

## Fermanagh & Omagh District Council Community Support News – April 2023

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](mailto:alison.gilmore@fermanaghomagh.com)

**Please note the deadline for the next Newsletter is Tuesday 25 April 2023**

### Council News & Events

For a list of events across the District visit  
<https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/events-and-festivals/>

#### A.I.M. for Better Access

Did you know that this toolkit can help make public buildings, businesses and community groups more accessible for people with disabilities and older people?

To learn more, why not attend one of the online or physical engagement sessions below:

- **Monday 17 April** – [Omagh Leisure Complex](#) – 5.30pm
- **Wednesday 19 April** – Online – 11am
- **Tuesday 2 May** – [Fermanagh Lakeland Forum](#) – 5.30pm

If you would like to receive a copy of the toolkit or attend the online engagement events, please contact 0300 300 1777 or email [disability@fermanaghomagh.com](mailto:disability@fermanaghomagh.com)

#### JAM Card Training

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is currently rolling out JAM (Just-A-Minute) Card E-Learning sessions to all staff members who interact with members of the public, with the aim of becoming a Jam-Friendly organisation.

After completing the training, staff will be more aware of what the JAM Card stands for, as well as some helpful tips to make services more accessible for people with disabilities. The training has been funded by the Public Health Agency, through the Access & Inclusion Project.

The JAM Card allows people with a hidden disability or communication barrier to tell others that they need extra time and understanding in a private and easy way. It was created in 2012 by NOW Group participants with learning disabilities and autism who wanted a discreet way to ask for 'Just A Minute' of patience when they need it. Since the card was launched, it has grown and developed into a card and app that is used by people with any communication difficulty.

**The Council has JAM Card E-Learning spaces available for community groups and small businesses within the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area.**

To find out more information please contact Fermanagh and Omagh District Council by phoning 0300 303 1777 or email [disability@fermanaghomagh.com](mailto:disability@fermanaghomagh.com).

### **Access Inclusion Project**

Fermanagh & Omagh District Council wants your opinion on what the 2023 – 2025 Action Plan for the PHA funded Access Inclusion Project should include.

The project delivers a range of activity programmes, events and awareness sessions each year with the aim to help improve the health and wellbeing of people with disabilities.

To provide the Council with your thoughts please complete the Jot Form through the link below <https://form.jotform.com/230733033497051>

For more information please email [disability@fermanaghomagh.com](mailto:disability@fermanaghomagh.com)

### **Join the Big Spring Clean 2023!**

Live Here Love Here has organised two Big Spring Clean events in the FODC area. One took place in Omagh on Saturday 25 March and the other is taking place in [Enniskillen](#) on **Thursday 13 April at 11am** - Johnston Bridge Path

We need your help (and your family and friends!!) to make it happen!  
**Click on the location above to register your interest!**

The Big Spring Clean is one of NI's biggest volunteer community clean-ups with the aim of removing litter from our beautiful landscapes and streets through organised litter lifting events.

### **Events and Festivals Sponsorship Now Open**

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council invite online applications for Sponsorship from Event and Festival organisers that deliver events within the district between April 2023 and March 2024 (subject to the available budget).

**Applications for Events and Festivals close at 5pm on Wednesday 19 April 2023.**

For full details including how to apply, visit:

<https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/sponsorship-grants-bursaries/sponsorship/events-sponsorship/>

For more information, email: [sponsorship@fermanaghomagh.com](mailto:sponsorship@fermanaghomagh.com)

Telephone 0300 303 1777 or Textphone on 028 8225 6216.

### **Draft Improvement Objectives 2023-2024 – Public Consultation**

**Your chance to have your say on how we improve our services!**

**Sustainable Approach to Recovery 1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024**

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is seeking your views on its draft Improvement Objectives 2023-24 outlined in its Draft Improvement Plan 'Sustainable Approach to Recovery'.

An 8-week period of engagement will run from Wednesday 8 February until Wednesday 5 April 2023.

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.

To find out more & take part in this survey please visit <https://bit.ly/draft-improvement-objectives>

**Consultation closes: Wednesday 5 April 2023**

### **Council's Cost of Living Support Hub**

For information on support available locally and regionally visit [www.fermanaghomagh.com/costoflivinghelp](http://www.fermanaghomagh.com/costoflivinghelp).

[Click here](#) for some information on the full range of initiatives aimed at helping local residents impacted by cost of living increases, which are being rolled out across the District.

