



CO. LONGFORD PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NETWORK

PPN NEWSLETTER MARCH 2017 EDITION



*Co Longford PPN : linking community groups with Longford County Council and other decision making bodies.
Have a say in the development of your County for now and future generations!!*



Longford Public Participation Network (PPN) E-bulletin March 2017

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1. NEWS FROM LONGFORD PPN

Public Participation Network update:

Meetings held/ planned:

- Meeting held with Fergus Kennedy, Longford County Council Arts Officer. Development Worker attended 10.02.17
- Disability Information Evening. PPN represented by Development Worker 01.02.17
- PPN Secretariat Meeting held 02.03.17
- Age Friendly Alliance Meeting. Development Worker attended 06.03.17
- Meeting planned with Arts Officer, 21.03.17
- Second County Plenary Meeting, Longford Library @7.30pm

Training:

PR Training delivered by Edel Hackett, Persuasion Republic 15.03.17. Attended by PPN Secretariat and Development Worker

PPN Representative nominations sought for the following committee vacancies:

➤ **Joint Policing Committee (JPC)**

The Joint Policing Committee are currently seeking **one PPN Representative from the Youth Sector**

➤ **Longford Sports Partnership (LSP)**

Longford Sports Partnership is seeking **five PPN community representatives from the following sectors:**

- Older persons
- Disability,
- Youth,
- Minority sport
- Aquatics



➤ **URBACT Local Group**

The URBACT Local Group is seeking **two PPN community representatives from the PPN from the Tourism and Youth sectors.**

If your community group is interested in sport, joint policing or work on Connolly Barracks then please join the relevant Linkage Group by contacting the PPN office. Deadline for submitting nominations **Monday 20th March 2017.**

General:

The PPN Facebook page is [Co Longford Public Participation Network](https://www.facebook.com/LongfordPublicParticipationNetwork). @longfordppn

If your group has any information they would like posted please contact us on Facebook where we will share your information or if you are not on Facebook e-mail ppn@longfordcoco.ie and we will post it on your behalf. *Don't forget to "Like" and "Share" our page!!*

Follow us on Twitter @LongfordPPN

If there are any community group's who are not yet registered with the County Longford PPN you can do so by downloading the form at www.longfordcoco.ie , e-mail ppn@longfordcoco.ie or contact Siobhán at 087 261 5583

2. WHAT'S ON IN YOUR MUNICIPAL DISTRICT?

New for the month of March / April:

Longford County Board Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann will host the Leinster Fleadh in Ballymahon, Co. Longford from 10th to 16th July, 2017. The organising committee are working hard to organise a countywide weeklong programme of events for the Fleadh. These will include a wide selection of outdoor and indoor events, Workshops, Trad sessions in the pubs, Singing, Dancing, Aifreann Tradisiunta, Tours, promotion of Irish Language events, Open air Gig – Rig and most importantly the Leinster Fleadh competitions where competitors from the 12 counties of Leinster will compete for the All-Ireland Fleadh in Ennis 2017.

For further information please email longfordcomhaltas@gmail.com or visit Leinsterfleadh.ie

County Longford Tourism AGM will take place this Friday, 24th March at 4pm in Ballymahon Library. The AGM is open for everyone to attend. If you would like to become involved with Longford Tourism please feel welcome to come along. If you have any queries in relation to the AGM please call Longford Tourism Office on 043 3342577 or 085 8888876.

East meets West: East meets West continues to meet every second Thursday from 11am-12pm in the back of the Methodist Church. All women are welcome; don't let childcare be a barrier, there are some toys for the children to play with. This is a FREE group. For more information contact Felicia on 087 9478650.

Bog Lane Theatre Ballymahon :The ever popular Beeznee Theatre Company comes to The Bog Lane Theatre, Ballymahon for one performance only **on Thursday March 30th @ 8.30 pm** with "An Ordinary Man" Gerry Farrell's tour de force performance of John Mc Dwyer's play which has brought audiences to their feet all over Ireland and the UK.

Funny and heart-breaking in equal measure; An Ordinary Man takes us on the life journey of a simple sawyer through births, deaths and marriages with a bit of football and ballroom dancing thrown in just for craic until, ultimately, we realise that while there may be an ordinary man, there is no such thing as an ordinary life.

Directed by the author and featuring an astonishing performance by Gerry Farrell, An Ordinary Man will live long in the memory of anyone lucky enough to catch this show



Booking at [090 643 2230](tel:0906432230) Tickets €15/€12

Ballymahon Day Care Centre: Spring Trip: The group are going to Donegal from 3rd to 5th April, staying in the Abbey Hotel Donegal. 35 clients are travelling with the Manager and two assistants. A guided tour of Glenveagh National Park, Donegal Waterbus Tour, Glenveagh National Park and a visit to the Inishowen Maritime Museum has been organized.

