



County Longford Public Participation Network (PPN)

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PPN Newsletter December 2021 (Part 1)

FUNDING NEWS



Community Climate Action programme

Pobal has been engaged by the DECC to administer a €5m grant scheme under their Climate Action fund. The scheme is called the Community Climate Action Programme (CCAP). Details will be available on the Pobal website and the application portal will open from Monday morning 15th November and will close on 14th January 2022.

The purpose of this funding is to facilitate eligible organisations to collaboratively develop supports, tools, know-how and approaches to assist local communities take climate action.

The strand focus is on climate education, capacity building and learning by doing – moving beyond ‘raising awareness’ to build the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values necessary to respond to challenges of climate change at a community level.

There is a preference for projects which have a relevant partnership approach and have a demonstration component or pilot phase (for those up to €500,000, especially) to validate their supports.

It is necessary for successful proposals to demonstrate inclusivity in design and practice, so that no one is left behind. The following are eligible to apply if operating at national or regional level

Not-for-profit organisations

Non-Government Organisations

Community and Voluntary or Charitable organisations

Social Enterprises

Universities, Third Level Institutions or Education

Libraries

For further information visit: <https://www.pobal.ie/programmes/community-climate-action-programme-climate-education-capacity-building-and-learning-by-doing-strand-2/>

Press Release: €1.4m still available through Electric Ireland COVID-19 hardship fund



A €2 million COVID hardship fund is available to help people pay energy bills through a partnership between St Vincent de Paul and MABS - The Money Advice and Budgeting Service.

The fund was set up by Electric Ireland earlier this year to help their customers who were struggling to meet payments for their energy bills. More information on LCC website [here](#)



JAM 'Just a Minute' Campaign

Transport for Ireland along with Bus Éireann, Dublin Bus, Go-Ahead Ireland, Iarnród Éireann, TFI Local Link and Luas are continuing our journey to become JAM Card friendly. The Jam Card will assist customers using the public transport system and make their experience as stress-free as possible.

What is JAM Card and who is it for? JAM Card allows people with a communication barrier tell others they need 'Just A Minute' discreetly and easily.

The JAM Card© was created by NOW Group, a social enterprise that supports people with learning difficulties and autism into jobs with a future and their service users told them that they would like a way to relay to people that they need a little extra time or patience.

Find out more about NOW Group at www.nowgroup.org and JAM Card© at www.jamcard.org. There are 3 message options to choose from:

- 1) **Please be patient, I have autism**
- 2) **Please be patient, I have a learning disability/difficulty**
- 3) **Please be patient, I have a condition**

For those with a **learning difficulty, autism or any condition** where there can be a communication barrier, the JAM Card allows users to relay to others that they may need a little extra time in a simple, effective non-verbal manner. The JAM Card is useful when on public transport, in a retail or any other customer facing environment.

Where can I get one?

There are several different methods to get a JAM Card.

JAM Cards are available for collection from the following transport hubs:

Irish Rail Stations: Connolly Station, Dublin, Pearse Station, Dublin, Heuston Station, Dublin, Kent Station, Cork, Ceannt Station, Galway, Colbert Station, Limerick, Plunkett Station, Waterford, MacDiarmada Station, Sligo, Dublin Bus: Dublin Bus Head Office, O'Connell St, Local Link Offices

[You can also request one directly from NOW Group by visiting the JAM Card website and filling out the request form.](#) Or if you would prefer there is a JAM Card App available for Android and iOS. The App allows you to choose your message option and find other JAM friendly businesses.



Age Action's Care and Repair 'Can we Help?' Initiative

Age Action's Care and Repair does small DIY jobs, free of charge, for older people to help them maintain their homes and their independence.

The initiative prioritises carrying out jobs in the homes of older people who are being discharged or have recently been discharged from hospital. If someone is coming out of hospital, no matter where they live, Care and Repair would support them to make sure their home is safe.

The Care and Repair service can remove trip hazards, install handrails, replace toilet seats or move a bed downstairs to make sure the home is ready for their return.

If you require work done in your home to make it safer after a stay in hospital Care and Repair can help.