### **Fermanagh Classic Fishing Festival 2023**

#### **Registration now open!**

Now in its 46th year, the Classic will take place from Monday 8 May to Friday 12 May 2023. For more information & registration visit <https://bit.ly/ClassicFishingFestival2023>

### **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.

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 the jot form which can be found on the Charity Support page of the Council website,

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

For further information or enquiries regarding Council support to charities, please email [communitysupport@fermanaghomagh.com](mailto:communitysupport@fermanaghomagh.com)

### **Consultations**

<https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/your-council/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.

### **Community Support**

The Community Services Department offers support to individuals and organisations within the community and voluntary sector promoting community action. Officers within the Community Services Team are available to assist community groups and voluntary organisations make as big a difference as possible to local lives and issues. For further information, please visit [Community – Fermanagh & Omagh District Council \(fermanaghomagh.com\)](http://Community – Fermanagh & Omagh District Council (fermanaghomagh.com))

The link below can help you find your local Community Support Officer - please contact us for any assistance you or your organisation may require on 0300 303 1777

<https://fermanagh.maps.arcgis.com/apps/ZoneLookup/index.html?appid=82210c413ab74bcd8da1750af0321163>

<b>Area</b>	<b>Officer</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Telephone</b>
Enniskillen	Ruthanne Fawcett	<a href="mailto:ruthanne.fawcett@fermanaghomagh.com">ruthanne.fawcett@fermanaghomagh.com</a>	Ext 21649
Erne East	Joanne Cunningham	<a href="mailto:joanne.cunningham@fermanaghomagh.com">joanne.cunningham@fermanaghomagh.com</a>	Ext 21405
Erne North	Leza Cleary	<a href="mailto:leza.cleary@fermanaghomagh.com">leza.cleary@fermanaghomagh.com</a>	Ext 21234
Erne West	Kellie Beacom	<a href="mailto:kellie.beacom@fermanaghomagh.com">kellie.beacom@fermanaghomagh.com</a>	Ext 21201
Mid Tyrone	Neville Armstrong	<a href="mailto:neville.armstrong@fermanaghomagh.com">neville.armstrong@fermanaghomagh.com</a>	Ext 20275
Omagh	Josephine Treanor	<a href="mailto:josephine.treanor@fermanaghomagh.com">josephine.treanor@fermanaghomagh.com</a>	Ext 20222
West Tyrone	Billie-Jo Irwin	<a href="mailto:billie-jo.irwin@fermanaghomagh.com">billie-jo.irwin@fermanaghomagh.com</a>	Ext 20220

## Community News

### **Fermanagh Gardening Society**

#### **Annual Daffodil and Spring Show**

**Saturday 1 April, 1.30pm - 3.30pm**

**with presentation of cups and prizes**

Plant sale, which everyone waits for the start bell to go, commences at 1.30 pm sharp.

Admission £5 which includes afternoon teas.

The venue is AMH, New Horizons, Cherryville, Drumcoo, Enniskillen, BT 74 4FY.

(Opposite the Enniskillen Integrated College).

Further information available by emailing [fermanaghgarden@outlook.com](mailto:fermanaghgarden@outlook.com)

### **Omagh Volunteer Centre**

#### **Open Day**

**Tuesday 4 April, 11am – 1pm.**

This is for local community groups, charities and volunteers.

Are you interested in learning about what volunteering opportunities there are?

Or how you can benefit and be rewarded for volunteering?

Maybe you're a local community group who needs volunteering support?

Just pop in for a chat and a cuppa.

Everybody is welcome.

### **Get excited for the big big Fermanagh Litter pick!**

With the support of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council and Live Here Love Here, the Lough Erne Landscape Partnership are hosting Fermanagh's biggest ever litter pick and we need your help.

**Taking place anytime between Friday 28th and Saturday 29th April 2023**, you can get involved on water or on land. We want to cover all of Fermanagh so whether you are part of a local community group and want to keep your area clean, a school who wants to teach children the importance of keeping Fermanagh's natural heritage looked after, or a resident who wants to tidy their street, then this is for you!

You will also have the opportunity to sign up and litter pick on Lough Erne (locations and times to be confirmed) through the help of some of our water-based heritage providers, but more information on this will come soon. You can however express your interest for this in the below form.

All you need to do is sign up. Use the following booking form to register where and when you can litterpick. Remember anything you can do to help, will make a big impact. Once you sign up, we will get in contact with you about getting your group the equipment you need to take part.

