



County Longford Public Participation Network (PPN)

E-mail: ppn@longfordcoco.ie; Web: www.longfordcoco.ie

fb: @longfordppn

Twitter: @LongfordPPN

Siobhan Cronogue, Co. Longford Public Participation Network, Longford County Council building, Great Water Street, Longford

PPN Newsletter January 2019 Part 1

Engage & Educate Fund 2019

The Engage & Educate Fund 2019 is now open for applications. You can read more about it and start your application [here](#). The closing date is **19th February 2019**, and all queries can be directed to Gwendolyn Beeman: gwen@socialinnovation.ie

Training Course – Simplifying Funding Applications



Longford Community
Resources clg

Training Course - Simplifying Funding Applications

Longford Community Resources CLG the implementing partner of the LEADER Programme wishes to provide training to equip Community Groups across Co. Longford with the appropriate range of skills to gain maximum social and economic benefit from the Rural Development Programme (LEADER) 2014-2020 and other funding programmes which may come on-stream.

Co. Longford has a large number of voluntary community groups in operation currently who are recognised as the lifeblood of many of our rural villages and towns. In many cases our rural communities rely on these voluntary groups for social and economic development of their area. The role played by the community and voluntary sector has increasingly become more onerous and bureaucratic and greater responsibility is now placed on voluntary committees to deliver complex projects with limited resources.

Longford Community Resources CLG are seeking participants from Community groups to participate in a 2 day interactive training workshop which will be taking place on Saturday 12th January and Saturday 19th January 2019 in the EDI Centre, Mastertech Business Park, Athlone Road, Longford from 9am to 4pm both days. The training programme will include the following:

- Governance
- Formation of a Community Group (Constitution)
- Role of Management Committee Members
- Strategic Planning
- Funding Application Requirements - Tax Compliance, VAT Registration, Match Funding, Ownership, Planning Permission

Community Groups may now book a place on this 2 day training course by contacting Longford Community Resources CLG at 043-3345555 (as places are limited, numbers attending per group maybe restricted).



Tidy Towns Regional Conference Saturday 2nd February 2019

Booking is through the following link:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/better-links-stronger-communities-tidy-towns-conference-2019-tickets-54589995145>

and tickets are €5 each for the conference.



**Better Links
Stronger
Communities**
Tidy Towns Conference 2019

Knightsbrook Hotel, Trim, Co Meath
Saturday 2nd February 2019

Agenda

9.00 – 10.00	Registration, with Tea and Coffee	
10am	Welcome by MC	Hector O h'Eochagain
10.10 – 10.30	Sharon Eastwood	Catching the eye of the Adjudicator
10.30 – 10.50	Billy Flynn	Planting for Biodiversity
10.50 – 11.20	Debbie Nesbitt	Sustainable Waste and Resource Management
11.20 – 11.40	Q & A	
11.40 – 12.00	Break	Tea, Coffee, Biscuits
12.00 – 12.20	Juanita Browne	National Pollinator Plan
12.20 – 12.50	Billy Houlihan	Streetscapes and dealing with Derelict Sites
12.50 – 1.10	Listowel Tidy Towns	Succeeding at National Tidy Towns
1.10 – 1.30	Q & A	
1.30 – 2.30	Lunch – Served in Rococo Restaurant	
2.30	Patrick Curran	SMART Hospitality, Knightsbrook Hotel
2.40	Gavin Harte	Climate Change
2.50	Ricky Whelan	Birdwatch Ireland
3.00	Seán O' Laoide	VET - Responsible Dog Ownership
3.10	Dr Loreto Guinan	Working with Heritage/Conservation Officers
3.20	Ann-Marie Kelly	Better Links – Stronger Communities
3.40 – 4.00	Q & A	
4pm	Close	

**"An inspiring and
dedicated army of people
with a passion to make a
difference" -**

**Ní neart go cur
le chéile**

 

[Community Water Development Fund 2019](#)

The Local Authority Waters Programme is pleased to announce the launch of an open call for applications to the Community Water Development Fund 2019. Closing date for receipt of applications is **Tuesday 12th February 2019 at 7.00pm**. See link to webpage below for more information;

<http://watersandcommunities.ie/community-water-development-fund-2019/>

[Social Enterprise Development Fund](#)

WHAT IS THE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT FUND?

The Social Enterprise Development Fund is a €1.6 million fund which will be delivered over two years; 2018 – 2020. The fund was created by Social Innovation Fund Ireland (SIFI) in partnership with Local Authorities Ireland and is funded by IPB Insurance and the Department of Rural and Community Development. The Department of Rural and Community Development provides match funding for all funds raised by Social Innovation Fund Ireland, through the Dormant Accounts Fund.

The objective of the fund is to find and back social enterprises that have developed a project that will add to the social and economic fabric of their community by way of social impact. The fund will provide critical support to the most innovative and impactful projects proposed by social enterprises across Ireland.

WHAT DOES THE FUND OFFER?

CASH GRANTS

In 2019, the fund will support up to 16 Social Enterprises with cash grants and a place on the Accelerator Programme.