If you are a professional working with older people who would benefit from this service, you can download a referral form from www.ageaction.ie

For all queries about this service please contact:

Age Action national line: 0818 911 109

Local News and Services



CHARITY SINGLE

Longford band **Audio Pilot** and a host of local singers and musicians and other artists have produced a charity single and video with all proceeds going to **St. Christopher's Services and Longford Hospice Homecare**. The project was fully funded by **Longford County Council** under the Community Grant Scheme.

Facebook link: <https://fb.watch/9NHlr8jbTt/>



**Longford
Tourism**

Christmas Event Guide

([Christmas Event Guide - Longford.ie](http://ChristmasEventGuide-Longford.ie)).

The December Event Guide will be published in the Longford Leader and is also on our Facebook page ([Longford Tourism | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/LongfordTourism)).



THERE WILL BE FREE PARKING IN IN ALL OFF-STREET CARPARKS
IN LONGFORD TOWN ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

Friday 26th NOVEMBER 2021 (Black Friday)

SATURDAY 27th NOVEMBER 2021

SATURDAY 4th DECEMBER 2021

SATURDAY 11th DECEMBER 2021

EVERY DAY FROM SATURDAY 18th DECEMBER 2021 to SATURDAY 1st JANUARY 2022



The **Longford County Development Plan 2021-2027** came into effect on Tuesday 30th November 2021. It is available to view on the internet via the following link [Longford County Development Plan 2021 -2027 - LongfordCoCo](http://LongfordCountyDevelopmentPlan2021-2027-LongfordCoCo)

A copy of the adopted plan will be made available for inspection from **Tuesday 30th November 2021** at the following locations during normal opening hours (subject to Covid-19 pandemic restrictions):

- Planning Department, Longford County Council Offices, Áras an Chontae, Great Water Street, Longford, N39 NH56.
- All County Longford Branch Libraries – Longford, Ballymahon, Drumlish, Edgeworthstown, Granard and Lanesborough Libraries.

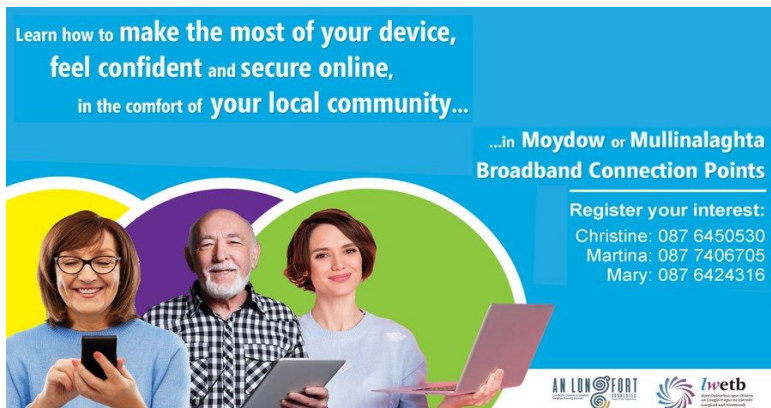
Copies of the Plan are available for purchase from the Planning Department, Áras an Chontae, Great Water Street, Longford, N39 NH56.

- Longford County Council leads on rural working hubs [here](#)
- Explore new skills with free Skillshare online courses at your nearest Digital Hub (BCP) information [here](#)

Learn how to make the most of your device,
feel confident and secure online,
in the comfort of your local community...

...in Moydow or Mullinalaghta
Broadband Connection Points

Register your interest:
Christine: 087 6450530
Martina: 087 7406705
Mary: 087 6424316



- ***New Courses at a BCP Point in Moydow or Mullinalaghta***

Register your interest:

Christine 087 6450530

Martina 087 7406705

Mary 087 6424316

Keep Well Campaign: Further details on Longford County Council website www.longfordcoco.ie

What's On



New Intergenerational Community Archive project launching in County Longford is seeking volunteers to help facilitate the project in their area!

The Community Time Machine initiative is an age-friendly cross-generational community archive project designed to connect young people with their older neighbours through a series of facilitated interviews, art projects and photography. It is a simple and fun way to have a positive impact and strengthen your community connections.