For more information: [The Big BIG Fermanagh Litterpick – Lough Erne Landscape Partnership \(lelp.org.uk\)](http://lelp.org.uk)

Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/ycku29u5>

### **Consultation on Temporary Suspension of Emergency General Surgery Services in South West Acute Hospital (SWAH), Enniskillen**

The Western Health and Social Care Trust has launched a Public Consultation on the temporary suspension of Emergency General Surgery in South West Acute Hospital, Enniskillen.

The consultation paper sets out the reasons why the Trust had to make the decision to avoid an unplanned and unsafe collapse of services and the actions taken to ensure patient safety.

**We are keen to hear your views on this issue therefore this consultation opened for 12 weeks from 17 January 2023 until 10 April 2023.**

**Please click [here](#) to access the consultation document.**

There are a number of ways to get involved:

- Public engagement events have taken place but you can click [here](#) for details of online events.
- You can also complete an online survey by clicking [here](#). This survey will be available for 12 weeks from 17 January 2023 until 10 April 2023.
- A copy of the questionnaire is also at the end of the consultation document if you wish to print and complete manually and return to the address below:

Health Improvement, Equality and Involvement Department  
Western Trust  
Health Improvement Department  
Maple Villa B  
Clooney Road  
Derry  
BT47 6WJ

**For further information please contact us at [involve@westerntrust.hscni.net](mailto:involve@westerntrust.hscni.net) or call 028 7186 5127.**

### **Out of Hours Library Service**

Out of Hours libraries offer adults (aged 18 years and over) controlled access to library facilities outside of normal opening hours, providing a limited but important range of services on a self-service basis, including broadband/ Wi-Fi access, printing facilities, study space and book borrowing.

This service has been funded by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) to support computer access in rural areas.

**Lisnaskea, Irvinestown and Omagh** are the pilot libraries involved in the Fermanagh and Omagh area.

[Click here for further information](#)

### Invitation to Western Domestic and Sexual Violence Specialist Workshops

You are invited to attend a series of specialist workshops where you will hear from a variety of experts about rising trends and concerns around domestic abuse and sexual violence. Domestic abuse and coercive control is everyone's business and these workshops will be of interest to anyone working with men, women, children and young people and families. To book your place, please email [lauren.curry@westerntrust.hscni.net](mailto:lauren.curry@westerntrust.hscni.net)

	9.30am – 1pm	
PSNI Embracing Equity	17 April 2023	Everglades Hotel
Harmful sexualized Behaviour	20 April 2023	Everglades Hotel
Harmful sexualized Behaviour	3 May 2023	Mellon Country Inn, Omagh
Technology Assisted Abuse	21 April 2023	Whitehorse Hotel
Technology Assisted Abuse	4 May 2023	Mellon Country Inn, Omagh
Incels: "involuntary celibates"	25 April 2023	Everglades Hotel
Incels: "involuntary celibates"	28 April 2023	Silverbirch Hotel, Omagh
Rape and Sexual Abuse	5 May 2023	Mellon Country Inn, Omagh

### Sean McAloon Festival, Roslea

#### Sean McAloon Concert

Easter Sunday, 7.30pm, Roslea Community Centre

Featuring a host of Top Class Artists including Brid Harper, Fergus Bogue & Friends, Pearse Larkin, Fergal McArdle, Meave O'Donnell, Katie Boyle

#### Youth Session with Martin Donohoe

Tuesday 11 April, 6pm-8pm, Roslea Shamrocks Complex

#### Fior Ceili Music by Raymond Loney

Friday 14 April, 9pm, Roslea Community Centre

#### Singing and Story Telling Session

Saturday 15 April, 8.30pm, Derrygannon Hall

### Voluntary and Community Sector Infrastructure and Support

The Department for Communities is the lead government department for supporting the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector (VCSE).

We are currently reviewing the needs and priorities of voluntary and community organisations and volunteers to ensure that our support is contributing to a sustainable, innovative and vibrant sector.

For further information including a survey to help us to understand how best we can continue to support the Sector, visit: <https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/dfc/vcse-infrastructure-and-support/>

**The survey closes on Friday 7 April 2023.**

### Needs Assessment of Community Development Workers

The All-Ireland Endorsement Body for Community Work Education and Training (AIEB) is conducting an education and training needs assessment to get an initial understanding of the education and training needs of community workers.

The needs assessment is being carried out in several regions across the island of Ireland including throughout Northern Ireland. The data from it will be used to work with other stakeholders to explore:

- possibilities for the development of additional opportunities for those involved in community work to gain professional community development qualifications.
- possibilities for the development of ongoing professional development initiatives, supporting practitioners to develop their analysis, skills, and practice in relation to new and emerging issues.

