

Fermanagh & Omagh District Council Community Support News – April 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 29 April

Council News & Events

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.

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.

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://fermanaghomagh.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@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 21649
Erne East	Joanne Cunningham	joanne.cunningham@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 21405
Erne North	Leza Cleary	leza.cleary@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 21234
Erne West	Kellie Beacom	kellie.beacom@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 21201
Mid Tyrone	Eilish Morgan	eilish.morgan@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 20068
Omagh	Josephine Treanor	josephine.treanor@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 20222
West Tyrone	Billie-Jo Irwin	billie-jo.irwin@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 20220

Fermanagh and Omagh Monthly Community Climate Champion

Become a Community Climate Champion for Fermanagh and Omagh!

Are you or is someone you know making a difference for the environment in our community?

We're calling on residents to nominate themselves, others, or local groups for the title of Fermanagh and Omagh Community Climate Champion!

This is your chance to celebrate and shine a light on positive climate action, whether that be by reducing waste, promoting biodiversity, saving energy, or inspiring sustainable living. Big or small, every effort counts!

Each month, a new champion will be recognised for their outstanding contributions, receiving well-deserved recognition for their commitment to a greener future.

Nominate now and let's celebrate and learn from our local climate heroes! Use the online form and tell us how the actions are making a positive environmental impact. Make sure your nominations are made by end of day on the third Sunday of the Month.

Together, we can create a more sustainable Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Area. To nominate or find out more info please go to [Get Involved | Fermanagh & Omagh District Council: Climate Change](#)

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>

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

48th annual Fermanagh Classic Fishing Festival

Monday 5 May to Friday 9 May 2025

<https://www.fermanaghomagh.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@fermanaghomagh.com or call 0300 303 1777.

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 **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/4g51VVK>

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

Closes Monday 14 April at 5pm

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

Give blood - you could save 3 lives!

Friday 4 April	The Patrician, Carrickmore	12.30pm – 7pm
Thursday 10 April	St Ninnidh's Hall, Derrylin	12.30pm – 7.30pm

Book your appointment via <https://nibts.hscni.net/online-booking-for-blood-donation-appointments/>

Want to know if you can give blood? Check out our eligibility quiz here:
<https://nibts.hscni.net/donating-blood/can-i-donate/>

Community Advice Fermanagh

Wednesday 2 April, 3pm-7pm

The Courthouse Kesh

Outreach clinic providing advice on Consumer rights, Housing rights, Benefits & more

Fermanagh Gardening Society

57th Annual Daffodil and Spring Show

Saturday 12 April 2025, commencing at 1.30 pm promptly

AMH New Horizons, Cherryville, Drumcoo, Enniskillen BT74 4FY (beside Integrated College)

Plant sale (with plants and divisions from members' gardens), floral arrangements, also many varieties of daffodils on show, general flowers section, paintings by adults and children.

Photography section by adults, youth and children. School garden section with school art from year groups. Full schedule out now and available by email from fermanaghgarden@outlook.com or by telephoning Show Secretary on 07788 146879.

Admission £10 which includes delightful afternoon tea. Children free.

New Rhythms Drumming Circle

Free 4 week wellbeing drumming workshops that aim to support and encourage isolated adults in rural communities to explore personal creativity, gain confidence and connect with others to boost mental health and wellbeing. Delivered by Inspire with drummer Aidan Dunphy.

- Thursdays: 3, 10 & 17 April and 1 May, 10am – 12pm
Eskra Community Centre, 167 Newtownsaville Rd, Eskra, Co Tyrone
- Thursdays: 3, 10, & 17 April and 1 May, 2pm – 4pm
Murphy's on Main Street, 15 Main St, Ederney, Co Fermanagh
- Thursdays: 22, 29 May and 5, 12 June, 11am – 1pm
Prospects Court, 5 Prospects Court, Castlederg, Co Tyrone

Online Registration Form: <https://forms.office.com/e/sxVtCmDjgB>

or contact: Jenny Groves, Training Co-ordinator, j.groves@inspirewellbeing.org / 07834 181303

