

Fermanagh & Omagh District Council Community Support News – March 2025

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 April's Newsletter is Tuesday 25 March

Council News & Events

Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (EVAWG) Change Fund

Now open, the Change Fund is offering funding between £1,000 and £25,000 for successful community groups operating in the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area to support the Northern Ireland Executive's Strategic Framework to End Violence Against Women and Girls.

Funding can be applied for within three tiers of support:

Tier 1: grants between £1,000 and £5,000

Tier 2: grants between £5,001 and £15,000

Tier 3: grants between £15,001 and up to £25,000

Applicants must demonstrate that the proposed project will equip community groups to address violence against women and girls. There must be a clear linkage between proposed activities and the EVAWG prevention outcomes: changing attitudes; behaviour and culture; healthy, respectful relationships; women and girls feel safe and are safe everywhere.

Interested in applying and want to find out more?

Come along to a drop in workshop or contact communitysupport@fermanaghomagh.com

Day	Time	Venue
Monday 3 March	11.00 am – 12.30 pm	Townhall, 2 Townhall Street, Enniskillen BT74 7BA
Monday 3 March	2.30 pm – 4.00 pm	Castle Park Leisure Centre, 1 Killypaddy Road, Lisnaskea BT92 0JJ
Monday 3 March	5.30 pm – 7.00 pm	Belcoo Healthy Living Centre, 1 Lattone Road, Belcoo BT93 5AQ
Wednesday 5 March	10.00 am – 11.30 am	Owenkillew Community Centre, 62 Main Street, Gortin BT79 8NH
Wednesday 5 March	1.00 pm – 2.30 pm	Strule Arts Centre, Townhall Square, Omagh BT78 1BL
Wednesday 5 March	3.30 pm – 5.00 pm	Ecclesville Centre, 11 Ecclesville Road, Fintona BT78 2EF
Wednesday 5 March	6.00 pm – 7.30 pm	Bawnacre Leisure Centre, Castle Street, Irvinestown BT94 1EE

To apply on line go to <https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/sponsorship-grants-bursaries/grant-aid/>

The funding call closes on Sunday 23 March 2025 at 5 pm.

Invitation - Be the Change Conference

Monday 10 March, 9.30am – 2.00pm

Killyhevlín Hotel, Enniskillen

Violence against women and girls causes immeasurable harm to victims and society. Feeling safe should be a given. Yet the stark truth is that on average a woman is murdered in Northern Ireland every other month. Violence against women and girls is endemic across society, affecting 1 in 3 women in their lifetime globally. 25 women have been murdered in Northern Ireland since 2020, often within their own homes, leaving loved ones, families and communities shattered.

Women and Girls do not always feel safe in Northern Ireland. This needs to change.

The Executive Office Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (EVAWG) Momentum Funding is supporting Fermanagh and Omagh District Council to deliver activities to address the whole range of gender-based violence, abuse and harm which is disproportionately experienced by women and girls, and which is rooted in gender inequality.

Join the Council for our inaugural EVAWG Conference on Monday 10 March 2025 where we will look at how working together we can tackle this issue and #BeTheChange.

The conference is open to everyone; businesses, community groups, sporting organisations, statutory organisations, individuals – we all have a responsibility to address this societal issue. There is no cost to attend.

Register to attend here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/be-the-change-tickets-1251749870559?aff=oddttdtcreator>

Full event information will be issued to delegates after registration.

Strategic Capital Projects Grant Programme 2025/2026

Applications are opening soon!

The Strategic Capital Projects Grant Programme 2025/2026 will open on Monday 7 April 2025 and close on Friday 9 May 2025 at 5pm.

£1 million in funding is available:

- Larger Strategic Grant: Up to £300k
- Medium Capital Grants: Up to £100k

This funding supports local community and voluntary organisations working on projects to enhance existing facilities or meet unmet local needs in both rural and urban areas.

Mandatory Info Sessions

Attendance at an information session is required to apply

The remaining sessions are being held on:

Monday 3 March	7pm	Dromore Sports Complex, Dromore
Wednesday 5 March	7pm	Bawnacre Centre, Irvinestown
Monday 10 March	7pm	Castle Park Leisure Centre, Lisnaskea
Wednesday 12 March	7pm	Derrygonnelly Community Centre, Derrygonnelly

Join us at one of our in-person events to learn more!

Grant Aid/Sponsorship & Bursary Support

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council invites online applications from voluntary clubs, societies, community groups, social enterprises and sporting organisations for grant aid. Bursaries are also available for individuals in the area of Culture and Sport. Additionally, applications for Events & Festival Sponsorship will open at the same time.

Applicants must be based in the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area.

Applications for the following funding streams opened on Wednesday 12 February 2025 and **will close on Wednesday 12 March 2025 at 5pm.**

Applications are invited in the categories listed below.

1st Call for Applications now open - 2025 / 2026

Grant Aid:

- **Community & Wellbeing**
- **Community Premises Support**
- **Good Relations**
- **Irish in the Community**
- **PCSP - Policing & Community Safety Partnership**
- **Project Development** (Rolling)
- **Seeding** (Rolling)
- **Sports Team** - (Significant Sporting Achievement) (Rolling)
- **Summer Schemes 2025 - July/August**
- **Ulster Scots in the Community**
- **Verti-Draining**

Events Sponsorship:

- **SCALE - Medium/Large Scale Events**
- **SPARK - Small Events Delivered in Partnership**

Bursaries:

- **Irish Language (Academic)**
- **Irish Language (Gaeltacht)**, Minors, Adult, Family
- **Sport** (Rolling)

Projects/Activities/ Events must take place during the 2025/2026 financial year.

Visit the Council website to access:-

Grant Aid, Sponsorship & Bursary List

Guidance Notes or

to apply online: <https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/sponsorship-grants-bursaries/grant-aid/>

For further information:-

Email: Grants & Bursaries:- grants@fermanaghomagh.com
Sponsorship:- events@fermanaghomagh.com

Telephone: 0300 303 1777

Textphone: 028 8225 6216

Contact details for the Council Officers responsible for grants and bursaries are available on our website and within the Guidance Notes.