Click on <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/8SHB1S/> to complete the needs assessment for community development practitioners in Northern Ireland

**The survey is open until Thursday 6 April 2023**

If you would like more information on AIEB please visit our website [www.aieb.ie](http://www.aieb.ie)

### **Public consultation on services for individuals who have been bereaved by suicide**

#### **Protect Life 2: Postvention**

PHA recognises the importance of reviewing current services for individuals who have been bereaved by suicide and most importantly listening to the views of service users, families, local communities and organisations delivering services to ensure an appropriate service model. This is an opportunity to have your say on the provision of services for individuals who have been bereaved by suicide.

This consultation opened for 12 weeks from 16 January 2023 until 9 April 2023.

There are a number of ways to get involved. You can participate in an engagement event (details in link below) either online or in person, or complete an [online survey](#).

This survey will be available for 12 weeks from 16 January 2023 until 9 April 2023.

<https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/about-us/consultations/current-consultations/public-consultation-services-individuals-who-have-been>

### **JustUs Events**

- **Thursday 6 April, 12.30-2.30pm**      **Enniskillen Hotel**

#### **Easter Party**

Bitz 'n' Pieces Band

- **Sunday 16 April, 2pm-4pm**      **Enniskillen Hotel**

The Hand Me Downs Band

- **Friday 5 May, 12.30-2.30pm**      **Enniskillen Hotel**

Glen Harkin

Strictly over 18s

Open Bar

Entry £5 (1 carer free)

Anyone requiring assistance must be accompanied by a carer or guardian



## Understanding deafblindness

At Deafblind UK, we support people with any level of combined sight and hearing loss to carry on as normal. Sometimes this means advising people about new household tricks and tips to make their life easier (such as using daylight bulbs, bump-on stickers or other basic equipment) or it might mean we show you how to use accessibility features on an iPad so you can do your shopping online, for example.

Many of our services are free of charge and include practical advice and information; emotional support for you and your family; help with digital technology; use of our accessible holiday caravans; social groups and companionship.

If you have any questions or to find out what we can do for you, contact our team of experts on the details below:

Call: 0800 132 320

Web: [www.deafblind.org.uk](http://www.deafblind.org.uk)

Email: [info@deafblind.org.uk](mailto:info@deafblind.org.uk)

Text: 07903572885

Early signs of deafblindness include:

- Difficulty reading books and newspapers or watching TV
- Difficulty recognising people, particularly in unexpected situations
- Being uncomfortable in bright and/or low lighting
- Finding it hard to read facial expressions
- Being unable to find something that you have lost without using your hands or asking for help
- Finding it difficult to move around in unfamiliar places or in familiar places that have changed
- Asking people to repeat themselves or to speak louder
- Difficulty hearing the TV or radio or music and/or having the volume turned up high
- Not hearing the doorbell or the telephone ringing
- Complaining that people are mumbling or speaking too quickly
- Finding it hard to understand unfamiliar people
- Avoiding using the phone

## Tara Centre, Omagh

**For enquiries, please contact Reception on 028 8225 0024**

Email: [info@taraomagh.com](mailto:info@taraomagh.com) Website: [www.taraomagh.com](http://www.taraomagh.com)

**Ongoing services: counselling/psychotherapy, art therapy, complementary therapies**

### Meditating Together

Mary Daly and Maura Twohig

Date: Tuesdays, 10.30 am – 12 noon

(Open to anyone who has followed the Tara Centre Meditation Course for Beginners)

### Support Groups:

PATHS Meetings will now be held on the 1st 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



## **Aisling Centre, Enniskillen**

**For all enquiries/bookings contact Aisling Centre on 028 6632 5811**

**Email: [info@theaislingcentre.com](mailto:info@theaislingcentre.com)**

### **Self-Care Sessions**

Modern Energy Tapping for Self-Care & Relaxation

Learn about this effective tool to manage stress and anxiety.

Facilitated by Aisling Centre Therapist Rosa Furey

This is a one-off workshop that will be repeated monthly.

10am-11.30am, Thursday 20 April

Drop-in Sessions – No booking required. Free Session – Donations Welcome

### **Mindfulness Drop-in with Siobhan Conlon For 17+**

Last Tuesday of the Month – Tuesday 25 April, 7pm-8pm

Free Sessions / Donations Welcome. Advance booking required.