Flora Mini Marathon: Several staff members are training for our fundraising event the Flora Mini Marathon on 5th June.

Flower Arranging: Every Tuesday a tutor from the LWETB delivers flower arranging classes in the centre.

Art & Crafts: On Wednesdays, a tutor from LWETB delivers this class from 11.00 to 12.30pm

Exercise Classes: On Thursday Louise Higgins holds exercise classes, which attracts a very large number of clients from all over Longford.

Easter Break: The centre is closing on 11th April and will reopen on 19th April.

Volunteer Centre

We have a large pool of volunteers offering their services daily which were referred to us from the Longford Volunteer Organisation in addition to our regular staff. This is a great advantage as our numbers have increased substantially in the last year.

Bealtaine Festival: We are currently organizing various activities with the Ballymahon Library for the festival in May.

Transition Years: The transition years attend the centre daily and help with the lunch service as well as providing music and entertainment weekly.

Longford County Childcare: Parent & Toddler Groups Longford Town

Two new Parent & Toddler Groups have started in Longford town. They are located at Springlawn Childcare Centre and 125 McEoin Park. Please contact Felecia Loughery on 043 3345555 for details of meeting times and other information for both groups.

Longford Women's Link March 2017: Graduation Ceremony at LWL

LWL held our graduation ceremony on International Women's Day (March 8th) to celebrate the achievements of 25 learners who graduated with a QQI Level 5 Major Award in Early Childhood Care and Education and 11 who graduated with a QQI Level 6 Major Award in Early Childhood Care and Education. It was also National Adult Learning Week and IWD was an ideal day to mark the excellent outcomes that our learners have achieved, all of whom are women.

LWL graduates are participants on the DSP-supported Childcare Community Employment Scheme which provides accredited education (QQI Level 5 and 6) and on-the-job training for those who wish to pursue a career in Early Years Education. LWL is the lead sponsor for this scheme in County Longford and has consistently achieved excellent progression rates in employment and further education, highlighting the importance of the CE Programme in supporting individuals into real and meaningful careers. This is especially critical for women who have traditionally had to bear the majority of caring responsibilities and have not been able to access opportunities to support their economic independence.

At the ceremony on March 8th, graduates and their families were welcomed by Tara Farrell, Deputy CEO of LWL who thanked the DSP for their support to date. Guest Speaker Liz Waters (Director of An Cosán VCC and President of AONTAS, the National Adult Learner Organisation) highlighted the valuable and essential role of Early Years Educators and their critical contribution in shaping the lives of children. Liz outlined the challenges facing the Early Years Sector not least of which is the fact that it is low-paid but she encouraged graduates to continue on their education journey, particularly as LWL are delivering the Level 8 Honours Degree in Childcare in partnership with IT Carlow. Eamonn Guilfoyle (Assistant Principal Midlands North, DSP) then presented the learners with their certificates and congratulated them on their achievements. LWL CEO Louise Lovett closed the ceremony by wishing the graduates well in their future careers and thanked everyone for their participation in the ceremony.



LWL International Coffee Morning for International Women's Day at Willow Traders: LWL held an International Coffee Morning to celebrate International Women's Day. The coffee morning was a great celebration and there was a fantastic array of cakes from all around the world, made by our wonderful staff and volunteers. It was an opportunity for people to call in to the shop and relax with a cuppa and meet the staff and volunteers. Willow Traders is situated in Town Parks Industrial Estate opposite SuperValu and has a wide range of high quality furniture and clothing and opens Mon-Sat from 10-5.30.

Longford Women's Manifesto Group: Longford Women's Manifesto Group will hold their second meeting of 2017 in April. If you have an interest in how decisions are made in your local community and would like to be involved in this dynamic group please email tarafarrell@lwl.ie for more details. All meeting dates are on our Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/WomensManifesto/> so just like to stay updated.

LWL Willow Traders – NewToYou: Longford Women's Link new furniture and clothing social enterprise is open from Monday-Saturday 10am-5.30pm. We are looking for volunteers at our furniture and clothing enterprise! There are a variety of volunteer roles - sales, sorting through clothing donations, furniture removals etc. Training will be provided and regular volunteer hours are available. If you're interested please email managerwillowtraders@lwl.ie or phone **Dee on 085 252 1701** for an application form. Garda Vetting will be required for all volunteers. See our Facebook page for regular updates (LWL Willow Traders – NewToYou)

Convent of Marcy Leaving Cert Class of 1967 reunion September 2017. All interested please contact Rosaleen 086 8163851

Friends of Children of Chernobyl: AGM will take place in the EDI Centre, Mastertech Park, Athlone Road, Longford April 4th 2017. Everyone welcome. Refreshments will be served.