Grant Aid - for Older Persons Groups

Older Persons Groups must apply directly to the South West Age Partnership (SWAP) for the Council's Community & Wellbeing Grant Aid stream. For further information please contact **Allison Forbes Tel: 07955 787456 or Email: aforbes@southwestagepartnership.co.uk**

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](https://www.fermanaghmagh.com) ([fermanaghmagh.com](https://www.fermanaghmagh.com))

Please contact your local Community Support Officer for any assistance you or your organisation may require on 0300 303 1777

Area	Officer	Email	Telephone
Enniskillen	Ruthanne Fawcett	ruthanne.fawcett@fermanaghmagh.com	Ext 21649
Erne East	Joanne Cunningham	joanne.cunningham@fermanaghmagh.com	Ext 21405
Erne North	Leza Cleary	leza.cleary@fermanaghmagh.com	Ext 21234
Erne West	Kellie Beacom	kellie.beacom@fermanaghmagh.com	Ext 21201
Mid Tyrone	Eilish Morgan	eilish.morgan@fermanaghmagh.com	Ext 20068
Omagh	Josephine Treanor	josephine.treanor@fermanaghmagh.com	Ext 20222
West Tyrone	Billie-Jo Irwin	billie-jo.irwin@fermanaghmagh.com	Ext 20220

St Patrick's Day

Fermanagh's St Patrick's Day Parade and Fun Day returns to Enniskillen on Monday 17 March from 1.30pm – 4.30pm

Organised by Project St Patrick and supported by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, this event will offer lively music, dance and free family fun under the theme 'Jump n Jive in 25'.

For further information visit <https://www.fermanaghmagh.com/event/jump-n-jive-in-25/> and keep an eye on Project St Patrick's [social media](#) and www.projectstpatrick.com

Omagh is gearing up for an unforgettable St Patrick's Day celebration on Monday 17 March from 1pm – 4pm.

St Patrick's Day Festival 'In the Heart of Tyrone' sponsored by Arbour, Radius, Apex, and Alpha Housing with the theme, "Snakes Alive '25", taking inspiration from the 2025 Luna New Year of the Snake and of course St Patrick, promises a lively family-friendly festival packed with music, dance, and community spirit.

For further information visit <https://www.fermanaghmagh.com/event/st-patricks-day-omagh-2025/>

Email events@fermanaghmagh.com with any further queries

FODC Young Achievers 2024/25 –

Nomination details for individuals and teams

The Young Achievers Awards is an annual event hosted by the Chair and Vice Chair of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, to recognise outstanding young people from the District.

We are asking the residents of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council to nominate young people (aged 18 and under) for this year's awards by completing the nomination form in the link below.

<https://form.jotform.com/241904959573368>

We are reaching out to encourage as many people as possible to nominate. Over the years achievements have been recognised in Art, Debating, Drama, Education, Music, Reading, Charity/Community work, Public Service, Heroism, Volunteering, Dancing, Dog Handling, Equestrian, Farming and Sport.

Further details and information are on the nomination form but please note:

- the achievement must have been attained between 1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025
- an individual nominated must live in the Fermanagh and Omagh District, or any team nominated must be located in the Fermanagh and Omagh District.
- there will be a shortlisting process.

The nomination form will close for entries on Wednesday 9 April 2025.

Free Family Fun Events

Saturday 1 March Ecclesville Centre Fintona

For more details and to register visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/free-family-fun-event-ecclesville-centre-fintona-co-tyrone-tickets-1095383444369?aff=ebdsshios>

Saturday 15 March Enniskillen Castle

For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3Dc3qfs>

Fermanagh and Omagh Labour Market Partnership, on behalf of Fermanagh Omagh District Council and in partnership with Roar Roar Dinosaur, is excited to launch its **Free** Family Fun Days. Before and after completing in the Maths Minions challenge zone, enjoy your day out at the other Free Family Fun Activities on offer.

Advanced booking is advisable via Eventbrite link above although drop ins are also welcome on the day.

Repair Workshop

Friday 7 March, 10.30am-12.30pm

Irvinestown Library

Celebrate Repair Week with us and the Northern Ireland Resources Network at our Repair Workshop in partnership with Libraries NI.

Bring along your own clothes or other textiles that need repaired and our facilitators will give you top tips.

Please note: Not all items may be repaired within the 2 hours.

For any queries, email climate@fermanaghomagh.com

Reaching Rural - Trillick Leisure Centre

The Reaching Rural project will deliver weeks of fun and creative activities for children aged 4-10 years old with disabilities in different locations.

The next project is in Trillick Leisure Centre on **Tuesdays to 18 March 2025 at 6.15pm.**

The programme has been funded by the [Public Health Agency](#).

To book a space or find out more information, contact us on 0300 303 1777 or

disability@fermanaghomagh.com

Nominate your Community Climate Champion

This new initiative will recognise an individual or group who is undertaking positive environmental action in their local community

The Climate action could be innovative recycling or steps to reduce waste; promoting biodiversity; saving energy; or inspiring sustainable living.

To nominate visit bit.ly/FOClimateChampion

Nominations should be submitted by the 3rd Sunday of each month.

Adopt a Spot

Do you love a spot in your local area that you would love to adopt?

If yes, find out more about [Live Here Love Here](https://www.livehereandlovehere.org/)'s campaign.

Encourages environmental pride in your local area by working together to take action.

We are offering you a **free** litter picking kit when you sign up to Adopt A Spot!

Sign up here <https://www.livehereandlovehere.org/adoptaspot>

limited kits available

Have your say on a proposed new app

Make more environmentally friendly choices, reduce household waste and enhance recycling rates.

This survey is part of a research project with [Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs](#) and @Strategic Investment Board which [#FODC](#) has been involved in.

It only takes 30 seconds to complete!

To have your say visit <https://bit.ly/4k5ipZI>

48th annual Fermanagh Classic Fishing Festival

Monday 5 May to Friday 9 May 2025

<https://www.fermanaghomagham.com/article/fermanagh-classic-fishing-festival-celebrates-its-48th-year/>

Registration for the 2025 Fermanagh Classic Fishing Festival is now open – [click here](#).

