



County Longford Public Participation Network (PPN)

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PPN Newsletter January 2022 (Part 3)

FUNDING REMINDERS



Community Activities Fund (CAF) under the Community Enhancement Programme

Longford Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) invites online applications for grants towards running costs, to carry out necessary repairs & improvements to their facilities or to purchase equipment under the Community Activities Fund.

*Closing date for receipt of online application forms and uploaded supporting documentation is no later than **4pm on Wednesday 16 February 2022.***

For Online Application Form, Terms & Conditions and Guidelines please see our webpage [LCDC Community Activities Fund](#)

Community Groups are advised to familiarise themselves with these well in advance of the closing date and to commence their online application as soon as possible.

Fáilte Ireland Regional Festival & Participative Events Fund 2022



Longford Tourism are currently seeking applications for the Fáilte Ireland Regional Festival & Participative Events Fund 2022. This programme is aimed at supporting festivals and events, held up to 31st December 2022, which drive both domestic and

international tourism helping to increase economic activity within the community.

The objective of the scheme is to support community and voluntary groups who are organising a diverse range of projects and events. In addition, the festival or event must take place in County Longford, be a minimum of 2 days in duration and aim to attract international visitors. Closing date for applications is **Thursday, 3rd February 2022.**

Click here to download application form & guidelines

<https://www.longford.ie/en/news/festival-funding-2022.html>



Fáilte Ireland's new **Strategic Tourism Transport Business Continuity Scheme** is now open. The scheme will support tourism transport operators including Coach Tourism Operators, Tourism Chauffeur, Limousine Services, Tourism Vehicle Rental & Escorted Private Tours.

There is also a Inbound Agents Tourism Business Continuity Scheme which will support Inbound Tour Operators, Destination Management Companies & Professional Conference Organisers who sell Ireland's tourism product overseas.

Check eligibility & apply today: <https://www.failteireland.ie/tourism-business-continuity...>
<https://twitter.com/Failte.../status/1480911039529168896...>



An Roinn Tithíochta,
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage

Community Peatlands initiatives to benefit from €500k scheme

Community projects on bogs and peatlands all over the country are being encouraged to apply for up to half a million euro in community engagement funding from the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

This is a competitive scheme administered by the National Parks and Wildlife Service of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage with a total fund of €500,000 available in 2022 - the largest allocation of funding to date, and double the allocation of 2021.

The scheme seeks to encourage local peatland communities, local groups, local schools and interested parties to engage in the conservation and revitalisation of raised and blanket bogs, particularly protected bogs, and fens and to promote public engagement with and awareness of our natural heritage and environment.

Applications are now invited for a diverse range of peatland initiatives with a community benefit from events, education programmes, conservation management plans, restoration measures, feasibility studies, public amenity and recreational projects to invasive species and fire control measures. Applicants with an interest in local history and awareness of the importance of peatlands are being encouraged to apply. It is also hoped that schools will apply for funding. Last year, an Offaly School received €20,000 to reinstate a boardwalk on a local raised bog. Further information [here](#)

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](#)

Built Heritage Conservation Grants

A reminder that two conservation grant schemes for protected structures close for applications on Monday 31st January. If you require a short extension please let me know.

For information and the application form for the the Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2022, please visit: <https://www.longfordlibrary.ie/library/heritage/funding/built-heritage-investment-scheme/built-heritage-investment-scheme-2022/>

For information on and the application form for the Historic Structures Fund 2022 visit <https://www.longfordlibrary.ie/library/heritage/funding/historic-structures-fund/historic-structures-fund-2022/>

We are also taking applications for the Community Heritage Grants Scheme 2022. Visit: <https://www.longfordlibrary.ie/heritage/funding/community-monuments-fund/community-monuments-fund-2022/>

GLAS Traditional Farm Building Grant Scheme 2022

The 2022 GLAS traditional farm building grant scheme is OPEN for applications.

Interested GLAS participants must apply online for this grant scheme at www.heritagecouncil.ie We will not provide or accept paper forms.