Neighbourhood Network is delighted to be launching this initiative in County Longford in partnership with The Creative Ireland Programme, Age Friendly Ireland, Longford County Council and the Department of Rural and Community Development.

Community members across County Longford are now invited to come on board as organisers for this exciting project. The role of community organisers is to gather 5-6 young people, aged 12 – 18, to interview senior members of their community over the phone. The interviews give both participants a valuable opportunity to learn from each other and connect with their community.

Each group that takes part will be given €100 towards a charity/group of their choice and a time capsule to store their project in. A professional portrait photographer will visit each of the seniors involved in the project to take their portraits. The seniors will then receive their printed photos and all of the participants will have their work displayed on the national time machine gallery website.

If this sounds like a project you would like to see come to life in your area, visit <https://timemachine.neighbourhoodnetwork.ie/> to get involved! We would also love to hear from any youth groups, schools or clubs who might be interested in taking part.

About Neighbourhood Network: visit

www.neighbourhoodnetwork.ie Full press release [here](#)

One-off Events:

Immigrant Council of Ireland are launching an [anti-trafficking toolkit at an online presentation](#). The project TRIPS (identification of TRafficked International Protection beneficiaries' Special needs), a two year, pan-European project that researches and documents the unique special needs of victims of human trafficking who are in the process of applying for international protection formalises recommendations through an expert report and toolkit developed for frontline service providers (e.g. Immigration and border officials, law enforcement, NGOs, etc.). 2021 marks the conclusion of the TRIPS project you can [register](#) for the presentation of the project findings, including the country report for Ireland on its anti-trafficking activities as well as a presentation of the TRIPS toolkit developed for service providers taking place on Thursday 9th of December at 9.30 am. You can learn more in the email attached.

Doras, Limerick-based national migrant, refugee and asylum seekers support organisation are planning a [major online event](#) on December 9th to mark its 21st anniversary, while also reflecting on 21 years of the Direct Provision system and the campaign to end it. The event will reflect on Doras's past, look to the future and guests include Dublin-based Syrian Journalist Razan Ibraheem as host, filmmaker and campaigner Caoimhe Butterly, Donnah Vuma from MASI, Afghan musician, refugee, and women's rights activist Elena Yaqubee (live from Lesbos), musician Steo Wall, artist Jean Ryan Hakizimana, Doras co-founder and Life President Ann Scully, former Doras CEO Karen McHugh, and Hassan Shariff from Doras. There will also be a contribution from Minister Roderic O'Gorman, and further guests to be announced. Registration is free [here](#).

The **Urban Agenda Partnership on Inclusion of Migrants and Refugees, the City of Mechelen** and the **Government of Flanders** are organising a webinar on policies and challenges in promoting the inclusion and participation of LGBTQI+ migrants on December 10th from 9.30 am to 12 pm. The event will share lessons and best practices from its global network for LGBTI equality, and the International Organization for Migration's Equality Project will present a new toolbox on creating safe(r) spaces for LGBTQI+ identifying people with a migrant background. For further information please contact Tom De Bruyn at tom.debruyne@vlaanderen.be and register [here](#).

Bray Area Partnership and the **Rediscovery Centre** are hosting an [online workshop for children and families exploring Christmas Crafts](#) on Tuesday 14th of December from 3.30 to 5pm, on Zoom. Covering how to make Christmas decorations from waste materials, reducing, reusing and recycling, you must live in Bray/Greystones Municipal District areas and be a member of a new community, unemployed, low income, disadvantaged family, lone parent, living in a disadvantaged area, a Traveller, a person with a disability, Roma or a substance misuser to take part. To learn more see images attached and/or call Lorna on 083 3925988 or Jennifer on 083 3936923 or email lornalafferty@brayareapartnership.ie or jenniferjones@brayareapartnership.ie to book your place.