Lus Na Greine: Children's Easter Camps will take place from Monday April 10th to Thursday April 13th inclusive. For full details call in to the centre.

Women's Mini Marathon: We are asking people considering doing the marathon to do it on behalf of the FRC as every cent raised will be spent within our local community and much needed family supports. Transport provided for those walking/running on our behalf. Marathon takes place June 5th.

Irish Heart Mobile: will visit the centre March 28th where everyone is welcome to come along and meet one of the two nurses on hand to offer free blood pressure checks and heart health information.

Hip Hop dance: Interested in learning hip hop dance why not let the centre know and they will arrange a class mid week. Subject to interest.

Horticulture workshops: subject to interest. Professional flower bedding and planting annuals, seeds, veg and fruit.

Granard Easter Festival: will take place on Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th April. There will be something for all ages with events including a 5k walk/run, historical talk, lots of free street entertainment, an Easter Sunday Parade and live music. Everyone welcome!!

Edgeworthstown Easter Camps: St. Marys Childcare Campus Hippity Hoppity takes place April 12th and 13th 9.30 -1.30. To book your place contact St. Mary's Childcare on 043 6672534 or email childcarecampus@eircom.net

National Learning Networks 2 year Horticulture Course: currently recruiting for this course based on the Manor Grounds Edgeworthstown. If you have an illness, disability or are long term unemployed this course offers you the personalised support you might need to gain a Fetec Level 4 Qualification. Find out more call Alan Garvey on 087 9065521



Ballymahon / Landevant Twinning Committee: are holding a meeting at Murrays, The River Inn on Tuesday 21st March. All members requested to attend. New members always welcome.

Longford ICA Guild: Trip to Newbridge Saturday March 25th. All members and non-members welcome to come along. Contact Jasmine at 086 1539876 to pay for your place. Bus is €10

Midlands Simon Sleep Out: Fri 14th April 9pm, Connolly Barracks, Longford town

3. LOCAL NEWS & SERVICES:



COUNTY LONGFORD PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NETWORK (PPN)

Putting Community at the heart of Local Decision Making



County Longford PPN plenary meeting

27.03.2017 @ 7.30PM LONGFORD LIBRARY

The County Longford PPN Plenary Meeting is an opportunity for all **registered member groups** to get together and meet with the Chief Executive of Longford County, receive information about the PPN from a Local & National level, learn about the work of the Community & Water Office, meet other members, share ideas and experiences. For further information or to register your groups attendance please contact Siobhán on 087 261 5583 or e-mail ppn@longfordcoco.ie

Guest Speakers

Paddy Mahon, Chief Executive Longford County Council

Fr. Sean Healy, Social Justice Ireland

Karen Kennedy, Community & Waters Office

**PPN Updates
PPN Reps Ratified
PPN Policies Approved**

**Free Raffle
Refreshments
Community Group Networking**



Longford Volunteer Centre: Volunteer Opportunities



CoderDojo Mentor required to help young people develop their I.T. and programming skills. Click [here](#) for more information.



Volunteers required for Daffodil Day on March 24th in Longford Town. Click [here](#) for more information.



Irish Girl Guides are looking for **Volunteers** for their Drumlish and Ardagh Brances to run programs for different groups of girls aged 5-7 years, 8-11 years, 12-15 years and 15 years plus. Full training provided. It just takes 1.5 hours per week to volunteer.



Midlands Simon Community are having a **Sleep Out** on April 14th in Connolly Barracks Longford. They require [Hospitality Volunteers](#) and [Volunteers](#) to partake in the Sleep Out



Volunteer Co-ordinator required for Longford Town for Special Olympics Connaught Flag Day Collection on May 5th. Click [here](#) for more information.



Volunteer Stewards for Hype Festival, which will be taking place in Longford Town on May 13th 2017



Volunteer [Tour Guides](#) and [Committee Members](#) required for Edgeworthtown Heritage Group



[DIY Volunteer](#) required for ISPCA in Keenagh to help with essential maintenance.

[Charity Shop Assistant for](#)

Centre for Independent Living Charity Shop, Killinaleck, Cavan

All funds raised go towards providing personal assistance to people 18-65 years who have a physical or sensory disability



If you would like to view other opportunities that are available to you in Longford, please click [here](#). If you require any further information, please contact Angela on 087 7594770 or email: angela@volunteerlongford.ie

Longford Women's Link Counselling Service's

For the last 16 years Longford Women's Link, has been providing a professional counselling service for clients from Longford and the surrounding counties. In 2011 we opened our dedicated counselling rooms which were designed to provide a welcoming, safe space to our clients. All Clients can come to our centre without anyone knowing why they are here as we have so many different services with up to 50 clients a day coming through our doors for services such as Childcare and Training & Education. The counselling suite is warm and comfortable, located in a private section of the main building with its own dedicated waiting area.