### **Monday Hub @ Aisling Centre**

Last session on Monday 3 April, 11am-1pm

Join us for a sociable morning of good conversation and well-being taster sessions.

A light lunch will be served. Numbers limited. Advance booking required.

### **AA – Alcoholics Anonymous**

Three meetings per week at Aisling Centre

### **Escapists - Support group for carers**

Wednesday mornings 10.30am-1pm

### **Island Artists Group**

Wednesday afternoons, 2pm-4pm. Open to new members

For more information contact Maura Newman Tel: 079 6822 5704

### **Aware**

#### **Mental Health Support Group for anxiety, depression & bipolar**

Tuesdays 7pm at Aisling Centre The group runs every fortnight.

To attend please Email [sarah@aware-ni.org](mailto:sarah@aware-ni.org) Tel: 07867 028489/ 028 9035 7820 EXT. 243

### **Fermanagh Pride**

Group meets first and third Tuesday of the month at Aisling Centre

This is an open group. For more information Email: [fermanaghpride@gmail.com](mailto:fermanaghpride@gmail.com)

### **Aurora Yoga (Shauna McMorrow)**

Wednesday evenings, 6.30pm-7.30pm

For more info contact Shauna Tel: 075 2646 5004

### **Yoga Ocean (Jenny Brown)**

Thursday lunchtimes, 12 noon-1.30pm

For more info contact Jenny Tel: 028 8954 1994

### **TLC Yoga (Teresa Cleary)**

Thursday evenings, 7pm-8pm

For more info contact Teresa Tel: 079 2369 4523

### Inspire – New Service

Our Health@Home Project offers support to individuals aged 18+ whose tenancies are/could be 'at risk' due to substance use and/or mental ill health. Individuals referred will be able to avail of Pre-Crisis, Therapeutic Intervention and/or Counselling support to help reduce their substance use, improve their mental health and overall tenancy sustainment.

Ongoing support for individuals impacted by substance use is also available through our:

- **Living well at Home Project:** This project is specifically for NIHE tenants, who are at risk of losing their tenancy due to substance use and/or poor mental health. This project offers pre-crisis, therapeutic, counselling support. Individuals referred must be aged 18+ and an NI Housing Executive tenant living within the Western Trust area.
- **Mutual Aid Partnership Peer Support Groups:** Our groups provide support for individuals aged 18+ who are or have been impacted by substance use. Our group support is available weekly. MAP is a safe place for individuals to come together to be a part of a unique recovery community and benefit from peer support.
- **Our Family Support:** Our Peer Family Support Group runs online on a fortnightly basis. This group is available for family members who are/have been impacted by a 'loved one's' substance use. We have some limited 1-1 support for family members who have been negatively impacted by a loved one's substance use. Please make contact for more information.

If you would like more information or would like to make a referral please contact 028 8283 9240 or email [addictionservices@inspirewellbeing.org](mailto:addictionservices@inspirewellbeing.org); self-referrals can also be accepted.

### Erne Paddlers

#### Our Spring Programme begins in April.

We'll be outdoors on the lake, based at the Broadmeadow in Enniskillen, with a range of activities, paddlesport craft and courses.

First up is our Easter Camp for Kids which will run from Mon 10th – Fri 14th April. Five days of paddlesports fun suitable for age 7-14yrs, fully supervised morning and afternoon sessions, with all paddling equipment provided. Places are filling up very fast, book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment, link below. Discounts available for multiple bookings.

Mid-April sees the launch of our first spring outdoor courses of 2023. This initial block will run for five weeks and include kayaking and stand up paddleboarding courses for beginners and improvers, as well as opportunities for open canoeing and regular inclusive paddling sessions. More information about all our courses and activities on social media and at

[www.ernepaddlers.org.uk/events](http://www.ernepaddlers.org.uk/events)

**Erne Paddlers is also currently taking bookings for bespoke courses and activities for all demographics and abilities and we are keen to develop more partnerships with other community organisations, charities and local providers.**

We can offer progressive group courses over a period of weeks, allowing participants time to learn and develop specific paddling skills and grow in confidence. We can also facilitate one-off taster sessions and events. Under the guidance of our highly qualified and experienced coaches, paddlesport is an ideal medium for developing self-confidence and resilience, and many more fundamental life skills, in a fun, enjoyable and safe way. Paddlesport is also a great activity to connect people to their natural environment and heritage, helping foster awareness and environmental good practice. So if your organisation is looking for a fun and challenging group activity, please get in touch.