For further information or enquiries, please contact tourismdevelopment@fermanaghomagham.com or call 0300 303 1777.

Become a Registered Childminder or Approved Home Child Carer!

Fermanagh and Omagh Labour Market Partnership is offering fully funded places on the Childminding Academy while [NICMA- the Childminding Association](#) will support you through the childminding registration and approval process.

To be eligible you must be:

- a resident in Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area
- committed and able to fully participate in all aspects of the Academy
- over the age of 18 years
- have the right to work in the UK

For further information and registration email grainne.scullion@nicma.org

Telephone 07517 472271

Nature Makes Sense Event

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is hosting its very first Nature Makes Sense Event, which is an accessible trail in Omagh and Lisnaskea with the opportunity to enjoy a range of nature based and outdoor play activities. If you are a group working with young people and adults with a disability, you are invited to register for this event!

The Council's Climate Action, Community and Wellbeing and Access and Inclusion Teams will be joined by staff from Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark, Natural World Products and The Conservation Volunteers to deliver the activities, which will incorporate sensory elements. Participants will explore the local environment, learn about nature and develop skills whilst having fun along the trail, all at your own pace. It is also hoped that the workshops will empower group leaders to lead on activities in outdoor spaces near them.

Locations & Dates:

Grange Park, Omagh (<https://maps.app.goo.gl/Xf3ivMU6stdHJAQg7>) - **Wednesday 19 March**

Smiths Strand, Lisnaskea (<https://maps.app.goo.gl/Xf3ivMU6stdHJAQg7>) - **Wednesday 26 March**

Times:

There will be four slots available between 10.15 am and 2.15 pm with two sessions for over 18s and two sessions for under 18s.

Registration:

To register for one of the time slots at the location closest to you, please complete the form by clicking the link <https://form.jotform.com/250231620456346>

Changes to BT Landlines

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is sharing important information regarding upcoming changes to BT landlines. BT is moving customers with the lowest landline usage (who have not advised they have additional needs or need additional support) to Digital Voice.

BT have advised they will contact customers with clear instructions when it's time for the switch over in their area. Users will also be able to keep their current phone number.

For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3WRvgnY>

Public Consultation on FODC Draft Improvement Objectives 2025-2026

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, in line with statutory duty, is seeking your views on its Draft Improvement Objectives for 2025-2026. The Improvement Objectives sets out what the Council will do in 2025-2026 to secure continuous improvement and contribute to the achievement of the priorities identified in the Council's Corporate Plan 2024-2028.

The Objectives are:

- We will prioritise the Council progressing towards Net Zero
- We will work in partnership to tackle disadvantage to ensure our people have access to opportunities
- We will work in partnership to achieve a more inclusive economy and to promote shared prosperity across our district
- We will seek to innovate and advance our governance and digital capabilities to improve the quality of our services and the effectiveness and efficiency of the Council

An 8-week period of engagement will run from Thursday 13 February until Wednesday 9 April.

The Council recognises the importance of consultation in all aspects of the implementation of its statutory duties and invites you to take part in this public consultation exercise.

Download our [draft Performance Improvement Plan: Year 2 – 2025/26](#) and have your say on our draft improvement objectives and associated actions using the [online questionnaire](#).

FODC Draft Heritage Plan 2025-2030

Have your say!

We are seeking your input to help shape and influence the priorities for heritage in Fermanagh and Omagh over the next five years and help us to safeguard, celebrate, and enhance the rich and diverse heritage in the area.

Across the district, history is a vibrant element of everyday life and we are the caretakers of our heritage, managing and enhancing its unique charm and identity so that it stays relevant for future generations.

Have your say online at <https://bit.ly/4g51VnK>

In person, drop in sessions to share your feedback will be available from 6pm-8.30pm at the following venues:

- Tuesday 4 March Enniskillen Castle.
- Thursday 6 March Castle Park Leisure Centre, Lisnaskea.
- Tuesday 11 March The Patrician, Carrickmore.
- Thursday 20 March Bawnacre Centre, Irvinestown.
- Tuesday 25 March The Village Table, Dromore.
- Thursday 27 March Strule Arts Centre, Omagh.
- Wednesday 02 April Ecclesville Centre, Fintona.

Hard copies are available in Connect Centres in Enniskillen and Omagh

For further information visit <https://bit.ly/42g17T3>

Closes Monday 14 April at 5pm

Explore the Magic of Marble Arch Caves with their Midweek Adventure Deal!

Are you looking for an exciting adventure to brighten up your week? Marble Arch Caves are delighted to announce their Midweek Adventure Deal, designed to offer a unique experience for explorers of all ages.

The Marble Arch Caves are one of the most breath taking natural wonders in Fermanagh. This is your chance to delve into a magical underground world with an exclusive offer that's too good to miss!

Here's what's on offer:

- Buy One, Get One Half Price on Guided Cave Tour tickets.
- The deal applies to Adult, Senior, and Student tickets.
- Available Monday to Friday from 12pm onwards, running to Monday 31 March (excluding Bank Holidays).
- Simply use the code 50OFF when booking online, or purchase your tickets in person on the day.

This is the perfect opportunity to bring a friend or family along and experience the wonder of this incredible underground landscape together.

Plan your visit today!

Visit <https://marblearchcaves.co.uk/online-booking-guided-cave-tour/> for more details or to secure your tickets.

Sperrin Area of Outstanding Natural beauty (AONB)

Omagh Sperrins Walking Weekend

Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 March

For full details of the walks on offer visit <https://farandwild.org/omagh-sperrins-walking/>

And for more information on the full programme taking place across the Sperrins AONB visit <https://bit.ly/3XXmiWn>

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

FODC Community Wellbeing Programme

This includes Pickleball, Boccia, chair based exercises, walking groups, Circuits, indoor/outdoor Soccer, Couch-to-5k and more!

All activities are free

Check out the full schedule here <https://bit.ly/3EfBsQf>

FODC Coach Education

Community Wellbeing at Fermanagh and Omagh District Council organise various coach education programmes, including First Aid, Safeguarding etc.