The closing date for receipt of completed online applications is **5pm Tuesday 22nd February 2022.**

We will host a short information webinar for applicants interested in applying for the **2022 GLAS traditional farm buildings grant scheme on 27th January 2022 at 12pm.**

Please register in advance by emailing ameenan@heritagecouncil.ie

Heritage Council Community Heritage Grants Scheme

The Heritage Council also have their Community Heritage Grants Scheme open. For more information, please visit <https://www.heritagecouncil.ie/funding/community-heritage-grant-scheme-2022>

WEBINARS/WORKSHOPS/TRAINING

Invitation to a webinar on **Public Participation in Catchment Management on 3rd February 2022 at 10am – 12:30.**

The draft River Basin Management Plan is currently out for public consultation. As part of that consultation process the Water Forum is hosting this webinar to discuss best practice in public participation in catchment management and why it is essential to achieve the transformative change necessary to realise the objectives that Ireland has committed to in the next decade for water, biodiversity and climate.

Ireland has committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 50% by 2030; halting biodiversity loss by 2030; the Water Framework Directive and the River Basin Management Plan aims to bring all of Ireland's water bodies to good ecological status by 2027. While WFD policies and plans have been in place for a decade or more, all the recent EPA environmental monitoring reports show that the majority of environmental metrics continue to show declines.

To make meaningful progress towards achieving ambitious environmental targets, the Water Forum believes it is essential that communities and stakeholders are given the opportunity to design solutions and co-create action at local level. A recent EPA report shows that 85% of the Irish people surveyed are worried about the impact of climate change, 78% felt more should be done to mitigate climate change and 79% feel the protecting water resources is Ireland's greatest priority.

The Water Forum will host a webinar on **3rd February at 10am** to discuss how the gap might be bridged between the national policies and plans and the desire among citizens to deliver outcomes for the natural environment.

Academics will present research on best practice in public participation and tools for delivering such participative and deliberative democracy programmes. Organisations and community groups already involved in developing and delivering water and biodiversity plans and actions at local level will discuss their learnings and what further supports and frameworks will be required to achieve real progress towards meeting the objectives of national policies which impact water, biodiversity and climate.

The webinar programme is attached and the link for registration is below. [Registration LINK](#)

The Water Forum | AN FÓRAM UISCE www.thewaterforum.ie

Consultation on draft Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment guidelines for transport infrastructure projects

Following peer and stakeholder reviews, AMS is conducting a Public Consultation on behalf of TII on the new draft guidelines relating to Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment (CHIA). The Guidance and Standards aim to regulate assessment of the impacts on the Cultural Heritage of projects funded by or

carried out under the auspices of TII. These will particularly relate to the production and delivery of Cultural Heritage outputs for:

- Option Selection Reports
- Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIAR's), and/or
- Environmental Reports (ER's)

The purpose of these Guidances and Standards are to:

- Outline the application of CHIA during the planning, assessment, and design stages for proposed TII Projects.
- Outline the review process of the application and implementation of CHIA to ensure appropriate evaluation and analysis of the baseline (or receiving Cultural Heritage environment) within which a Project is being planned.
- Apply CHIA in a manner that is proportionate to the complexity and scale of a Project and the likely significance of its Cultural Heritage effects.
- Provide consistency to the consideration of CHIA during the planning, selection, design, assessment, and delivery phases of a Project as set out in TII's Project Management Guidelines (PMG), Project Manager's Manuals (PMM) and Project Appraisal Guidelines (PAG).
- Assist proposed Projects to achieve their Cultural Heritage objectives in line with legislative requirements and government policy, including enhancement of the Cultural Heritage environment and experience of the road user where possible.

To participate, please click on this link: https://www.ams-consultancy.com/tii-public_survey/

The survey will be open for thirty days. All submissions must be received by 9am Monday 21st February.

Peatlands Climate Action Scheme - Derraghan Bog

Bord na Móna is a climate solutions company building its renewable energy, recycling and carbon capture operations in the midlands and across Ireland.