**Erne Paddlers AGM takes place on Saturday 1 April at 10am in the Fermanagh Lakeland Forum.** The meeting will be followed by refreshments and an optional paddle around the town in seakayaks and rafted open canoes. Everyone welcome. More details and link to register here: [https://bit.ly/AGM\\_Paddle0104](https://bit.ly/AGM_Paddle0104)

Erne Paddlers is a not-for-profit registered charity and an inclusive club. If you need extra support to paddle, please get in touch to discuss how we can help. Find us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter for regular updates too. If anyone would like to find out more, please get in touch via social media, [email@ernepaddlers.org.uk](mailto:email@ernepaddlers.org.uk) or call/WhatsApp 07468 911398.

### **Calling all Volunteers!**

#### **'The Big Community Paddle, Picnic & Volunteer Village'**

#### **Supported by 'The Big Lunch' & 'The Big Help Out'**

#### **Enniskillen Castle & Broadmeadow**

#### **Monday 8 May (Coronation Bank Holiday Monday)**

**11am-5pm**

#### **Free Admission to Enniskillen Castle Museums**

Fermanagh is hosting a Big Community Paddle, Picnic & Volunteer Village at Enniskillen Castle on Monday 8 May 2023 in association with the Eden Project – 'Big Lunch' [The Big Lunch | Eden Project Communities](#) and 'The Big Help Out' [The Big Help Out](#)

With free admission to Enniskillen Castle Museums, the day will be filled with live music and entertainment for all the family, with an opportunity to explore the volunteer village, showcasing our fabulous local groups, charities and societies within our community, and a chance to get involved and find out more about how you can become a volunteer. Meet our volunteer representatives from health, heritage, sport, youth, church and wellbeing groups and experience traditional cookery demonstrations, vintage steam traction engines, Clayful Minds, The Erne Highland Dancers and much more.

Why not bring along a picnic as part of **'The Big Lunch'** and enjoy listening to Fermanagh Concert Band and other musical entertainment?

The highlight of the afternoon will be **'The Big Paddle'** around the historic Island town of Enniskillen organised by the RNLI and supporting their fabulous volunteers.

An invitation has been extended to all youth, sports, voluntary, charitable and community groups to register for 'The Big Paddle', with canoes, kayaks, paddle boards or hydro-bikes available to hire on the day. Watch the flotilla from the walls of Enniskillen Castle and help us get hundreds of paddlers onto Lough Erne for a fun filled afternoon celebrating volunteering and connecting with our neighbours, family and friends within our community.

The Big Community Paddle, Picnic & Volunteer Village is supported by the Lough Erne Landscape Partnership, RNLI and local community/voluntary/charitable organisations.

**If you are a local volunteer group which would like to showcase what you do at the volunteer village please get in touch for more details**

**For Further Information contact:**

**'Big Community Paddle' – [peter\\_scott2@rnli.org.uk](mailto:peter_scott2@rnli.org.uk)**

**Volunteer Village, 'Big Lunch' & 'Big Help Out' – [info@headhuntersmuseum.com](mailto:info@headhuntersmuseum.com)**

### **Census 2021: Further results published**

The third phase of main statistics for Census 2021 were published on 21 March 2023.

The release includes topics such as sexual orientation, household composition, labour market, qualifications, communal establishments, migration and travel to work or study.

The results include statistics at both Northern Ireland and Local Government District levels and are available on the [NISRA website](#). The [NISRA Area Explorer](#) will be updated on 5 April with statistics from this release.

The [Census 2021 outputs prospectus](#) provides more information on this and future releases. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to email us at [census@nisra.gov.uk](mailto:census@nisra.gov.uk).

### **WHSCCT Conference –**

#### **Supporting and improving the experience of those living with End of Life Care Needs in the community/primary care setting**

For people who use WHSCCT services, those important to them and those services that directly deliver and influence care towards end of life.

**Wednesday 3 May, 1pm-4.30pm**

Save the Date!

Mellon Country Hotel, Omagh  
(virtual attending optional)

The purpose of the event is to highlight care and support provisions to help improve people's experience with end of life needs. Some areas in the programme include accessing out of hours medications, Advance Care Planning, bereavement support and so forth.

The event is being held during Dying Matters Week.

### **Cost of Living Crisis - Tough Times, Smart Solutions – Omagh**

Omagh Forum for Rural Associations and NICVA are hosting an event on **Tuesday 9 May** in Omagh Community House from 10-1 with light lunch provided. The event will look at how best we can work together as organisations and help fight our corner through the current cost of living crisis? This is part of several regional workshops and is an opportunity for you and your organisation to share the challenges you are facing and help us tailor our government influencing and practical support to your needs.