To view and register current coach education courses, please [click here](#) [click here](#)

For further information, please contact ryan.hanna@fermanaghomagh.com

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 the following Council leisure centres:

- Bawnacre Centre, Irvinestown
- Castle Park Leisure Centre, Lisnaskea
- Fermanagh Lakeland Forum, Enniskillen
- Omagh Leisure Complex

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 the following Council leisure centres:

- Fermanagh Lakeland Forum, Enniskillen
- Omagh Leisure Complex

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

Age Friendly at Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is committed to providing an Age Friendly District and seeks to ensure that older people lead more independent, engaged and socially connected lives. For further information visit <https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/health-wellbeing/agefriendly/>

For details of how to join an older person's group, visit

<https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/health-wellbeing/agefriendly/join-an-older-persons-group/>

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 or to make a booking visit

<https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/community/community-centres/>

Irish Language Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

For up to date information and details of activities across the district visit <https://www.facebook.com/FODCGaeilge>

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

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/>

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/events/>

Community News

Women's Health Strategy for NI

Aisling Centre are part of a focus group lead by the QUB and Derry Well Women to develop a Women's Health Strategy for NI.

As part of this development the first stage is an **on-line anonymous 15-20 min survey** to all women in NI to get their views about what is important to them. Visit <https://bit.ly/3CpbxEW>
You will be asked questions about your use of women's health services and how accessible you find them. If you are unable to access or complete the survey yourself, you can ask someone to help or complete it for you, on your behalf.

To date the survey has had a low uptake from the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area. Also from younger and older women.

****It is very important that those who live in rural areas contribute to this****

Changing Places Toilets

Outscape NI is undertaking a survey to gain an understanding of the current provision of Changing Places Toilets in outdoor recreation spaces in Northern Ireland.

The aim is to produce an updated position on Changing Places Toilets in the outdoors in NI, and reveal gaps where investment in Changing Places Toilets should be prioritised.

To complete the survey visit <https://bit.ly/43lkB9x>

Closing date: Friday 7 March 2025

Enniskillen Sarcoidosis Support Group

Monday 3 March, 7.30pm

Fermanagh House, Enniskillen

Everyone Welcome to our Meeting

Guest Speaker: NISSA Jacqueline Bermingham

Action Mental Health - Managing the Challenge of living with a long term condition

Wednesday 5 March, 10.30am-1pm (for 6 weeks)

Fermanagh House, Enniskillen

Free to anyone over 18 in the WHSCT area who wants to manage their long term chronic pain condition. Courses can be accessed by contacting your local Health Condition Support Group, Community Action Health Team, your GP or The Managing the Challenge Team.

Email mtc@amh.org.uk or call 028 6672 0673

Give blood - you could save 3 lives!

Omagh Thursday 6 & Friday 7 March

Newtownstewart Friday 14 March

Book your appointment by tapping on the link - <https://nibts.hscni.net/online-booking-for-blood-donation-appointments/>

Cancer Focus Northern Ireland

Meet the Team Enniskillen

Thursday 13 March, 10am-2pm in Fermanagh House

Are you, or is someone you know, living with a cancer diagnosis?

Based in the Enniskillen and Fermanagh area?

Looking to learn more about available advice and support?

Ahead of the opening of our Enniskillen Therapeutic Cancer Support Centre, we are inviting local people to come along and meet the team.

Learn more about or sign up to the services that will soon be available on your local town's High Street - including Nurse-led advice, bra & swimwear fitting, counselling, support groups, and family support.

Refreshments and lunch provided.

Register by Tuesday 4 March – contact Lauren Swain care@cancerfocusni.org or 028 9066 328.

Volunteer Information Event

Thursday 27 March 12pm-2pm

Fermanagh House, Enniskillen

Join us to explore exciting volunteer opportunities at our Enniskillen Therapeutic Cancer Support Centre. Refreshments provided.

Contact Tom to attend on 028 9066 3281 or Email tommorton@cancerfocusni.net

Fermanagh Film Club

4 March – The Outrun

After 10 years of spiralling into addiction in London, Rona (an extraordinary Saoirse Ronan) returns home to the Orkney Islands, hoping to maintain her recovery. Attempting to reconcile her complex family history as well as her destructive past behaviours, she takes a job with a wildlife conservation charity - allowing her to connect with the nature of her childhood home.

18 March - How to Make Millions before Grandma Dies

Once a top scholar, M now wastes his days gaming. Hearing how a cousin inherited a fortune having cared for an ailing relative, M becomes his grandmother's carer. She has terminal cancer and he hopes to reap the rewards once she passes away

For further details visit our website at <https://www.fermanaghfilmclub.com/>

Advocacy Service for People with Dementia

Independent Advocates are here for people with dementia at a time of transition or crisis.

In the Alzheimer's Society Advocacy Service, we:

- Aim to support and empower a person to make an informed decision.
- Aim to uphold a person's Human Rights.
- Ensure a person's voice, views, wishes and concerns are heard and considered in decision making.
- Adopt Instructed Advocacy or Non-Instructed Advocacy approaches as required.
- Use alternative communication techniques, where needed, to ensure we build a relationship with our Advocacy Partner.

For more information or to make a referral, please email advocacyni@alzheimers.org.uk

or telephone 07483 122451 www.alzheimers.org.uk

The Big Spring Clean 2025!

Enniskillen – Tuesday 4 March

Omagh – Tuesday 15 April

Live Here Love Here is gearing up for the BIG Spring Clean 2025 campaign, running throughout March and April. This year, we're bringing communities, schools, businesses, sports teams, councils, and local volunteers together, with launch events taking place across all council areas during the first week of March. If you're interested in attending an event, please check out the Live Here Love Here website below. Together, we can make 2025's BIG Spring Clean the most successful yet! Join a BIG Spring Clean Litter-Pick

Find out more at <https://liveherelovehere.knib.app/cgi-bin/generic?instanceID=19>

NI Assembly Explained Workshops

Over the coming months Assembly Explained workshops will be hosted in constituencies throughout Northern Ireland.