In 2021 the company permanently ceased industrial peat production on all their peatlands. In line with Bord na Móna's accelerated decarbonization strategy, and the availability of government funding, the company has committed to ambitious enhanced peatland decommissioning and rehabilitation improvements, initially targeting over 30,000 hectares in over 80 Bord na Móna bogs. Under this Peatlands Climate Action Scheme (PCAS), enhanced rehabilitation has commenced on eighteen bogs in 2021 and additional bogs will be rehabilitated in 2022.

The enhanced rehabilitation scheme will deliver benefits across climate action by optimising carbon storage potential within the residual peat, reducing Green House Gas emissions and accelerating the development of carbon sequestration by promoting the development of Sphagnum-rich vegetation, where possible. This will also enrich the State's natural capital, increase eco-system services, strengthen biodiversity, improve water quality and storage attenuation as well as enabling the amenity potential of the peatlands. The measures proposed will set sites on an accelerated trajectory towards the development of a variety of habitats including developing natural peatland, wetland and woodland.

The rehabilitation measures will focus on optimising suitable hydrological conditions (water-levels) across the peatlands to maximise climate action benefits. The key target will be to bring water levels close to the peat surface to re-wet peat and accelerate the development of naturally functioning peatland habitats and the trajectory of sites to become reduced carbon sources and ultimately carbon sinks again.

Bord na Móna propose to carry out rehabilitation measures on **Derraghan Bog** under this scheme.

Bord na Mona's Derraghan Bog in County Longford is located circa 15km south-west of Longford town (Google location: <https://goo.gl/maps/gozzmD1y4uwXBH96>). A site location map of the bog is attached for information

purposes only. Derraghan Bog is part of the Bord na Móna Mountdillon Bog Group and the measures are part of the rehabilitation improvements being undertaken in this Bog Group.

Part of the improvements for bog rehabilitation work at **Derraghan Bog** is to finalise the rehabilitation plan, as required under the EPA licence, for this site. Bord na Móna operates under an Integrated Pollution Control (IPC) Licence issued and enforced by the EPA (IPC Ref. P0504-01). As part of Condition 10.2, a rehabilitation plan must be prepared for permanent rehabilitation of the boglands within the licensed area. Part of the process of developing a rehabilitation plan includes consultation with stakeholders and affected parties. This is part of that process.

This scheme is designed to enhance the ecosystem services of Derraghan Bog, in particular, optimising climate action benefits. The proposed interventions will mean that environmental stabilisation is achieved (meaning IPC obligations are met) and, in addition, significant other ecosystem service benefits particularly for climate action will be accrued. Bord na Móna have defined the key goal and outcome of rehabilitation at Derraghan Bog as environmental stabilisation, optimising residual peat re-wetting, and the development of embryonic raised bog on deep peat along with wetlands/Reed Swamp and fen on shallow more alkaline peat and other subsoils.

A Draft Rehabilitation Plan and associated Map Book for Derraghan Bog is now available on our website at the following location: <https://www.bnmpcas.ie/2022bogsrehabilitation/>

Bord na Mona invite you to make a submission or to comment on this Draft Rehabilitation Plan. Please make any such submissions to the email address (pcasinfo@bnm.ie) before 18th February 2022.

In addition, please contact us if you have any queries, require further information or wish to discuss the proposed rehabilitation in Derraghan Bog or the PCAS scheme in general.

Local News and Services



Melview FC Football for All - for children aged 6-12 years with Autism

- Fun football skills and games
- Children aged 6-12 years with Autism
- Qualified and experienced coaches

Where: Edgeworthstown Community Campus (behind St. Mary's National School)

When: Saturday morning 11am - 12pm

Contact: Sarah at melviewfc.ffa@outlook.ie or 086 150 6416



Faoin Speir Longford - Seeking Children's Stories and Fairytales from around the world

" Faoin Speir Longfoirt (Open Skies Longford) is a program of public art events in 2021/22, based around Connolly Barracks that is a response to the pandemic. The program is funded by the Arts Council and Longford County Arts Office.