Voluntary and community organisations are on the front line of the cost of living crisis supporting people and communities, all while facing rising demand for services, falling income and rising operational costs. The event is also an opportunity to meet the new CEO of NICVA, Celine McStravick and engage with her about issues affecting people in the West.

For more information and to book your place please follow this link [Cost of Living Crisis - Tough Times, Smart Solutions - Omagh | NICVA](#)

## Training Opportunities

### **Are your activities, groups, events, premises accessible & welcoming to all?**

Have you considered your legal duties in ensuring your facilities, club, premises, events, activities or grounds are accessible for people with a range of disabilities?

Have you considered the needs of the LGBTQI+ Community when planning activities or events to ensure they are inclusive and welcoming to all?

Investing in Community Leadership (West) is facilitating free workshops to help you understand what you and your group / club / organisation can do to provide a welcoming and accessible environment for all members of your community. We are also facilitating a Finance training session for groups, further details on all below

### **‘A.I.M. for Better Access’ Toolkit**

This free workshop and toolkit have been developed by people with disabilities, older people and local support organisations to provide useful tips on how to make public buildings, businesses and community groups more accessible.

Thursday 27 April, Fermanagh House, 4.30 – 5.30pm

Facilitated by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, supported by the Public Health Agency.

Register Here: <https://forms.gle/NJZnbAnmMobHkibP9>

### **LGBTQI+ Awareness Training**

This awareness session will help people working and volunteering in the community / voluntary sector improve their awareness of the LGBTQI+ community and enable you to be more responsive to that community.

Participation in this interactive course will help you..

Understand key terminology including LGBTQI+, sexuality, sexual orientation, gender identity

Understand factors that impact the LGBTQI+ community (including mental health)

Understand how to be more LGBTQI+ inclusive

Tuesday 25 April, Fermanagh House, 10.30am - 1pm

Facilitated by: Cara-Friend

Register Here: <https://forms.gle/jpkc85kLSFVnGitH6>

Also available:

### **Finance for Small Groups and Charitable / Voluntary organisations**

Are you responsible for your group /club/ organisation's finances?

A free practical workshop for treasurers, or those that keep the financial records, of small charities or voluntary groups / clubs to help them establish appropriate financial systems to keep their organisation safe.

Thursday 20 April, Fermanagh House, 4.30 - 6.30pm

Facilitator: NICVA

Register here: <https://forms.gle/PKvJdxns1RcfU7pW9>

### Free Offer of Financial Resilience Training

Tasc Europe Studies Company is offering **free** Financial Resilience Training. They currently deliver training with Safe Ireland for staff working with victims of financial control.

Aviva has now funded training for staff of charities and their service users.

For further information please contact Conor Henry at TASC [chenry@tasc.ie](mailto:chenry@tasc.ie)

### Health Improvement Equality & Involvement Department

#### Training Brochure April 2023 - September 2023

The Trust Health Improvement Equality and Involvement (HIEI) Department has published their latest Training Brochure which offers free training courses taking place right across the Trust from April to September 2023.

The HIEI Department are delighted to offer four NEW courses; **Chair Yoga, Managing your Menopause, Self Compassion** and **Talking to Young People about Sensitive Topics**. We are also pleased to offer **safeTALK** again.

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

[To view the Training Brochure click here.](#)

For course details including times and course content and to book a place, please click the 'Click Here to Register' icon below each course which takes you to the Eventbrite registration page.

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

### WHST Recovery College

#### Spring 2023 Prospectus

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

The WHST is running **free workshops on mental health and emotional wellbeing** throughout the Trust area. All courses are written and delivered by people who have the lived experience of mental health issues alongside mental health professionals. Course topics range from Understanding Psychosis, to Getting a Good Night's Sleep, to Learning to Like Yourself and are all designed to give people the skills and confidence to better manage their mental health and emotional wellbeing.

If you have any issues or queries, please contact the Recovery College on 028 8225 2079 or email [recoverycollege@westerntrust.hscni.net](mailto:recoverycollege@westerntrust.hscni.net)



## Funding Opportunities

### Planned Interventions Programme Grant opportunity

PIP is funded by the Executive Office (TEO) and administered by the Education Authority (EA). It is a wider commitment of the NI Executive's Community Relations Strategy, [Together: Building a United Community \(T:BUC\)](#).