Assembly Explained workshops are **available free to community groups and organisations** and explain how the Assembly works, how to get involved and raise issues and the workshops can offer interactive sessions on how to navigate the website and, where possible, members are encouraged to drop in during the workshops.

Assembly Explained workshops usually last between one to two hours and can be delivered online or in-person to organisations in your constituency.

If you are interested in hosting an Assembly Explained workshop for your organisation, please get in touch with the NI Assembly Engagement team via email Engagement@niassembly.gov.uk or alternatively please complete the workshop booking form link below.

To book a workshop use this [link](#)

Dementia Cafés

Our Dementia Cafés provide a warm and welcoming space for people living with dementia, their family and friends. Light refreshments are provided.

Please contact Martin Bradley, Dementia Adviser Fermanagh M: 07725 475715 or Julie Anne Casson, Dementia Adviser Omagh M: 07889604702

Sessions for adults with a learning disability and those who support them to provide information on support when accessing cancer services

Tuesday 11 March, 10.30am-12.30pm Ardhowen Theatre, Enniskillen

Tuesday 8 April, 10.30am-12.30pm Omagh Leisure Complex

Sessions will highlight two new resources developed to mark World Cancer Day 2025:

- Video in partnership with Lilliput Theatre Company on attending the Breast Screening Unit, Altnagelvin & Breast Screening Units in the community for routine screening and clinics for anyone who has symptoms which could be cancer
- Storybook resource on visiting North West Cancer Centre, Altnagelvin

They will also include:

- Demonstration on breast self-examination & signs and symptoms of breast cancer
- Information on accessible resources and support for people with a learning disability who receive a cancer diagnosis or who are impacted by the cancer diagnosis of a loved one
- Opportunity to speak to Macmillan Information & Support Service, Breast Screening and North West Cancer Centre staff

Sessions will be relaxed and informal so attendees can move around and may attend for all or part of the session.

These are general awareness sessions and not only for those who have been impacted by cancer. Numbers are limited, booking essential - email HWB.Campus@westerntrust.hscni.net or telephone 028 7161 1272

Please state:

- Session you wish to attend
- Number attending (including staff/carers)
- Any access or dietary requirements

Volunteer Now

For a copy of our Training Newsletter for February 2025, click on [VConnect February 2025](#)
If you would like to receive news from us on a monthly basis straight to your mailbox, just register for Free Membership at [Members - Volunteer Now](#)

Rural Community Awards - Nominations

The Housing Executive is delighted to launch their latest Rural Community Awards competition, which recognises the work of rural groups during 2024.

The Rural Community Spirit, Community Champion and Cleaner & Greener Awards are open to all community groups, residents groups, voluntary groups or other groups having a constitution and acting in the interest of a rural settlement within Northern Ireland (as defined by NISRA) providing that they meet the following criteria:

- They must be properly constituted and provide evidence of a constitution/articles of association;
- They must operate on a not-for-profit basis;
- They must demonstrate appropriate financial management e.g. manage finance through a bank account specifically in the name of the group.

The Rural Community Awards will take place on Tuesday 25 March 2025 from 6.30pm – 9pm at the Seamus Heaney Homeplace, Bellaghy.

For confirmation that your village is eligible please contact rural.housing@nihe.gov.uk or alternatively visit the NISRA website.

Find out more about the awards [here](#).

Youth Policy Review Survey

The Department of Education is surveying all those involved in delivering youth work as part of its review on a new youth policy.

If you are involved in the youth sector as a management committee member, manager, staff member/leader or volunteer, please take the opportunity to respond and have your view heard.

[Take the survey here](#)

Storm impact on sports facilities

Sport Northern Ireland has released a Storm Eowyn Impact Survey to gather information on the impact of the storm on sports facilities across Northern Ireland.

If you own or operate a sports facility, we would be grateful if you could answer the questions on behalf of your organisation.

Take the survey: <https://forms.office.com/e/K6CWmTsk5b>

Extern Strength2Strength Programme

The S2S programme is a community based programme which utilises a strength based approach to address the needs of Level 2 and lower Level 3 vulnerable children aged 8 – 13 years and their families living within the Western Trust Area who may be experiencing difficulties at home, in school and in the community.

If you have any queries or want to make a referral please contact:

Carolann McIntyre, Project Manager on 028 7116 6885

At present this service is only available to families within the Fermanagh Area.

Job Club Sessions

Enniskillen Jobs & Benefits office presents –

Wednesday 5 March	Irvinestown Library
Wednesday 12 March	Enniskillen Library
Thursday 20 March	Lisnaskea Library
Thursday 27 March	Fivemiletown Library

Come along from **2pm-4pm** for support and information on:

- Department for the Economy's Careers Service
- CV and interview skills
- Job search and job opportunities available
- Support to apply for jobs

Omagh Jobs and Benefits office presents a Health event

Wednesday 26 March from 11am-1pm

Organisations taking part are:

- Make the Call
- The Recovery College
- Condition Management Programme
- Adapt NI
- Disability Action
- Action Mental Health
- Fermanagh & Omagh District Council (Community Services Team).
- Resilio (Men's Support Group)

Free event for all with advice on benefits, health, disability, hearing loss, mental health, training courses and wellbeing.

Pension Credit

Don't miss out!

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is urging older residents to check if they are eligible for Pension Credit, a financial benefit provided by the government to support individuals of state pension age who are on a low income.

It is estimated that there are around 1,975 eligible families not claiming Pension Credit in Fermanagh and Omagh. The average value to families is £41 per week or over £2,000 per annum.

Visit <https://bit.ly/4aWMLJy> to find out more or get in touch with our Age Friendly Officer on 0300 303 1777 Email age.friendly@fermanaghomagh.com

Autism Support Cafés

Thursday 27 March, 11am – 1pm,

Castlepark Leisure Centre, Lisnaskea

We are inviting adults, parents and carers of children and young people, who:

- have an autism diagnosis
 - are awaiting an assessment
 - are displaying early indicators (suggesting their child may be Neurodiverse),
- to attend our Autism Support Cafés with local support groups, information stalls and short workshops.

These events are in partnership with statutory services and community and voluntary organisations who can support families on their autism journey.