Courses:

Interpeace's Advisory Team are inviting applications for the 2022 online edition of its professional development course: [Effective Advising in Complex Contexts: Enabling sustainable peace](#). This course is for mid and senior level professionals from the humanitarian, development, stabilisation, peacebuilding and human rights sectors. The objective of the course is to consciously and creatively increase participants' advisory capacities, so as to enhance their effectiveness in supporting locally led efforts fostering sustainable peace. The application deadline is 10 December 2021. You can read more and apply [here](#) and watch an introductory video [here](#).

Maynooth University: Masters in Community and Youth Work are holding their [Recruitment Launch for 2022](#) on Thursday 9th of December from 7 to 8.30 pm. Calling all those impatient for change, justice, equality and real change to join Siobhan O'Donoghue, Founding Director of Uplift for a conversation with graduates and current students including Catherine Lane, National Women's Council, Debbie O'Rourke, Waterford Community Youth Service, Emma-Jane Geraghty, Friends of the Earth, Glenn Keating, BeLongTo Youth Service, Lorna Costello, Current Student and Rueben Hambakachere, Cultúr Migrant Centre. If you are interested in finding out how this Masters programme will equip you with the skills to work for social change, create professional placement opportunities and become part of an exciting practice community, you can see the more [here](#) and register [here](#). Email cwrecruitment@mu.ie for more information.

START Entrepreneurs, an integrated program: part academic fellowship and part startup accelerator is accepting applications. The goal of the program is to help aspiring commercial and social entrepreneurs translate academic scholarship into highly impactful new ventures. Each START Entrepreneur spends 12 months on campus at the Princeton Innovation Center BioLabs building their startup company or non-profit. The program comes with up to \$400,000 in funding, entrepreneurship education, tailored mentorship and personalized introductions to funders. It is open to anyone with an advanced degree (strong preference for Ph.Ds) and the ability to work in the US. For more information see [here](#), email Lauren Bender with any questions (labender@princeton.edu) or register to attend an info session [here](#).

Of Interest:

EU's Horizon programme supports nature-based solutions for more inclusive and resilient communities. Horizon Europe is the European Union's key funding programme for research and innovation. It has an overall budget of €95.5 billion for the 2021 - 2027 period. Initiatives concerned with both tackling the climate crisis and promoting the integration and inclusion of third country migrants could be eligible for funding under the call for proposals from initiatives promoting resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities. Read more [here](#).

The Irish Human Rights & Equality Commission partnered with **Hot Press Magazine**, as part of their #AllAgainstRacism Campaign, to produce a special two-part project, 100 Voices: #AllAgainstRacism, with 35 pages of the latest Hot Press issue dedicated to the theme. The project features prominent Irish voices sharing their experiences and thoughts on racism in Ireland. You can read more about the campaign [here](#) and view the articles [here](#).

The third issue of 2021 of **Bulgaria's academic bulletin "Refugees: Today and Tomorrow"** is dedicated to women and forced migration. It was prepared by the Bulgarian Council for Refugees and Migrants and UNHCR Bulgaria. You can read more about it and download the bulletin [here](#).

Interfaith Maverick Podcast hosted a new episode on COP26 and Faith with Dublin City Interfaith Forum Youth Board Coordinator, Hajar Al Kaddo. You can listen to thoughts from a panel on the role of faith in the COP26 conference [here](#).

Immigrant Council of Ireland (ICI) calling for increased State supports to tackle domestic abuse targeted at migrant women as part of 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence. Cases of domestic violence experienced by migrant women are increasingly complex due to mixed immigration statuses and barriers to accessing mainstream services. ICI reported that the number of domestic violence cases experienced by migrant women has increased 12 per cent to-date in 2021 compared to the previous year. Read more [here](#).

College Connect recently held an event launching a research report entitled 'A Community Needs Analysis with Refugees & People Seeking Asylum – Exploring Access & Barriers to Higher Education'. You can watch the seminar back [here](#) and read the research report [here](#). You can watch a public engagement video with Felispeaks [here](#) and see cultural training video and workshop resources [here](#). You can see more information in the email attached, including illustrations, a Twitter Moment of the launch and information on hosting HEAR photo-voice exhibition.