The Programme provides funding for community and voluntary groups of up to £6,000 to engage up to 25 young people aged 9-25 in positive activities and divert them away from anti-social or risk-taking behaviour. Groups may submit multiple applications, though if successful will only be awarded funding for a maximum of three projects. All awards are dependent on the availability of funding from approved budgets.

Previously referred to as a 'summer diversionary' programme, the programme has evolved. Key points to note are:

- Activity is not confined to just the summer period. Groups can deliver projects from 1 June until 7 November, to support interventions covering the Halloween period of 2023.
- Whilst residential activities and trips can be funded, projects can be delivered locally.
- One aim is to improve attitudes of participants towards people in other communities, though cross community engagement is not required under this programme.
- Activities must be delivered at interfaces or engage young people who could potentially become involved in risk taking behaviour at or near interfaces. However 'interfaces' does not just mean physical peace walls and can be anywhere where there is potential for inter or intra community tensions as a result of this risk taking behaviour.
- EA registration is not required though encouraged. Though groups will need to register a user account with EA online applications portal to apply.

Projects may include activity that:

- enables young people to become aware of their place within the community and look at how they interact with their wider community.
- brings young people into contact with others within their community such as older people, or people from different ethnic or religious backgrounds.
- enables young people to 'give back' to their community through social action such as organising events for others, or a community 'clean up'.
- raises awareness of the impact of anti-social and risk taking behaviour.
- includes and involves young people in developing positive activity around cultural or commemorative events.
- supports young people to become positive role models for other young people in their community.

Projects can also include additional activities/workshops to meet your own needs e.g.:

- Mental Health awareness
- First Aid
- OCN qualifications
- Leadership programmes
- And most importantly fun activities.

Delivery options can include elements such as team building, residentials, workshops, community events or educational visits. Funding can support transport, staffing, facilitation, equipment, materials, venue hire and more.



**Completed applications must be submitted to the Education Authority before 4pm on Friday 21 April, 2023.**

For further information on this programme:

<https://eanifunding.org.uk/plannedintervention/>

<https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/articles/planned-interventions-programme>

There will be applications workshops delivered online for further guidance on the applications process. Further details will be posted on Education Authority and TEO websites as well as social media accounts for EA Youth Services and T:BUC Camps. Dates for the workshops can be seen in the table below and workshops will be delivered via Eventbrite.

Please register your attendance here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/education-authority-funding-workshop-events-18191285824#search>.

**Wednesday 5 April 11am-1pm Online**

**Monday 17 April 5pm-7pm Online**

Links will be sent once registration complete

### **Invitation to apply for the 2023/24 Homeless Prevention Fund**

In anticipation that Homeless Prevention funding may become available during 2023/24 we are now inviting applications. Through this approach and in the event that we do establish a Fund, we will be able to maximise project duration through having completed upfront the application and assessment stage, which in previous years has generally taken around 6 weeks to complete.

Our objective is to be able to provide 2023/24 Homeless Prevention funding for up to a maximum of 10 months from 1st June, and costings are sought on this basis. In the event that the project duration is shortened (due to a potential delay in budget clarification) we will seek to recalibrate the 10 month project costs to reflect the shorter timeframe and agree this with applicants. (In the best case scenario we aim to be able to notify applicants in mid-May to enable project commencement from 1st June 2023).

There is a £50k cap on the grant available per project.

In the strategic context, please note that projects providing secondary prevention activities to the key vulnerable groups detailed on the application form are particularly sought, with similarly targeted primary and tertiary prevention based projects also being considered. Those projects found not to be sufficiently aligned with the prevention activities defined on the application form will not be progressed for further assessment.

Please note, as with previous years, the funding will be non-recurrent and will have to be spent by the 31st March 2024.

Applicants must complete the application form answering all questions in full, ensuring to provide any relevant supporting documentation and sign and return by email to [homelessness.strategy@nihe.gov.uk](mailto:homelessness.strategy@nihe.gov.uk).

### **Deadline for Applications: Friday 14 April 2023, 5pm.**

Final selection of projects will be subject to the approval of our Executive Team following assessment by a panel.

If you have any queries on the application form, please contact the staff below:

Michael Davidson E: [michael1.davidson@nihe.gov.uk](mailto:michael1.davidson@nihe.gov.uk) T: 028 9598 3306

Andrew Kenny E: [andrew.kenny@nihe.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.kenny@nihe.gov.uk) T: 028 9598 2924