Our aim is to bring together adults, parents, carers and organisations, to provide support and information on services available. We are hoping that those who attend will help us shape our plans for future events across the WHSCT, provide feedback, ideas and suggestions. This input will be extremely valuable in the co-design of our future Café's.

Tea & Coffee provided. Booking is not required.

Any further questions or if your organisation would like to host a stall please email

ClaireA.Hamilton@westerntrust.hscni.net

AWARE NI

Are you a community, voluntary or sporting group in the Western Trust area and interested in bringing mental health programmes to your organisation?

AWARE NI have funding in place for the delivery of short one off mental health awareness sessions and longer life skills engagement programmes between April-June 2025.

Mood Matters Adults (18+)

2 hours Duration / Minimum 12/Maximum 25 people / Face to Face or online

This light and interactive mental health awareness training session is an opportunity for you to think about how to look after your own mental health. The workshop will explore mental health stereotypes and look more closely at how to spot the early signs of mental health illness, stress, depression, anxiety disorders and bipolar. This session will teach individuals coping skills for everyday life, how to avoid getting caught in a vicious circle and how to break unhelpful habits that we sometimes have when our mood is low, as well as where to get further help and support. This session will focus on you as an individual and will then allow you to apply these skills to supporting family, friends and others.

Living Life to the Full (18+)

6 weeks @ 2 hours per week / Minimum 12/Maximum 18 people / Face to Face or online

This is a programme that can make a big difference to your life. It can help you manage your feelings when you are stressed, worried or depressed and learn simple practical skills to help you cope with life's challenges. Delivered over 6 weeks the programme looks more closely at the ways in which mental health can be impacted by life events and unhelpful thinking styles which may also then affect our physical health and overall enjoyment of life.

If interested in either the Mood Matters Adult or Living Life to the Full programme, please contact Catherine on E: catherine@aware-ni.org or training@aware-ni.org

Erne Paddlers

Our final indoor pool kayaking courses get underway very soon. Sessions are running throughout March and into April in Enniskillen, Fivemiletown and Omagh with a range of courses suitable for everyone. Beginners through to experienced paddlers, skills courses for all aged 13yrs+, fun sessions specifically for children aged 7-12yrs and teen leadership development courses. Full details of all courses and activities, and tickets at www.ernepaddlers.org.uk/events

Saturday 24 May - A very special and amazing club celebration event.

It's the club's 15th anniversary this year and we're planning a fabulous family fun day which will include an epic Firewalk fundraiser event. All proceeds will go to our inclusive paddlesports programme so that we can continue to provide opportunities for the community to participate in paddlesports locally. 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.

Find us on Facebook, Instagram and X for regular updates too. If anyone would like to find out more, please get in touch via social media, email@ernepaddlers.org.uk or call/WhatsApp 07468 911398.

Tara Centre

11 Holmview Terrace, Omagh BT79 0AH

Tel: 028 8225 0024 Email: info@taraomagh.com www.taraomagh.com

Meditating Together Mary Daly and Maura Twohig

Tuesdays, starting 14 January, 10.30 am – 12 noon

Open to anyone who has followed the Tara Centre Meditation Course for Beginners. Anyone else who wishes to attend should check with Reception

Meditation “The Soul of Healing – A Final Gathering” Maura Twohig and Mary Daly

Saturday 1 March, 11am – 5.15pm followed by celebratory meal

Open to anyone who has participated in the Tara Centre’s Meditation and Mindfulness courses or attended any SOH meeting over the years.

“Healing of Conflict – both Personal and Generational” Jim Cogley

Friday 28 March 7pm - 9.30pm (registration 6.15 - 6.55pm)

and Saturday 29 March 10am - 4.15pm

Dru Yoga Mandy Currans - two 6-week blocks

Starting Wednesday 22 January, 10am – 11.30am

Qi Gong for Self-Healing Mandy Currans – two 6-week blocks

Starting Wednesday 22 January, 11.45am – 1.15pm

Yoga for Self-Care Josephine Rafferty – two 6-week blocks

Starting Thursday 9 January, 6.30 - 8pm

Please contact reception to book your place on any of the above 028 8225 0024

Support Groups

- PATHS Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month 8pm-9.30pm
- Omagh Men’s Support Group meets Mondays, 7.30-9.30pm

Victims and Survivors Grant available for some of the costs associated with the provision of counselling/psychotherapy, complementary therapies and some workshops/seminars

Invitation to Participate in DfE Funded Research

Are you passionate about the future of tourism in Northern Ireland? My name is Jane Leonard, and I am a second-year PhD student at Ulster University. I am **inviting local residents from the Fermanagh Lakelands area to participate in a focus group** as part of my research study. My project examines how Northern Ireland, a destination that has faced multiple crises, can better navigate future challenges, and aims to develop a framework that fosters collaboration between local communities and industry professionals. The ultimate goal is to ensure that long-term **social, environmental, and economic sustainability** remains a priority for the province’s tourism industry.

The focus group will provide an opportunity for you to share your perspectives and experiences on these important topics, contributing to research that will lead to practical recommendations, such as reports and publications, which could influence future policies and industry standards.

Participation is entirely voluntary, and the research has been reviewed and approved by the **Ulster University Business School's Research Ethics Committee**.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about the study, I would be happy to provide further details. **Thank you for considering this invitation**. If you are interested in participating, please email me at leonard-j8@ulster.ac.uk by **Monday 31 March 2025**.