We offer counselling for whatever issue or problem a client may have. Our counsellors are professionally qualified and accredited and skilled in the areas where clients today most need support. They will explore all issues and help clients find a way through any difficulties they may be experiencing. We are here to help all clients from the age of 18 onwards. Some clients come for a short time and some come for many years. It is up to the clients when they are ready to finish counselling. If childcare is an issue, we have added supports in our services where a place can be booked in our child care service, Catkins Nursery. Our staff are very helpful and will look for appointments that suit your schedule, including evenings if required. Longford Women's Link offers counselling and therapy on a pay what you can afford basis. Fees are on a sliding scale and negotiable based on ability to pay which can be discussed with your counsellor during the initial consultation.

Rape Crisis is an additional service accessible in our centre, and is available two day a week as an outreach service from Athlone Midland Rape Crisis Centre.

We are here to help and support. Please **FREephone 1800 306 600 for Rape Crisis** or ring **Longford Women's Link's main office on 043 3341511 for general counselling information or to make an appointment.**

Longford Women's Link Domestic Violence Service

Longford Women's Link Domestic Violence Service is a free and confidential service that supports women who have or are currently experiencing Domestic Violence or Abuse. We are open Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm. If you need help or advice for yourself or someone you know please telephone 043 3341511 and one of our Domestic Violence Specialists will return your call at a time that is safe for you.

LWLDVS does not operate a refuge but our professional specialists provide practical support such as Court Accompaniment or help with Social Welfare claims and entitlements plus emotional support and helping women plan ways to keep safe.

We support women whether they choose to leave or stay in abusive relationships.

Please phone 043 3341511 for an appointment or to speak to someone in confidence.

Library Services around the County:

There are a wide range of services available at our branch libraries to enrich and inform the lives of all our citizens including:

- Books, newspapers and magazines for adults and children
- Free internet and email access as well as a range of Microsoft programmes such as Word and Excel
- Language learning and life-long learning materials and literacy support.
- Interactive CD's such as the Driver Theory Test.

- Local studies and Reference collections.
- Events and activities, including language classes, basic internet classes, exhibitions and talks on a wide range of topics.

Longford Sports Partnership



GREEN GYMS
Enjoy the outdoors in

The Mall – Longford Town
Thursday, 20th April – 25th May @ 12 noon



6 week programme.
A qualified instructor will be on hand to provide expert advice on how to stay fit and healthy using the beautiful outdoors free of charge

If interested please call
Longford Sports Partnership
on 043 33 49402 or email
info@longfordsports.ie



Longford Sports Partnership
An Irish Sports Council Initiative

4. National News

Ireland 2040 Our Plan – National Planning Framework

NEWS: The consultation process at the pre-draft stage has been extended until 12 noon on Friday 31st March to afford time to those who have to date been unable to make a submission at this important stage in the process.

Written submissions at this first stage of the plan process can be made online through the dedicated website www.ireland2040.ie, by email (to npf@housing.gov.ie) or in writing to NPF Submissions, Forward Planning Section, Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government, Custom House, Dublin 1, D01 W6X0) by 12 noon on Friday 31st March 2017.

Consultation on Local Community Banking

Minister of State for Economic Development, Michael Ring T.D., issued an invite to interested parties to comment on a proposed new model of community banking. The invite is part of a Programme for a Partnership Government commitment to investigate new models of community banking such as the Kiwibank model in New Zealand, or the German Sparkassen model of local public banks that operate within well-defined regions.

Opening the consultation process Minister of State Ring said, “The Programme for a Partnership Government commits to investigate alternative models of community banking. Given the challenges faced by the banking sector in recent years, I am pleased to be able to invite interested parties to put forward their views on whether a new

approach to local banking should be introduced in Ireland“.

The Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs is working with the Department of Finance to evaluate the community banking concept and is undertaking a period of consultation with relevant stakeholders in order to evaluate its viability within an Irish context.

The consultation process will run for 4 weeks until **Wednesday 29 March 2017**. Further details are available on the consultation section of the Department’s website, www.ahrrga.gov.ie. Submissions can be made online or emailed to Laure Garcia (Laure.Garcia@ahg.gov.ie).

5. [EU NEWS](#)

‘Ireland has made significant progress across environmental policy areas’



The Republic of Ireland has made significant progress across a range of environmental policy areas and has taken important steps towards a circular economy, according to an EU Environmental Implementation Review.

This review report **does not cover climate change**, chemicals and energy.

It found that one of the main challenges Ireland faces with regard to implementing EU environmental policy and law is the need to complete the Natura 2000 designation process, with clearly defined conservation objectives, for terrestrial and marine sites.