- Two Social Enterprises will receive a cash grant of €50,000
- Two Social Enterprises will receive a cash grant of €30,000
- Two Social Enterprises will receive a cash grant of €20,000
- Ten Social Enterprises will receive a cash grant of €10,000

The grants will be awarded to the best social enterprises in each of the following categories:

- Best Social Enterprise - Urban
- Best Social Enterprise - Town
- Best Social Enterprise – Rural

A minimum of three winners will come from each of the categories.

ACCELERATOR PROGRAMME

All successful applicants will win a place on Ireland's only National Accelerator Programme specifically designed for social enterprises. The Accelerator Programme will equip social

enterprises with the skills they need to scale up and deepen their social impact.

This intensive and practical 6-month programme provides training from best-in-class experts in the private, non-profit and public sector on key functions such as Strategic Planning, Impact Measurement, Financial Management, Governance, Business Modelling, Pitching, Storytelling and more. The Accelerator Programme also includes the financing of bespoke business and mentoring supports tailored to the needs of each organisation, such as market research, marketing plans and online impact strategies.

FINAL PITCH

This year, Social Innovation Fund Ireland has introduced an exciting new element to the Fund. At the close of the Accelerator Programme, each participating social enterprise will have the opportunity to pitch for a share of a €100,000 cash grant.

This further investment will be granted to the social enterprises which demonstrate the greatest potential for future impact and growth.

WHO CAN APPLY FOR THE FUND?

We are seeking applications from social enterprises that:

- Have a clear social mission that addresses a critical social issue
- Generate income from goods or services
- Are already up and running
- Reinvest any surplus into achieving their mission
- Have a not-for-profit legal form
- Are separate from government and state agencies
- Have their s its main impact in the Republic of Ireland

HOW TO APPLY TO THE FUND

The Social Enterprise Development Fund has been streamlined in order to allow for a more efficient open-call for applications. This year the open-call comprises of two stages:

Stage 1

Applications are open from the 15th November until the 25th January. At this point, applicants are invited to complete a short application form. Based on this initial form, Social Innovation Fund Ireland will identify a shortlist of applicants who will be invited to submit further information..

Stage 2

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to complete a more detailed application form on request. The submission deadline for the second stage of the application is 28th February 2019.

TO FIND OUT MORE, VISIT [SOCIALINNOVATION.IE/SOCIALENTERPRISE-DEVELOPMENT/](https://socialinnovation.ie/socialenterprise-development/)

Transformative Collage New Year Programme

We are delighted to return to Longford for a new year and new beginnings. These programmes are to support personal wellbeing and resilience.

“Transforms Wellbeing through Creativity, Therapies & Arts with our New Horizons Winter Programme”

Now more than ever we need to create space for wellbeing as it fundamental to personal growth and prosperity for everyone. Join us every Wednesday evening at 7pm until 9pm in Coffee House 45 Dublin Road for a high-quality personalized programme. Join professionals, educators, therapists and people with lived experience who work together in the community to play their part in improving mental wellbeing. The team works innovatively and effectively to promote equality and reduce the stigma that people with emotional sensitivity experience. All are welcome to join us at the café for a chat or take part in the programmes.

All programmes are **FREE** with a one off €5 registered fee per semester.

**TRC
LONGFORD**
AT COFFEE HOUSE 45

Every Wednesday Evening from 7 pm - 9 pm
New Seasons Programmes
Jan 16th Money Saving Tips & Techniques
Jan 23rd Craft Taster Session
Jan 30th Twin Hearts Meditation
Feb 6th Art Therapy 3 Week Programme

Art Therapy

Twin Hearts Meditation

Craft's

INSOMNIA

National Lottery

[Your Invite to Our Inaugural Social Enterprise Network](#)

As you may be aware, the idea of social enterprise is gaining currency in the community and voluntary sector as more and more organisations seek to maximise independently earned income.

With the Government having committed itself to the development of a social enterprise strategy (including a forthcoming public consultation in the spring), along with and an ever-increasing emphasis on social enterprise at the EU-level, now is the time to start seriously considering how your organisation could also benefit from this major growth area.

With these developments in mind, and true to our purpose of enabling our members to learn, collaborate and share through member-networks and 'communities of interest', we would like to invite you to join the newly established members' [Social Enterprise Network](#).

We have the [first meeting](#) of this network to discuss opportunities for our members in this space on **25 January 2018 from 11am to 12.45pm in Airfield Estate, Dundrum, Dublin 14**. Airfield Estate is a member of The Wheel and is a social enterprise, so it is a great opportunity to meet in a place that is already operating in the space that your non-profit might also be seeking to move into.

For this inaugural network gathering, we'll be getting the "lay of the land" with the following agenda:

- An overview of the National Social Enterprise Strategy - Ivan Cooper, Director of Public Policy, The Wheel
- Figuring out what members want in the Social Enterprise support space:
 - Social Enterprises that are commercially-driven and receive none [or minimal] state support – input from Grainne Kelliher, CEO, Airfield Estate
 - Group discussion on ideas and inputs.