Visit our Webpage: www.inspirewellbeing.org/training/wellbeing-drumming/

Erne Paddlers

The outdoor spring programme is almost here! We have already enjoyed a number of midweek and weekend paddles around the beautiful Fermanagh lakelands and we have many more planned. Our outdoor skills courses start up this month too and for now we will continue to run these from our base at the Broadmeadow in Enniskillen. As always there will be a range of courses to suit everyone, with early booking discounts available. Full details of all courses and activities will be published here www.ernepaddlers.org.uk/events

Firewalk Fundraiser and Fun Day - Saturday 24 May

It's the club's 15th anniversary this year and we're planning a fabulous fun afternoon which will include an epic Firewalk fundraiser event. There will be a BBQ, cake sale, fun activities for all the family, information stands, an equipment bring & buy / swap shop, raffle, great prizes and much more. There are some places still available if anyone would like to take part in the Firewalk. See full details and register here www.ernepaddlers.org.uk/events

All proceeds will go to our wide ranging and 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 07468911398.

FREE online specialist gaming and gambling harm prevention workshops

Thursday 1 May, 10am-12.30pm

Wednesday 17 July, 10am-12.30pm

Wednesday 17 September, 10am-12.30pm

Book your **free place** by emailing training@ygam.org

Do you work with children & young people in Northern Ireland? Learn about the blurred lines between gaming and gambling harms and how you can help safeguard the young people you work with.

Did you know?

- 26% of 11-17 year olds have spent their own money on gambling in the last 12 months.
- 87% of 8-25 year olds play online games at least 3 times a week

Following your session you will receive:

- A City & Guilds certificate and digital credential
- Access to resources to use in your practice

For more info about us and our training please visit www.ygam.org

Fermanagh Film Club

1 April All We Imagine as Light

15 April The Room Next Door

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!

Omagh – Tuesday 15 April

Live Here Love Here is gearing up for the BIG Spring Clean 2025 campaign, running throughout March and April. 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

Julie Anne Casson, Dementia Adviser Omagh M: 07889 604702

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

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 HWPB.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

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>

Enniskillen Jobs & Benefits office presents Job Club Sessions

Wednesday 9 April

Irvinestown Library

Wednesday 16 April

Enniskillen Jobs & Benefits Office

Thursday 1 May

Lisnaskea 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

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

Radio Ulster Broadcast Appeals - Opportunities

Applications are now being invited for upcoming Broadcast Appeal slots on Ulster/Foyle/Sounds. These opportunities will be available from June 2025 onwards.

More information and an application form can be downloaded at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/aboutthebbc/northernireland/appeals/apply>

Community Conversation Survey for Omagh

Omagh Forum for Rural Associations (OFRA) and Forum in Omagh for Community Understanding (FOCUS) are undertaking a "Community Conversation" in Omagh.

We are acting on behalf of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council and the Public Health Agency who want to measure health and well-being needs in the town.

For further information and to access and complete the online survey, please log on to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/T66WPXV>

There is opportunity for those who submit a survey response to be entered into a draw for a £100 Voucher.

Volunteer Now

Our latest Training Newsletter is out now! Please visit [VTraining March 2025](#)

For a list of our scheduled training courses visit <https://bit.ly/VNCoursesScheduled> and for our on demand courses visit <https://www.volunteernow.co.uk/training/on-demand-courses/>

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

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 7 April. For further information please contact Aisling Centre.
- **Mindfulness Meditation** – Monthly drop-in sessions, last Tuesday of every month at 7pm. Next meeting Tuesday 29 April.

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. 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 10 and 24 April. 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 |
| • Elena | Tuesdays at 7pm | 07894 037450 |
| • Leila | Tuesdays at 7pm | 07594 026531 |
| • Alasdair | Wednesdays at 6.30pm | 07776 290903 |
| • Genny | Thursdays at 12pm | 028 8754 1994 |
| • Theresa | Thursdays at 6pm (men only) | 07923 694523 |
| | 7.30pm (mixed) | 07923 694523 |

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

Fermanagh Fun Farm

Join us for an Egg-citing Easter!

Come celebrate our annual Easter Hunt on the farm! Follow clues to locate the Easter Bunny and earn a small treat. Don't miss out on our lucky dip for a chance to find the golden ticket and win an Easter egg. Hunts are scheduled for 11.30am and 2.30pm.