Other challenges facing Ireland include protecting the raised and blanket bogs and maintaining the important investments required for water services, given the urgent need to invest in water infrastructure.

The EU report also found that Ireland **could perform better** on issues where a sound knowledge base and good practices already exist.

This applies in particular to making better use of the significant potential in nature for tourism by better managing and protecting natural sites.

Meanwhile, where Ireland leads in environmental implementation, it could share innovative approaches more widely among other countries.

The report found that in this case, a concrete example included that to comply with a ruling by the Court of Justice, Ireland implemented a major reform of its waste sector, closed illegal landfills and financed costly clean-up and remediation works.



This exercise has transformed the waste sector in Ireland, providing useful lessons for other countries, according to the report.

Over 10 years ago, the Network for Ireland's Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (NIECE) was established in Ireland.

This was to ensure an **effective, national approach** to enforcing environmental legislation. Ireland has taken a proactive approach towards managing complaints in the environmental sector, in co-operation with the Commission, it found.

Key EU Policies for Ireland

The EU is active in a wide range of policy areas, from human rights to transport and trade.

Click on the links below for up-to-date information on the following key EU policy areas and how they apply to Ireland:

- [Agriculture](#)
- [The Economy](#)
- [The Environment](#)
- [The Common Fisheries Policy](#)
- [The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership](#)
- [The Digital Single Market](#)
- [Migration](#)
- [Research and Innovation](#)
- [Taxation](#)
- [The EU and Healthy Eating](#)

6. UPCOMING TRAINING/WORKSHOPS

Longford Women's Link

Training at LWL – Occupational First Aid

Occupational First Aid -QQI - Level 5 - 5N1207

Thursday: 27 April, 4 & 11 May 2017, 9am – 5pm

Time: 9.00am to 5.00pm

Venue: Longford Women's Link

It is essential to attend all 3 dates.

Occupational First Aid – Refresher:

Now taking bookings for May refresher class.

Special Needs Assisting - 6N1957 - QQI - Level 6:

Requirements: Students should have completed a FETAC/QQI Level 5 SNA programme module or equivalent.

Saturday: 22 April 2017, 6 & 20 May 2017, 3 & 17 June

Please contact LWL for further information at 043 3341511



Would you like a career in Childcare?

LWL is the lead sponsor of the DSP Community Employment Childcare Scheme in County Longford. If you think you might be eligible then please give Kathleen, Siobhan or Kerrie a call on 043 3341511.

Participation is free and you will achieve a QQI Level 5 Childcare qualification which will enable you to obtain employment in a childcare facility or progress into further education in related areas.

Participation time on the programme is 19.5 hours per week and persons are eligible to remain on this programme for a period of 3 years.

Eligibility criteria:

- 21 years of age or over and are in receipt of a social welfare/ DSP payments for 1 year or more.

OR

- 18 years or over in receipt of disability-related payments

If you have Refugee Status or are a member of the Traveller Community and are aged 18 or over you may also be eligible.

If you qualify under the criteria but do not wish to take up the option yourself, there are certain conditions under which you can do a spousal swap.

EDI Centre

Full time courses:

Longford Pre-Apprenticeship in Engineering

A pre-apprenticeship course is a stepping stone to get into the industry of your choice.

The aim of this programme is to enable learners develop the knowledge, skills and competence to safely operate, under supervision, a milling machine and centre lathe, communicate ideas graphically through technical drawing, use a range of mathematical skills and tools in a variety of engineering sectors and appreciate the importance of workplace safety.

If you are interested in engineering apprenticeships or working as a machine operator in a precision engineering workshop, this is a good starter course for you. This course will provide you with machining skills in milling and turning to enable you to work from component drawings to produce engineering components on manual lathes and milling machines.

Completion of a pre-apprenticeship course will help to:

- prepare you for the working environment in the selected industry
- give you some basic skills, or improve your existing skills
- pave the way for the learning you will get as part of your apprenticeship

Modules covered on the programme include: Milling and Turning, Technical Drawing, Workplace Safety, Work Experience, Communications, Mathematics, Information Technology Skills and Team Working

For more information on this SOLAS LWETB Programme or to register your interest contact preapp@edilongford.ie

Catering/Lifeskills Programme

This SOLAS LWETB programme is designed to enable learners develop the knowledge and skills required to obtain employment in the Catering and Hospitality Sector.

The aim of this programme is to enable the learners develop the knowledge, skills and competence to prepare and handle food safely and hygienically, in compliance with regulation, legislation and current best practice, perform basic food preparation tasks and prepare, under direction, a selection of breakfast and lunch menu items, maintain, under direction, food preparation areas and kitchen equipment in a clean and orderly condition.

If you are interested in working in the Catering & Hospitality Sector then this is a good course for you.

