireland and the border counties of Cavan, Donegal, Monaghan, Leitrim, Louth, Monaghan and Sligo are invited to apply to be a part of the second cohort of RiSE.

Through networking, events and activities, RiSE will encourage and facilitate collaboration between rural communities on a cross-border and cross-community basis. Participating groups and organisations will share knowledge and receive training support on how to develop their social enterprise, maximise income generation, improve sustainability and increase the amount of people accessing community services.

Successful groups will receive:

- Social Enterprise Leadership & Development – programme of support to increase the capacity & confidence of rural organisations engaging in or wishing to engage in social enterprise activities
- Networking, workshops and study visit opportunities

- Up to £5,000/€5,000 in 'Making it Happen' social enterprise support to advance ideas into action and support the development of new rural social enterprise developments/expansions (products or services)

For further information and application details visit [Rural Innovation and Social Enterprise - Rural Action](#)

Closing date for Expressions of Interest: Friday 9 October 2026, 5pm.

Police Property Fund Small Grants Scheme

The fourth call of the Police Property Fund Small Grants Scheme is now open for applications. This follows three successful Small Grants funding calls awarding almost half a million pounds, and one Large Grants funding call awarding a further £150,000 to community-based projects across Northern Ireland.

Information on the eligibility criteria for the Police Property Fund Small Grants Scheme and application documentation for Call 4 can be found on the Board's website at

<https://www.nipolicingboard.org.uk/police-property-fund>

The closing date for this call is Monday 12 October 2026.

Sport Northern Ireland

Olympic Legacy Fund

for sports clubs and community groups/charities delivering sport

This £2 million investment programme, delivered by Sport NI in partnership with Crowdfunder UK, aims to improve the quality of community sports facilities and equipment, helping to encourage more people to participate in sport and physical activity.

Funding will be made available in two tranches:

- £1 million available from September
- A further £1 million available from November

This means organisations will have two opportunities to apply for funding.

For further information and application details, visit the Olympic Legacy Fund webpage:

<https://www.sportni.net/olympic-legacy-fund/>

Application window for initial allocation of £1m closes on Wednesday 14 October

The Fibrus Community Fund

Established by Fibrus Broadband in 2021, The Fibrus Community Fund aims to address digital poverty and support communities across Northern Ireland in providing access to digital technology for vulnerable people.

Grants of up to £1,500 are available for projects addressing digital poverty, with a particular focus on older people, people on low incomes and people with disabilities.

For full information visit <https://communityfoundationni.org/grants/the-fibrus-community-fund/>

Application deadline: Friday 16 October 2026 at 1pm.

Forest Expansion Scheme (FES)

Open for applications for planting in the 2026/27 season

The scheme provides landowners with grant support covering up to 100% of woodland establishment costs. This is an excellent opportunity to help increase woodland cover across Northern Ireland.

What is the Forest Expansion Scheme?

The Forest Expansion Scheme is a grant scheme that supports the creation of new woodlands. The scheme:

- Is available for woodland creation projects of 3 hectares or greater.
- Can provide up to 100% of woodland establishment costs for the first 5 years of establishment.
- Offers an annual premium of £469 per hectare for ten years.

Information is available at https://x.com/daera_ni/status/2098380331401273362?s=20 and <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1049958897905269>

Members of Forest Service are willing to speak at meetings, events, or community group gatherings. Contact

- Forest Service email: grants.forests@daera-ni.gov.uk
- Forest Service phone: 028 6634 3145

Full details of the scheme can be found at <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/daera-forestry-grants>

Closing date for applications: Monday 19 October 2026, 3pm

Arts Council NI: National Lottery Arts and Older People

The Arts & Older People Programme aims to strengthen the voice of older people and promote positive mental health and emotional wellbeing through the arts. Proposed projects should demonstrate a partnership approach with the target groups they intend to engage and should have the support of those groups in project delivery. Applicants are encouraged to build this collaborative approach into both their programme and budget. Grants of between £1,000 and £10,000 are available.

For full details visit <https://artscouncil-ni.org/funding-for-organisations/arts-and-older-people-programme>

Deadline: Thursday 22 October 2026 at 12 noon

Community Garden Grants

The National Garden Scheme set up this award scheme in memory of Elspeth Thompson, the much-loved garden writer and journalist who died in 2010. Eligible community garden projects are welcome to apply for grants of between £1,500 and £5,000.

Applications close Friday 30 October 2026, 12 noon

[Read more...](#)

Children in Need

Support for not for profits who put the wellbeing of children at the centre of their work. Available grants range from £1,000 to £40,000 per year and can be awarded for up to three years.

[Core Funding](#)

The Core Costs funding stream supports essential organisational and administrative spending. These are the key expenses required to keep your organisation running. These could include the cost of management and administration, HR and payroll, general office expenses, comms and outreach, and governance and compliance costs.

[Project Funding](#)

Project Costs support the aims and delivery of a specific piece of work. This work will usually be time-limited and based on a defined set of activities. Applicants to this programme can apply for grants for up to three years. They aim to give quicker decisions for grants of £15,000 or less per year.

Eligibility: Open to not-for-profit organisations working with children

Check out their comprehensive Eligibility A-Z to ensure your organisation is a good fit for this funding stream.

No deadline! This is a rolling scheme.

For further information visit <https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/grants/apply/>

Dormant Assets for All

The Dormant Assets Scheme is for voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations in Northern Ireland. The aim of the fund is to help organisations to:

- build skills and capacity
- be more resilient
- prepare for future challenges

Because the fund is all about strengthening your organisation, it can be used for confidence and skills in digital technology, how you track and measure your impact, financial management, governance and leadership, or volunteer recruitment and support.