We'll be listening closely to all inputs on the day so that we can better tailor future gathering of the Social Enterprise Network according to your needs. *Your participation is therefore essential to the success of this network.*

In addition to learning and information sharing, the network will also be a link for members into national and European policy-making systems and processes. It will greatly facilitate members to learn from each other in developing and growing more commercial approaches to their work.

[Please register for this FREE event here.](#)

If you are interested in joining the network but are not available on this date, [please register here](#). (Please explore our member-networks [here](#)).

Looking forward to seeing you on 25 January in Airfield ([directions here](#)).

Ivan

Ivan Cooper

Director of Public Policy

The Wheel | 48 Fleet Street, Dublin 2, D02 T883

Main line: (01) 454 8727 | E: ivan@wheel.ie | W: www.wheel.ie

News from Lus na Greine

News from LusnaGréine FRC – (043) 6660977

Family Wellness Programme: As we welcome the New Year many will take time to look at lifestyle choices, diet, fitness and relaxation. To support families to make positive change we have accessed some funding from the Healthy Ireland Fund. We intend to deliver a Family Wellness programme starting in February. It will include information and hands on workshops in nutrition, diet, cooking, fitness, meditation, relaxation and much more. For further details, call the centre.

Children's Groups: All Children's groups and afterschool projects return this week. New children welcome, great for socialising, building confidence, making friends and enjoying a host of projects. **Foróige Youth Club** meets every Thursday evening from 7pm to 8.30pm, ages 12 yrs and upwards. Contact Irene 0897056061.

“Knitter Natters Group”: Meet Mondays from 10am to 12pm. A great opportunity to learn the craft of knitting, embroidery, crochet etc. No need for previous experience as beginners welcome. All welcome.

Women in Touch Women's Group: Will meet after their Christmas break on Tuesday next the 22nd January, Coffee morning with time to chat and plan ahead for the group's 10th anniversary year. The group would love to open its doors to all women in the area.

‘Busy Bs’ Parent & Toddler Group: Will kick off the year on **Tuesdays** the 22nd January for six weeks so as to join the FREE ‘Play Together’ initiative launched by Longford Sports Partnership. This includes music, song and dance for babies from new born to under 5. Really enjoyable and magical experience. Time 10.30 – 12 noon.

Granard Art Club: Meet Wednesday 10-12 noon and love to welcome everyone to join them for a whole range of artistic options. Back this coming Wednesday the 16th.

Friday Seated Exercise Class over 50's: Starts back this Friday morning from 11am to 12.30pm. Contact Marian 0876387827.

SiopaLusnaGreine: Open Thursday – Saturday 10am-5pm. Donations of unwanted gifts etc greatly appreciated. All proceeds from An Siopa go directly to fund projects in our Community.

[News from The Wheel](#)

Charities Welcome Ministerial Order on New VAT Compensation Scheme

Charities Institute Ireland (Cii) and The Wheel have jointly welcomed the signing by the Minister for Finance of the Ministerial Order that brings the [VAT Compensation Scheme for Charities](#) into effect. The €5million scheme was announced in Budget 2018, and compensates charities for a proportion of the VAT they incur on expenditure related to independently raised income.

Charities will be able to claim for VAT paid from the 1st January 2018, and to make claims once a year for VAT paid in the previous year.

In a joint statement welcoming the announcement, Scott Kelley, Interim Chief Executive of Cii and Deirdre Garvey, Chief Executive Officer of The Wheel said: *“Irish Charities have worked closely with Department of Finance and Revenue officials on the detailed implementation of the VAT compensation scheme, and we are delighted that today the Minister has formally signed the Order which brings the scheme into effect.”*

[Read More](#)

Volunteering Strategy - Call for Input (submission closing 14 February)

The Minister of State at the Department of Rural and Community Development, Mr. Sean Canney, TD, has launched a Call for Input Paper on Volunteering.

[This paper](#) is the first step in developing a national volunteering strategy. It will inform stakeholders about the proposed development of a national volunteering strategy and seek their views on what constitutes volunteering and what this strategy should contain. If you would like to contribute your views on volunteering, please download the Submission Form [here](#).

[Find Out More](#)

Is Your Nonprofit Up for the Challenge?

Community and voluntary groups are invited to sign up to a new national initiative designed to help communities become more sustainable. Community projects that join the [Spark Change Challenge](#) by 31 January 2019 will be given access to expert advice, information resources, free training and small grants for local information events. In 2019, Ireland's top sustainability projects will be showcased at the inaugural Spark Change Awards.

The Spark Change Challenge was developed by The Wheel, the national association of nonprofits and Trinity College Dublin to help communities become more environmentally, economically and socially sustainable.

[Join the Challenge](#)

Reminder: Longford Local Forum Tuesday 29th January 2019

Longford Local Forum meets monthly:

Venue: Longford Library (Beside Tesco/Longford Shopping Centre)
Time: 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Dates: **Tuesday 29th January 2019**
Tuesday 26th February 2019
Tuesday 26th March 2019

Information Talks:

Tuesday 29th January 2019

Louise Morrissey – EOLAS Programme

Contact: mhengage.mlm@hse.ie Tel: 0873761552
Website: www.hse.ie/mentalhealthengagement

For People using Mental Health Services, Family Members, Carers