Modules covered on the programme include: Short Order Cooking, Meal Service, Handling Food Hygienically, Kitchen Skills, Communications, Customer Service, Information Technology Skills, Personal Effectiveness and Work Experience



For more information or to register your interest contact cateringprogramme@edilongford.ie

Part time courses:

An example of the courses we have to offer are Manual Handling, Safe Pass, Occupational First Aid, Office Procedures, Reception & Frontline Office Skills, Home Repairs & Maintenance, Customer Service, Career Preparation, Communications, Workplace Safety, Cake Baking & Decoration, Breakfast Cookery, Bread, Pastry and Desserts, Managing Personal Finances and IT Skills.

We run courses suitable to local needs and demands. Funding may be available to applicants who are in receipt of a Social Welfare payment.

Job Seeking Skills

The EDI Centre's free job seeking skills service includes:

- *Curriculum Vitae's*
The requirements of a modern CV, compiling information, the expected presentation, catering for specific jobs, submitting CVs online and sending by email etc.
- *Cover Letters & Job Applications*
We will help you design a professional Cover Letter, assist with completing job application forms and submitting applications online etc.
- *Interview Skills*
We will go through typical interview questions and answers, appropriate attire, the do's and don'ts of interviews and we can carry out mock interviews based on the particular job you are applying for.

Information Service

This free, confidential service includes Social Welfare Rights & Entitlements, Health Entitlements, Housing, Education/Training Options, Referral/Advocacy, Representation in appeals process, Farm Assist, Agricultural Forms, Agricultural Registrations.

Typing Service

This includes but is not limited to typing and printing of assignments, essays, booklets, projects, labels, leaflets, posters, letters, memos, photocopying, binding and laminating.

North Longford's Men Group

Established in 2004, the group provides the opportunity to meet in a safe and secure environment, to socialise and to encourage training and development, to empower them to become active citizens in their local community.

Mediation Service

This free service is provided by Longford Community Resources CLG and is for anyone who is unsure of where they are going and would like to discuss their career and/or training options and funding options in a private, friendly and confidential atmosphere.

The Wheel

Promoting Good Governance in Charities & Not-for-Profits, 28 March

The Wheel is delighted to be involved in a special event hosted by Chartered Accountants Ireland Charities & Not-for-profit Committee Ireland in Dublin on 28 May. The event will focus on the importance of governance from the perspective of charities and not-for-profit organisations, understanding public-benefit trusteeship and the challenges of governing charitable organisations and the role of the Board in charitable fundraising.

Who should attend



With an increased focus on effective governance in charities and not-for-profits, this event is a must for:

- Board members of Charities & Not-for-Profits
- CEOs of Charities & Not-for-Profits
- Finance Managers of Charities & Not-for-Profits
- Members in practice with charity or not-for-profit clients
- Anyone working in or interested in the charity or not-for-profit sectors

Learning Outcomes

- Gain insights from key experts from the charities sector
- Obtain a better understanding of the challenges facing the sector
- Hear about how organisations are dealing with governance issues

[Find out more or Book your Place.](#)

7. FUNDING

LEADER Funding – County Longford

REMINDER THAT THE TARGETED CALL for funding from the RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 2014-2020 **Theme 1: Economic Development, Enterprise Development & Job Creation. Sub Theme: Rural Towns**

ACTION 7.1 PROJECTS WHICH Identify & develop initiatives to improve economic, social and cultural performance in Rural Towns and Villages Including but not limited to Village enhancement works including heritage projects , Small scale upgrading works to community centres i.e. upgrading heating systems, Insulation and energy efficiency works water harvesting et, Walkways / Cycleway local area enhancement projects, Community Gardens etc. , Skate Parks

OPENED ON THE 27TH FEBRUARY AND **WILL CLOSE ON THE 27TH MARCH**

IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO MAKE AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING UNDER the call listed below **PLEASE MAKE SURE TO SUBMIT your Expression of Interest by 4.00pm ON Monday 27th MARCH 2017 to the offices of Longford Community Resources, Ballinalee Road , Longford**

School Age Childcare Capital Scheme

€3m in capital funding was announced to support increased capacity for the provision of school age childcare. The new Capital Scheme will be open to both community/not-for-profit and private services and will comprise three separate strands, as follows:

Ø **Strand A: Establishment of new School Age Childcare services**

A grant of up to €20,000 will be available for the establishment of new services

Ø **Strand B: Expansion of existing services**

A grant of up to €10,000 will be available for the expansion of existing services. The provision of additional places will be a criterion for this grant.

Ø **Strand C: Improvement of existing services**

A grant of up to €5,000 will be available to improve the quality of the service provided in existing services.