You can apply for between £300 and £20,000 to run projects that last up to 2 years.

Eligibility: Open to constituted voluntary, community or social enterprise organisations that have been operating for at least 2 years. This includes unregistered community/voluntary organisations, charities and CICs.

For full details visit <https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/funding-programmes/dormant-assets-for-all>

Great British Energy

We are delighted to launch our first phase of products that drawdown from the £1 billion Local Power Plan. These products will support the development of community and local energy projects as we work towards our goal of supporting at least 1000 projects by 2030.

We have now launched:

- **The GBE Community Energy Fund.** This will provide feasibility, development and capital funding to community energy projects in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. This will provide feasibility funding up to £40,000, development funding up to £100,000, and capital of up to £3million.
- **The GBE Local Partnerships Grant** - an England-only pilot project for Local Authority and community energy collaborative projects.
- **Shared ownership legal and guidance documents** to support communities and commercial developers: [Shared Ownership | Great British Energy](#)

Full guidance, eligibility criteria and application information is available here: [Funding Opportunities | Great British Energy](#).

If you need further advice, you can contact localgrants@gbe.gov.uk.

The grants remain open for a period of 8 weeks.

In addition, we have announced **support to the Scottish Government for the Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES)**, to provide additional funding to their existing Launchpad Programme and Generation Growth Fund.

You can find advice on how to access support in your region here: [Capacity and Capability | Great British Energy](#)

We have also issued a call for proposals looking for partners to help establish a Community Power Fund to provide finance for community energy projects: [Call for Investment Concepts and Pipeline: Community Power | Great British Energy](#)

We hope that this news is welcome - this is just the beginning of our wider package of support to deliver more locally owned clean energy across the UK.

www.gbe.gov.uk

Follow us on social media: [X](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

Barclays Female Coaches for Girls Grant

Small grants to get more women qualified as coaches for girls – available to all clubs and groups that run football, cricket or tennis activities for women and/or girls.

For more information visit <https://sported.org.uk/barclays-female-coaches-for-girls/>

Deadline for Applications: Wednesday 4 November 2026

Department of Health: Support While Waiting Grant Scheme 2026/2027

The Department is inviting applications to the Support While Waiting Grant Scheme 2026/27. The purpose of the scheme is to provide meaningful, community-based support to individuals while they await treatment on Health and Social Care waiting lists.

Voluntary and community sector organisations can apply for grants between £5,000 and £30,000 to deliver programmes that support individuals on HSC waiting lists.

For further information visit [Department of Health: Support While Waiting Grant Scheme 2026/2027](#)

Application deadline: Friday 6 November 2026 at 12 noon.

Funding opportunity: £1,000 unrestricted grants

The easyfundraising Impact Fund **is back for a second round**, with 15 unrestricted grants of £1,000 available to organisations in our network to apply for – **that's double the amount awarded in the spring.**

If you applied previously, **you can apply again**, whether you were successful or not.

The fund is open to UK-based charities, sports clubs, schools, CICs, social enterprises, youth groups, churches and other not-for-profit organisations.

The application is quick and simple, with grants awarded to organisations that best explain how they would use the funding. As the grants are unrestricted, the £1,000 can be spent wherever it's needed most.

Apply now: www.easyfundraising.org.uk/impact-fund

About easyfundraising: Raise unrestricted funding every time your supporters shop online.

When they shop with 8,000+ retailers via easyfundraising, retailers donate to your organisation at no extra cost to them. Find out more: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/community/>

Applications close Sunday 8 November 2026

Funding opportunity for schools: Royal Society Partnership Grants

The [Partnership Grants](#) scheme funds schools and colleges up to £3,000 to work in partnership with STEM professionals from academia or industry to run an investigative STEM project. The grants are open to all levels of education supporting students aged from 5-18.

With the deadline for the 2026 round approaching, now is an excellent time to start planning a project and identifying a STEM partner. We encourage schools and colleges to submit an application and make the most of this funding opportunity.

Find out more through the [Partnership Grants website](#) and/or watch this [10-minute overview video](#).

Applications close Monday 30 November 2026

International Tree Foundation

UK Community Tree Planting Programme

Grants are available for community-based organisations to deliver tree-planting projects that protect and restore indigenous trees and woodlands, support community engagement in tree planting, and increase awareness of the importance of trees and forests to environmental and human well-being.

For further information visit <https://www.internationaltreefoundation.org/uk-grants>

Deadline for Applications: Friday 11 December 2026

Cash4Clubs

Cash4Clubs and Flutter UK have donated almost £7 million to grassroots and community sports clubs across the UK and Ireland. In 2026, a further £500,000 is available through the scheme. Cash4Clubs provides small grants to community sports clubs and organisations to purchase equipment, gain coaching qualifications, or invest in long-term sustainability. Not-for-profit organisations, including charities, community groups and traditional sports clubs across the UK and Ireland, can apply for grants of £2,000 each (€2,000 in Ireland).

For more information visit [Cash4Clubs Sports Grants](#)

Application deadline: Friday 1 January 2027

Support available from The National Lottery Community Fund

Are you working with your local community to develop a project that supports people in your area?

The National Lottery Community Fund is hosting a series of virtual information sessions for organisations across Northern Ireland, offering an opportunity to learn more about National Lottery funding available.

The sessions are aimed at voluntary and community groups, particularly those who are new to National Lottery funding or would benefit from a refresher on programme aims and application criteria for options available.

This is your chance to hear directly from the team about key programmes such as National Lottery Awards for All and Strengthening Communities. The sessions will provide practical advice on eligibility, completing your application, describing your project effectively and involving your community, helping you to strengthen your chances of success.

Find out more and book your place at <https://www.ticketsource.com/the-national-lottery-community-fund-ni>