Aisling Centre

37 Darling Street, Enniskillen BT74 7DP Tel 028 6632 5811

Groups & Programmes:

- **Forget Me Not** – Bereaved by Suicide support group meets first Monday of every month at 7.30pm. Next meeting Monday 3 March. For further information please contact Aisling Centre.
- **Mindfulness Meditation** – Monthly drop-in sessions, last Tuesday of every month at 7pm. Next meeting Tuesday 25 March.
- **Self-Care Sessions** – 5-week programme commencing Tuesday 11 March. Designed and facilitated by Aisling Centre therapist Holly Reid. For further information or to register your interest, please contact info@theaislingcentre.com

Other Groups:

- **Alcoholics Anonymous** – 3 meetings per week at Aisling Centre. For more information, please contact info@theaislingcentre.com or telephone 028 6632 5811.
- **Aware** – Mental Health Support Group. Meets every Tuesday at 7pm. If you would like to attend, please email Sarah sarah@aware-ni.org.
- **Carer's Support Hub** – Meets on the last Thursday of the month, 11am-1pm. Next meeting Thursday 27 March. Support for all carers in Fermanagh and Omagh. Please contact Judith to attend on 028 6863 1234.
- **Escapists** – Support Group for Carers. Meets Wednesdays 10.30am-1pm. For more information contact info@theaislingcentre.com or call 028 6632 5811.
- **Fermanagh Pride** – Meets fortnightly on Thursdays at 7pm. Next meetings 13 and 27 March. Contact 07368 503661 or email fermanaghpride@gmail.com for further information.
- **Island Artists** – Open to new members. Meets Wednesdays from 1-4pm. For more information, please contact Maura on 07968 225704.

Yoga Timetable (please contact individual facilitators to book):

- | | | |
|-------------|---|------------------------------|
| • Christine | Mondays at 5.30pm | 07722 550040 |
| • Leila | Tuesdays at 7pm | 07594 026531 |
| • Elena | Tuesdays at 7pm | 07894 037450 |
| • Alasdair | Wednesdays at 6.30pm | 07776 290903 |
| • Genny | Thursdays at 12pm | 028 8754 1994 |
| • Theresa | Thursdays at 6pm (men only),
7pm and 8pm | 07923 694523
07923 694523 |

JustUs Dinner Dance

Saturday 22 March, 6.30pm sharp

Lough Erne Resort

Tickets £40; Carer £20 - 4 course meal, fabulous music, dancing, and fun.

Contact JustUs socials or email Justus.events@yahoo.com

Those requiring assistance must be accompanied.

Oak Healthy Living Centre, Lisnaskea

New programme now available at <https://www.oakhealthylivingcentre.com/>

Tel: 028 6772 3843

Email: Info@oakhlc.com or admin@oakhlc.com

Latest Volunteering Opportunities

Fermanagh <https://www.volunteernow.co.uk/volunteering-opportunities/>

Omagh <https://omaghvolunteercentre.org/opportunities>

VE Day 80

Thursday 8 May 2025

Organisers of VE Day 80 are encouraging Councils and communities who have existing Beacons and Lamps to re-light them at 9.30pm on 8 May 2025. And for those with pets to consider lighting a Lamp Light of Peace to remember the millions of animals that gave service and sacrifice during World War Two.

Organisers are also encouraging as many Churches/Cathedrals within the district to ring their Bells in celebration of 80 years of peace, at 6.30pm that evening (8 May 2025).

Those planning to take part are requested to register their event and promote the event within the local media.

For further information visit <https://www.veday80.org.uk/> where you can download a guide to taking part.

British Nutrition Foundation Drummond Community Award 2025

The British Nutrition Foundation Drummond community award recognises an individual (e.g. a health professional, teacher or volunteer) or a group that has undertaken a community initiative to support healthier eating in an underserved group(s) in the UK.

Individuals must be nominated (self-nominations will not be accepted) in order to be considered for this award; however the nominee is required to complete one section of the application form and to submit the application.

If you know of a worthy winner, we encourage you to nominate them. Full details including information about previous winners can be found at

<https://www.nutrition.org.uk/about-us/awards/community-award>.

Applications must be received by midnight on 8 June 2025

Truth Recovery Independent Panel

The Independent Panel appointed by the Executive Office to find out the truth about Mother and Baby Institutions, Magdalene Laundries and Workhouses in Northern Ireland from 1922 - 1995, and their related pathways and practices, including the adoption and care systems, **is requesting testimonials from those impacted.**

Giving testimony:

- Talk to the panel in a safe and supportive space, with confidentiality as an option
- Have your experience on record
- Help shape the final report and recommendations to the Public Inquiry.

The Independent Panel wish to hear from:

- Any person who has been directly impacted
- Relatives of those directly impacted

- Any person who has worked or volunteered in or lived close to one of these institutions.

If you would like to share your experience, please get in touch by Thursday 1 May 2025.

Phone: 028 9052 0263

Email: testimony@independentpanel.org.uk

Write to: Truth Recovery Independent Panel, 4th Floor, Equality House 7 - 9 Shaftesbury Square, Belfast, BT2 7DB

The institutions the panel are investigating along with guidance on access to records is available at: www.independentpanel.truthrecoveryni.co.uk

New Online Safety Policy Templates

The Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland has launched new customisable online safety policy templates for organisations working with children and young people. The templates cover online safety, photography, and social media policies.

[Access the templates](#)

Volunteers' Week 2025 Countdown Begins!

2-8 June 2025

Every year, over 722,000 people dedicate their time to making a difference in local communities. This June, people across Northern Ireland with over 14m across the UK will come together to celebrate these inspiring individuals through parties, award ceremonies and coffee mornings, expressing gratitude to those who give selflessly to help others.

For further information visit <https://www.volunteernow.co.uk/volunteers-week-2025-countdown-begins/>

[Visit the Volunteers' Week website](#)

Home-Start Lakeland

Volunteer Recruitment

<https://homestartlakeland.org.uk/>

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

Training Opportunities

How to use a defibrillator (AED)

Tuesday 4 March, 2pm-3.30pm

Dromore Sports Complex

Dromore Health and Wellbeing are offering professional training by FODC.

We invite all in the town to avail of this free opportunity to be prepared to help should the need arise in the future. We will also discuss the whereabouts of all the defibrillators in Dromore.

Please text 07746 346613 to confirm attendance

Omagh Forum Training Courses

Tuesday 29 April 2025, 7.30-9pm

Good Governance Training - face to face Omagh Community House

Money Management Programme

Free Workshops

Are you part of a community group in the Fermanagh/Omagh area and want to learn more about money management, budgeting etc?

Workshops will be delivered in a community setting. A minimum of 8 per group.

Workshops are delivered over 4 weeks / one 2 hour session each week

Each participant will receive a free tablet device upon completion of the course.