The School Age Childcare Capital Scheme will be implemented on behalf of the Department of Children and Youth Affairs by Pobal. The Scheme, which will be administered on-line, will be open for applications in early April. For further information see www.dcy.gov.ie/viewdoc.asp?DocID=4153

Ireland Social Change Grants Now Open

The Community Foundation for Ireland Social Change Grants 2017 are now open! All applications are online and the closing date is 4.30 p.m. Thursday 13 April 2017.



Please read the criteria document carefully for the relevant category you are applying for.

This year we have the following two categories that you may apply for a grant under:

A. Leadership for Ethnic Minority Groups - Grants of up to €7,500 are available for projects working towards building leadership skills in local Ethnic Minority community groups

B. Inclusion for LGBT Migrants - Grants of up to €10,000 are available for projects working towards the promotion of inclusion for LGBT+ people who are Migrants

[Please see here](#) for information and how to apply to each category

Loreto Foundation Fund – Closing date 30th April 2017

[Loreto Foundation Fund](#)

The Fund supports groups which are of benefit to, and improve the lives of, the most vulnerable in Irish society.

[Scheme Details](#)

Status: Closed

Grant Range: Up to €1,000 ,Up to €5,000

Funding Source: Trust / Foundation

Cash Type: Capital

Revenue Exclusions:

- Individuals
- Building works
- Sponsorship or marketing appeals
- Activities which collect funds for subsequent redistribution to others
- Endowment funds
- Schools



The Loreto Foundation Fund is the annual income from an initial capital which was invested by the Loreto Sisters following the sale of Loreto Abbey, Rathfarnham, Dublin, their first house in Ireland.

It supports groups which are of benefit to, and improve the lives of, the most vulnerable in Irish society.

Essential Criteria

- Applications **MUST** be completed using the official application form (see below), using only the allocated space on the form and be returned electronically.
- Your group must have some form of governance structure e.g. Trustees, Board of Directors, Board of Management, etc
- Your group must maintain books of account and have a system of financial reporting. You must submit a copy of your group's most recent annual report and accounts as part of your application.
- Any funding received from the Foundation must be identified separately in your financial accounts. This can be in the notes to the accounts.
- Your group will need to be clear on the specific changes and benefits that your work will provide for your users / beneficiaries. As such, your application must be clear on the objectives for your project and who will be benefiting directly from it. In addition, your objectives should be measurable in order to allow you to monitor your project and to evaluate its success.
- You must immediately receipt / acknowledge any funding received.
- You must utilise the grant within the specified time period (see timelines below).
- You must submit an end-of-grant report, using the official end-of-grant form, in relation to the funding received.

Desireable Criteria

- Your group has a charity number
- Your accounts are externally reviewed or audited.

Other relevant information

- The Foundation has the right, at its own discretion, to nominate a representative to visit the project in order to check on progress and / or check on the financial reporting system for the project.
- The maximum grant awarded is €6,000.
- Grants must be used for purpose(s) for which they were given and should not be used for any other purpose without the written approval of the Foundation.
- Unfortunately, demands made on the Foundation always out-strip the funds available, and this means that many good applications, whilst meeting the criteria, will still be unsuccessful.
- The committee reserve the right to apply enhanced criteria when the demand exceeds the funds available.

Timelines

The following timelines apply:

- April - applications are to be submitted
 - May - applications are considered
 - June - applicants are notified of the Funding Committee decision
-



- October - grants are paid to successful applicants
- 30th June following year – end-of-grant reports and financial accounts identifying the funding received from the Foundation Fund are submitted.

How to Apply

[Download the application form and full guidelines from the Loreto Foundation Fund here.](#)

Contact Details

Funder: [Loreto Foundation Fund](#)

Title: The Secretary

Address1: Loreto House Beaufort

Town: Rathfarnham

County: Dublin 14

Country: Ireland

Email: fff@loreto.ie

Website: <http://www.loreto.ie/loreto-foundation-fund>

Telephone: 01 493 5463

Fax: 01 493 3008

Irish Aid - WorldWide Global Schools Programme now open Irish Aid

The aim of the WorldWide Global Schools programme is to contribute, in the longer term, to increased knowledge and understanding of global justice issues and increased engagement and action by students as active global citizens.

Scheme Details

Status: Open

Grant Range: Not stated

Funding Source: Statutory

Cash Type: Revenue

**Is your school interested in getting involved - or already involved - in development education activities?
Or are you an NGO or an education network working with schools on development education?**

The WorldWide Global Schools (WWGS) Annual Grant Call, to support DE initiatives in Irish post-primary settings during the 2017/18 academic year, is open for applications from 7 March 2017.

Applications are invited from eligible organisations: schools, school clusters, NGOs and education networks.

Workshop

WWGS will be holding a grant application workshop for NGO and Network applicants on 14 March 2017 @ 10am-12pm in its Parkgate Street offices, Dublin 8.