Enjoy all the usual farm activities, including animal feeding, pet handling, and pony walking and grooming. Our indoor/outdoor play area, café, and gift shop will also be open.

We look forward to seeing you there! [Events - Fermanagh Fun Farm](#)

Coffee Mornings at Fermanagh Fun Farm

Don't miss our weekly coffee mornings with Killadeas Day Care Centre! Join us for tea, coffee, lattes, and delicious treats like homemade scones or traybakes. If you're hungry, enjoy a freshly cooked breakfast. Our friendly staff from Killideas Day Care, a service for adults with disabilities, will ensure you feel welcomed and serve you delightful goodies. Support our coffee mornings and help our volunteers work towards their Level 1 Award in Hospitality. Your support is greatly valued.

Volunteer With Us

Fermanagh Fun Farm is seeking fun, cheerful, outgoing people to join our education team. The exciting role involves making our school visits an enjoyable, exciting, fun and educational experience while getting endless cuddles from our adorable animals. The role involves running pet handling sessions and pony walking and grooming. Training is provided.

You'll be joining an award winning social enterprise who have been awarded the Volunteer Friendly Charter for being an organisation that's inclusive to all, giving their volunteers a voice and opportunity to have their say in future developments of the farm. Please contact us on 028 6638 5060 or send us a facebook message for more information.

Training Opportunities

Health Improvement Equality & Involvement Department

Training Brochure April – September 2025

The WHSCT Health Improvement Equality & Involvement (HIEI) Department has released their latest Training Brochure which is offering **free training courses** taking place across the Trust from 1 April to 30 September 2025.

This is the first edition of 2025 and continues with a themed layout. Our training courses are located under the headings of Children & Families, Emotional Health & Wellbeing, Nutrition and Physical Activity.

We are also delighted to introduce a new seminar to the brochure, the 'Infant Mental Health Awareness Week Seminar'.

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

To view the Training Brochure, click on this link <https://westerntrust.pagetiger.com/hiei-training-brochure-april-september-25/hiei-training-brochure-april-to-september-2025>

We are introducing a new method for course registration. Each course has a 'click here to register' icon that directs you to a Microsoft form where you can register for the course and date. Please be aware that you are registering your interest by completing the Microsoft form - it does not mean you are guaranteed a place. If you need an alternative method of registering, please feel free to contact us. Accessible view is available.

For further information and any queries in relation to the Training Brochure, please email health.improvement@westerntrust.hscni.net or telephone 028 7186 5127.

Website - [Health and Wellbeing | Western Health & Social Care Trust](#)

Order Leaflets - [Health Improvement Leaflet Catalogue | Western Health & Social Care Trust](#)

Omagh Forum Training Courses

Tuesday 29 April, 7.30pm-9pm

Good Governance Training - face to face in 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 craftqam@hotmail.com or telephone 028 7188 4304

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>

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

Sustainable Community Buildings Fund

This funding is to help your organisation learn how to be more environmentally sustainable and understand what changes you can make through attending carbon literacy training and working with experts to create an environment plan for your organisation.

Additionally, funding supports you to improve the environmental performance of your building, i.e. add solar panels, improve insulation or install energy-efficient lighting, share the benefits of being more environmentally sustainable with your community and contribute to monitoring, measuring and reporting on the impact of your funding and ultimately reducing your carbon footprint and energy bills. Up to £550,000 (capital only).

Applications open to unregistered voluntary or community organisations with a governing document, not-for-profit company, registered charity (unincorporated), Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO or SCIO), and Community Interest Company (CIC).

For further information visit [The National Lottery Community Fund: Sustainable Community Buildings](#)

Deadline Wednesday 23 April 2025

National Churches Trust

Treasure Island Grants

The Treasure Ireland Grants Programme can offer between £500 and £10,000 to Places of Worship in Northern Ireland for urgent and essential maintenance and repair projects costing up to £100,000 (incl. VAT). They will consider applications from listed and unlisted Christian places of worship, of any denomination, that are located in Northern Ireland. You must have 50% of the funds required at the point of application.

Find out more at [National Churches Trust: Treasure Ireland](#)

Upcoming deadline: May 2025

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