To find out more, email craftgam@hotmail.com or telephone 028 7188 4304

Free Essential Workplace training for Staff and Volunteers

Is workplace training on your to-do list for yourself, your staff and or volunteers in 2025?

You have a responsibility to provide staff with effective training, so that's not something that can be avoided. You might be thinking about ways you can reduce your costs going into 2025 - effective workplace training doesn't have to be expensive...

Investing in Community Leadership West, offer a huge range of accredited online training courses that are designed for all levels of staff across all sectors. With over 200 e-learning courses to choose from, for free, in over 40 languages, we're your one stop shop for cost-effective and time-efficient, workplace training without compromising on quality.

Not sure where to begin? Ensuring your Health & Safety training is up to date is essential but can be a challenge when trying to continue your service delivery - but don't worry, see details in the link below to help you get a handle on your compliance requirements and get a head start to 2025!

With your staff/Volunteers able to access this **training for free**, anytime, anywhere on any device, this offers a very real, flexible solution.

View our full list of courses available on our online catalogue and **register for free at this link** <https://app.ihasco.co.uk/fermanagh-trust>

****Do not sign up for courses via the link or there will be a charge****

To access the courses for free please email sonya@fermanaghtrust.org with the name of the courses you would like to complete or to discuss your unique training requirements call Sonya at 028 6632 0210.

Recovery College Spring/Summer 2025 Prospectus

<https://westerntrust.hscni.net/service/recovery-college/>

We have some exciting workshops coming this term across our 5 locations. If you are interested in attending any workshops please enrol by either;

-completing our enrolment form in the back of the prospectus

-emailing us on recoverycollege@westerntrust.hscni.net

-phoning us on 028 8225 2079 or

-completing our online enrolment form which can be found in the prospectus or at the following link <https://forms.office.com/e/RKy3i6khzX>

Western Trust Health Improvement Equality and Involvement (HIEI) Department

Free Training Courses to 31 March 2025

Visit <https://westerntrust.hscni.net/health-improvement-equality-and-involvement-department-training-brochure-september-24-march-25/> for an update and have a look at the brochure

The courses will be delivered either via Zoom or face to face in a **range of locations** across the Western Trust.

The King's Trust

We have so many great courses for young people aged 16-30 to get involved in. Courses are free and give people the tools to build their confidence, find a job or start their own business. Travel costs are reimbursed and childcare covered for every day of our programmes.

Enterprise - For young people interested in starting their own business

Includes:

- Expert-led workshops
- Access to grant opportunities of up to £5000
- One-to-one support as to create a business plan and launch a business

Available online all year round for ages 18-30

For information on our courses email outreachni@kingstrust.org.uk

We understand that some people may not know which course is right for them. If you know someone aged 16-30 who would benefit from an initial conversation to work out which course is right for them, email us and we will give them a call.

Funding Opportunities

Fermanagh's Helping Hands

£1500 Grant Available

The Fermanagh Young Leaders Programme is proud to launch the 'Fermanagh's Helping Hands' grant, supporting groups that assist—or wish to assist—individuals with disabilities and/or mental health challenges.

With grants of up to £1500 available, this initiative aims to enhance the quality of life for those facing these challenges.

Your group must be based in Fermanagh.

For more info / to apply visit <https://www.fermanaghtrust.org/fermanagh-young-leaders.../>

Email fermanaghshelpinghands@gmail.com

Closing date: Friday 7 March

Department of Foreign Affairs

Reconciliation Fund's Annual Funding Round

Now open for applications!

We are pleased to inform you that the Reconciliation Fund's Annual Funding Round (for 12-month funding) is now open for applications. The link to the online application portal is now live at

[Home · DFAT Grant Application Portal](#)

We will accept applications through our online application portal until the final closing date of Wednesday 19 March 2025 at 12.00 midnight. No late applications will be accepted.

Due to the high volume of traffic on the online application portal, it may take some time to receive the email to register as a new user, or to reset your password, so please allow for this when planning the submission of your application.

A user guide to assist with our online application system is available [here](#), which you may find useful. Please read this before beginning the application process. This guide includes details of the questions which applicants are required to complete during the registration and application stages of the process. Please ensure that the "My Organisation Details" for your organisation is completed through the "Manage Contacts & Organisation Tab" prior to clicking "begin a new application". Applications that do not have this section completed will not be appraised.

If you are applying from a 3rd level Institution (university etc.) please contact the Reconciliation Fund Team prior to registering on the portal for instructions on how to register.

If you have any questions arising from this email for which you cannot find answers in our webpage information, please feel free to contact us at reconciliation@dfa.ie.

Tesco Stronger Starts

Open to charities and community organisations to apply for a grant of up to £1500. Every three months, three local good causes are selected to be in the blue token customer vote in Tesco stores throughout the UK.

If you work with a charity, school or local non-profit group that you think would benefit, you can apply or nominate online at tescocommunitygrants.org.uk

For further information contact Martina Reynolds, Tesco Community Champion on 07925 427388

Community Food Initiatives Programme 2025-28

<https://www.safefood.net/professional/nutrition/community-food-initiatives>

Safefood is inviting applications for funding for its Community Food Initiatives Programme 2025-28.

The Community Food Initiatives Programme aims to empower people in low-income communities to make healthier food choices. It funds local projects that improve access to healthy and safe food using a community development approach. Since 2010, over 50,000 people have taken part in a Community Food Initiative activity.

The Community Food Initiatives Programme 2025-28 is funded by Safefood and administered by SECAD Partnership CLG.

Safefood is an all-island implementation body set up under the British-Irish Agreement (1999) to promote awareness and knowledge of food safety and healthy eating on the island of Ireland.

Safefood is looking for organisations on the island of Ireland with experience working with target groups and local partners to apply for funding.

SECAD will hold an online information session on 19 March 2025 from 2.30 pm to 3.30 pm. Please email sconroy@secad.ie for details.

How to apply

Please contact Sinéad Conroy at sconroy@secad.ie to receive the link to register and to make an online application. M: +353 (0)87 354 3606

The closing date for funding applications is 21 March 2025.