For more information or to register your interest please email: laura.cahill@worldwiseschools.ie



How to Apply

To register your interest and to receive more information please visit: <http://www.worldwiseschools.ie/grants-register/>

[Foras na Gaeilge - Youth Events Scheme Foras na Gaeilge](#)

Foras na Gaeilge welcomes applications for funding from groups to run events for young people through the medium of Irish outside of the Gaeltacht (not including summer).

[Scheme Details](#)

Status:

Open

Grant Range:

Up to €1,000

Up to €5,000

Funding Source:

Central Government

Cash Type:

Revenue

Foras na Gaeilge is the new body responsible for the promotion of the Irish language throughout the whole island of Ireland.

Foras na Gaeilge is providing funding for appropriate Youth Events programmes (which must contain a minimum of 12 sessions) through Irish for young people (3 to 18 years of age):

- which aim to strengthen the Irish language through a mix of activities;
- that are not residential events;
- which will run between 1 September 2017 and 30 June 2018;
- applications for festivals, competitions or one-off events will not be accepted

Grants are provided out of public funding, and Foras na Gaeilge has statutory duties to ensure value for money for all funded projects.

Foras na Gaeilge recommends to applicants to seek joint funding for projects, when appropriate, and to cooperate with other organisations in order to achieve the best value from the Foras na Gaeilge grant.

We particularly welcome applications from organisations located in areas recognised in Government strategies or legislation.

How to Apply

[Visit the Foras na Gaeilge website for further guidelines.](#)

[Energy for Generations Fund Electricity Supply Board](#)

Approximately €1m per year is dedicated to addressing issues relating to education, homelessness and suicide prevention. ESB has been supporting initiatives in the areas of suicide prevention and homelessness since 2005.



Scheme Details

Status: Open

Grant Range: Up to €1,000 ,Up to €5,000,Up to €60,000 ,Over €60,000

In Kind

Funding Source: Corporate

Cash Type: Revenue

Exclusions:

The ESB Energy for Generations Fund does not normally support:

- Individuals and individual fundraisers
- Administrative or operating costs
- Salary expenses
- Third party fundraising (e.g. fundraising events)
- High risk ventures

Our aim with the Energy for Generations Fund is to maximise the impact of our investment by taking a more strategic approach to effect change. Funding is only part of the jigsaw – we also want to leverage the skills and knowledge we have within the company to bring about more sustainable and positive outcomes.

Criteria

ESB's Energy for Generations Fund sees over €2m per year disbursed across a range of community and issues-based initiatives.

Each year the Fund awards €1m in direct funding through a quarterly fund to charities working in the areas of suicide prevention, homelessness and education access and support.

ESB has been supporting initiatives in the areas of suicide prevention and homelessness since 2005. The Energy for Generations Fund introduced a new focus on education in 2014, which recognises the need for educational supports at all levels to ensure that Ireland has the skills it needs to compete effectively in the future.

The remainder is allocated across a range of initiatives including support for ElectricAid, wind farm community funds, fuel poverty programmes and support for staff volunteering.

Eligibility

Charities working in the areas of suicide prevention, homelessness and education access and support can apply to the Fund for project specific funding.

Every quarter ESB allocates an amount from the Fund for disbursement. The amount may vary because of the volume of applications received or seasonal considerations - wintertime and Christmas may require more funding than summer.

Applications submitted during each quarter are appraised at the end of the quarter and funding allocated accordingly.



How to Apply

The guideline application amount is c. €10,000. This is neither a minimum nor a maximum, rather an indication of the scale of the resources available. Average funding awards in recent years have been c. €6-7,000

[Visit the ESB website for full application details.](#)

Contact Details

Funder: [Electricity Supply Board](#)

Title: Grants Officer

Name: James Foley

Address1:

27 Lower Fitzwilliam Street

Town: Dublin 2

Country: Republic of Ireland

Email: james.foley@esb.ie

<https://www.esb.ie/acting-responsibly/communit...>

Environmental Protection Agency

In Ireland, the Environmental Protection Agency protects the environment through its licensing, enforcement and monitoring activities.

EPA

Contact Details

Address1: PO Box 3000

Johnstown Castle Estate

County: Co. Wexford

Phone: 053-9160600

Website: <http://www.epa.ie>

Schemes

<u>Title</u>	<u>Status</u>
EPA - Event Support Grants	Open

Is your group holding an event or has your group news you would like to share with the wider County Longford Community?

Then why not promote it in this eBulletin?

Just email, post or call to us (contact info below)

For inclusion in the April 2017 edition of the PPN eBulletin

Compiled by
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*Sources: Longford PPN community groups ,EU News, DOECLG, Longford County Childcare, Longford Co. Council,
Longford Leader, Environmental Pillar, Social Justice Ireland and other sources with many thanks!*