Our final event is an outdoor children's theatre event on Sat 23rd Apr. The play will be based on several famous children's stories / fairytales from around the world, recognising the cultural contributions of the new communities that have made county Longford their home.

The temporary working title of the event is "The Selfish Giant's Garden". The play will be performed by professional actors and directed by Andy Crook.

We are seeking people from migrant communities living in Longford that will share with us, celebrated children's stories from their country.

People can contact Shane Crossan on 087-4144082 or email him on crossan.shane@gmail.com "

Public Art Project in County Longford – Invitation to submit proposals

Iora Nua – Squirrels Reimagined is a public art project in County Longford that aims to contribute positively to the county's social and tourism infrastructure, regeneration and citizen well-being. The Iora Nua sculpture currently situated in Longford County Council's Atrium is our project prototype.

This project is being developed by Mide Arts Group in partnership with Longford County Arts Office. Mide is a voluntary arts group that specialises in cultural projects that involve public spectacle.

Open Call

Longford Live & Local Winter Programme, in partnership with **Longford Arts Office & Mide Arts Group**, invite artist(s) to submit proposals for Iora Nua, a public art place-making project in County Longford. Iora Nua (Squirrels Reimagined), is a temporary public art project involving the placement of large-scale fibreglass squirrel sculptures in public locations across Longford's three municipal districts. Longford-based artists are invited to submit proposals for the design and rendering of the sculptures' surfaces.

Submission Deadline: 5pm, Monday 31st January. Submission by email only.

Please download the submission form and design template below.

[Iora Nua-Submission Form](#) [Download](#)

[Iora-Nua-Template](#) [Download](#)



Music Generation
Longford
an Longfoirt

Granard Community Library are delighted to announce that we are working with Music Generation Longford and now have Musical Instruments to rent. For more information please call into us or contact us on 043 668 6164 or email granardlibrary@longfordcoco.ie.

Childminding - Are you a childminder or thinking of becoming a childminder in your own home? Attached is a brochure from Longford County Childcare Committee aimed at offering support to childminders in Longford.

- 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](#)
- **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](#)

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

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

JOB VACANCIES

Longford County Council are now recruiting for the following position:

- **Fleet Manager**

Closing date for receipt of completed applications will be **4.00pm Friday 11th February 2022**

Full competition details including Application forms and Candidate Information Booklets can be accessed via www.longfordcoco.ie

- **Clerical Officer**

Expressions of interest are invited from suitably qualified persons for inclusion on a panel from which both permanent and temporary vacancies may be filled in respect of the position.

Closing date for receipt of completed applications will be **4.00pm Friday 11th February 2022**

Full competition details including Application forms and Candidate Information Booklets can be accessed via www.longfordcoco.ie

CE Supervisor Vacancy - Dromard Development Association, Legga, Moyne, Co. Longford

The role involves assisting in the recruitment of participants, their daily supervision, administration of accounts and budgets, reporting to sponsor group, working closely with the Board of Directors, and the implementation of individual learning plans for participants.

The key aspect is to maximise opportunities for participants through training & development towards long term employment.

It also involves preparation and presentation of reports, including up-to-date financial reports, to the Board of Directors at regular meetings.

CV, cover letter and copy of third level qualifications must be returned by 7th February 2022 to teresa@dromarddevelopment.com

NATIONAL NEWS

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

R.S.V.P. Campaign

“R.S.V.P. is the new Government campaign that aims to empower people to assess the risk involved in different activities by providing practical information and guidance.

R.S.V.P. encourages people to be risk aware, to think before they meet others, and to ask themselves the right questions about Risk, Symptoms, Venue and People Questions such as:

Risk. What's the risk? Am I vaccinated? Have I received my booster?

Symptoms. Am I currently showing symptoms of COVID-19?

Venue. Are they following the guidelines? Will I be wearing a mask?

People. How many people am I meeting? How many households are coming together?



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.