Experts call for a National Research and Knowledge Hub to address the elimination of gender-based abuse and save lives. **Haven Horizons**, a voluntary organisation committed to the elimination of gender-based violence in our society, and the **EDGE Research Group based at the Technological University of the Shannon**, held a webinar on the role gender-based abuse research can play in helping to eliminate gender-based violence and save lives. According to the webinar, a key action to work towards eliminating gender-based abuse in Ireland would be to develop a National Research and Knowledge Hub addressing gender-based abuse. Read more [here](#).

Funding:

The **Irish Youth Foundation** in partnership with a new corporate partner, is providing €100,000 to fund not for profit, voluntary and charitable organisations supporting young people experiencing disadvantage nationwide. Applications close on Thursday, 16 December at 5pm. Read more [here](#).

et's Fund It is a new volunteer-led charity focusing on honesty and transparency on the list of Irish registered charities. A new charity has been welcomed on the list of Irish registered charities. Let's Fund It uses donated

funds to purchase goods and services on behalf of charities. The goods and services that are purchased go directly to benefit charity services users. Irish charities can contact Let's Fund It with requests, or the new charity will respond to public appeals. You can learn more [here](#) or on the [website](#).

Recruitment:

UNHCR's National Office in Dublin is recruiting a [Policy & Advocacy Officer](#). The candidate will advance a new European multistakeholder project which will develop complementary pathways for refugees to come to Ireland, utilising existing community sponsorship structures. You can see more about the role [here](#) and apply by 5.30pm on December 10th.

North Tipperary Development Company Traveller Programme invites applications for a [Contractor to provide support and supervision to Traveller Programme staff](#). The contract will be for a six month period and will involve ten to fourteen hours per week. For informal enquiries, please contact Michael Murray, CEO NTDC – mmurray@ntdc.ie and submit tender applications marked 'Traveller Programme Supervision & Support to: mmurray@ntdc.ie by 5pm on Monday 20th of December. See more information [here](#).

The **University of Florida's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences** invites applications for the position of [Director of the Center for African Studies](#). This is a tenure accruing position. The University of Florida is looking for an intellectual leader with a commitment to collaborative university-wide programs and the capacity to articulate a vision for the future of African Studies in the academy. Application review begins January 2022 for an August 2022 appointment when my term ends. Contact Steering Committee Chair Professor Terje Ostebo ostebo@ufl.edu and see [here](#) for more information.

Census Ireland is currently recruiting for Enumerators for Census 2022. Earn up to €3,200 for 10 weeks' part-time work. Please see poster attached and visit their [website](#) for more details on the application process.

The items in this email are shared for information purposes only and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Glenree Centre for Peace & Reconciliation.

NATIONAL NEWS



An Roinn Forbartha
Tuaithe agus Pobail
Department of Rural and
Community Development

Minister O'Brien visits Donegal Intercultural Platform – funded under €1m pilot Community Development Programme

- **Minister O'Brien visits Letterkenny, the new Community Development Programme (CDP) office, to launch the pilot Intercultural CDP for Donegal**
- **The new county-wide initiative will resource and support the inclusion of Asylum seeker and Refugee families being accommodated in Donegal**
- **One of seven organisations funded under €1m pilot Community Development Programme**

Today (10th December 2021) Joe O'Brien TD, Minister of State at the Department of Rural and Community Development visited the Donegal Intercultural Platform CDP, one of seven successful organisations taking part in the pilot Community Development Programme.

The €1m pilot programme, a Programme for Government commitment, is aimed at trialling community led interventions that address poverty, social exclusion and inequality, and promote human rights.

Donegal Intercultural Platform CDP has been working with Black and Minority Ethnic Communities including Traveller and Roma Communities in County Donegal using community development principles since its inception in 2009. The project put forward as part of the pilot Community Development Programme will continue this theme by building on their strong track record of promoting interculturalism, human rights, equality and inclusion across the county of Donegal. This will be done by using a community development approach in solidarity with relevant national, local organisations and local community and voluntary structures.

Minister O’Brien said:

“I am delighted to visit Donegal Intercultural Platform pilot CDP today, one of the organisations that have been successful in receiving funding under the Community Development Pilot Programme. The work of Donegal Intercultural Platform underpins that communities themselves are best placed to identify needs and to work collaboratively to develop pathways to fully access their rights. It is hugely important that the voices of the most marginalised people in society are given opportunities to engage, to help develop activities that they know will help enhance their lived experiences and to influence decisions being made that impact them.”

“I hope the work by the Intercultural Platform under this project will benefit Black and Minority Ethnic communities, and will also serve as a wider example of how community led interventions can address important issues affecting the marginalised in society, such as access to adequate housing.”

“As we emerge from COVID-19 we must focus on supporting those most marginalised in order to ensure that the social recovery is as effective as possible in ensuring that nobody is left behind. The launch of the Donegal Intercultural Pilot is a clear signal from government that we are intent on building a recovery from COVID-19 with the most socially excluded to the fore.”

ENDS

- The seven successful projects under the Community Development Programme were announced on 24 June 2021. A list of the organisations and the themes of the projects are as follows:

<u>Organisation Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Themes</u>
Donegal Intercultural Platform	Donegal	Migrants
Clare Local Development Company	Clare	Traveller
Inner City Organisations Network	Dublin	Women, poverty, housing

Kilkenny Community Traveller Movement	Kilkenny	Traveller Supports
Longford Community Resources	Longford	Roma
Cultur Migrant Centre	Meath, Louth	Emigrants
Independent Living Movement Ireland	Wexford	Disabled persons

- Applications to take part in the pilot programme were received from over 120 community development organisations.
- The aim of this pilot programme is to trial community led interventions that address poverty, social exclusion and inequality, and promote human rights. It is also a commitment under the Programme for Government.
- The Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs) will also play a key role in the pilot programme, in overseeing the administration at local level and importantly providing support and introducing organisations to other potential funders, helping to integrate the organisation with other bodies delivering similar services and facilitating networking.



The Government has updated the public health advice posters. **Layer Up** is a cross-Government campaign which encourages us to layer up on the behaviours to protect from Covid-19 by getting vaccinated, wearing face masks, washing/sanitising our hands frequently, keeping our distance, meet up outdoors where possible, and ensuring indoor spaces are well ventilated. A series of posters are available free to download at gov.ie/LayerUp.



An Roinn Forbartha
Tuaithe agus Pobail
Department of Rural and
Community Development



Well-being Framework - Launch of Public Conversation

The Well-being Framework for Ireland is the result of a Programme for Government commitment to develop a set of quality of life measures to create a holistic view of how Irish society is faring. In July of this year, the Government published the **First Report on a Well-being Framework for Ireland**. It captures phase one of the work on developing a national framework and sets out the guiding vision and ambitions. It includes an initial conceptual framework and supporting dashboard of indicators, which will evolve and improve over time. It was supported by initial consultation via NESC, who compiled a complementary Consultation Report.

A wider public conversation on Ireland's Wellbeing Framework has been launched as part of the second phase of this work. The Government wants to create awareness and gain feedback to improve the Framework and ensure it is reflective of the issues that matter most to the Irish people. We are eager to spread the word and hear from people right across Irish society.

Citizens, stakeholders, policy makers and researchers can get involved by:

- Visiting the [Well-being Web Portal](#) and becoming familiar with the Framework;
 - Telling us what well-being means to you and what your priorities are by taking our [short survey](#); and
 - Exploring the supporting interactive [CSO Well-being Information Hub](#)
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An Roinn Caiteachais
Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe
Department of Public
Expenditure and Reform



Seeking input in creating Ireland's next

Open Government national action plan

Partner with us in creating Ireland's next **Open Government national action plan**, to make government more transparent, accountable with greater civic participation. The Minister for State, Ossian Smyth has formally launched [via social media](#) the Open Government public calls for representatives of Civil Society and submissions.

To find out more about Open Government, what is happening in Ireland and the Open Government Partnership process, check out <https://bit.ly/OpenGovIE>.

Good news - Ireland is in the running for an international [Open Government Partnership impact award](#). Our entry is *'Ireland's Citizens' Assembly and our deliberative democracy journey'*. Top winners will be recognised on 15-17 December 2021 at the Open Government Partnership Global Summit (online).
