



County Longford Public Participation Network (PPN)

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

fb: @longfordppn

Twitter: @LongfordPPN

Helen Gorman, PPN Support Worker, County Longford Public Participation Network, Longford County Council,
Great Water Street, Longford

PPN Newsletter July 2021 (Part 4)

Funding News



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

Our Rural Future: Ministers Humphreys, McConalogue and Hackett announce final call for applications to the LEADER Food Initiative

€5 million fund aimed at artisan, micro and small food businesses

Funding will help artisan, micro and small food businesses to respond to challenges posed by Brexit and COVID-19

LEADER programme a key plank of 'Our Rural Future'

Small food businesses are today (Tuesday, May 25th) being encouraged to apply for funding under the LEADER Food Initiative – a €5 million investment aimed at assisting businesses to deal with the challenges posed by Brexit and COVID-19.

The final call for applications was made by Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys, Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Charlie McConalogue and Minister of State for Land Use and Biodiversity, Pippa Hackett.

The funding will help artisan, micro and small food businesses to respond to challenges posed by Brexit and COVID-19, while also supporting diversification in agriculture.

In December 2020, Ministers Humphreys, McConalogue and Hackett announced the extension of the LEADER Food Initiative into 2021.

As part of that announcement, the maximum rate of aid available to projects involving economic activity was increased from 50% to 75% for project applications received on or after 1st April 2021.

Announcing the final call for applications, all three Ministers urged small food businesses to submit their applications.

Contact details for all Local Action Groups and their Implementing Partners (Local Development Companies) can be located [here](#):

LEADER 'Our Rural Future' funding – over €2.4 million allocated to Longford

- Local Groups can apply for funding immediately
- A total of €70 million to support rural communities and enterprises
- Funding allocations for 29 Local Action Groups announced
- Ground-Up approach of LEADER a key plank of Our Rural Future

The Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys T.D., has today (9th April 2021) announced the details of the allocation of the €70 million **Transitional LEADER programme** for the period 2021-2022.

- €65 million is being allocated to support locally-led rural development projects across the 29 Local Action Groups (LAGs)
- €3 million is being allocated to support the LEADER Cooperation measure which encourages rural areas to work together on collaborative projects
- €2 million will be allocated to prepare for the next LEADER Programme

Minister Humphreys has also today published the funding allocations being provided to each of the 29 Local Action Groups (LAGs).

More information on how and where to apply is [here](#)



The Wheel is delighted to announce that applications for funding are now open under the **Training Links** programme. Training Networks are invited to apply for grants ranging from €10,000.00 to €50,000.00.

Applications remain open until 5pm on Friday, 13 August 2021.

Programme Overview

Training Links funds community and voluntary organisations to form Training Networks – groups of a minimum of ten organisations who come together to undertake training that they may not have the opportunity to do individually. Since 2005, Training Links has supported the establishment of **90 Training Networks** involving in excess of **40,000 employees** and more than **850 community and voluntary organisations**.

Benefits of Training Links

- Collaborate with partners who have the same training and upskilling needs as your organisation by forming a Training Network
- Identify and meet your organisations training needs, with the support of your Training Network members
- Invest in learning and development opportunities for your staff and volunteers in order to build organisational capacity, and deliver your mission
- Cooperate and exchange best practice across your region, sub-sector or community of interest

- Build sustainable partnerships that will continue to develop into the future.

Funding & Application Process

The overall fund available for this programme is €315,00.00. Training Networks can apply for a minimum of €10,000.00, and a maximum of €50,000.00. Applications are open from **21 June 2021 – 13 August 2021 at 5pm.**

[DOWNLOAD APPLICATION FORM HERE](#)

Contact & Information

Find out all you need to know on [The Wheel's website](#), or get in touch by emailing me on traininglinks2021@wheel.ie.

Minister Humphreys Announces €800,000 Social Enterprise Start-up Fund

From [Department of Rural and Community Development](#)
Published on 15 July 2021

Programme to provide tailored supports to Start-up Social Enterprises

Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys, TD, today (Thursday, July 15th) announced the launch of the €800,000 Social Enterprise Start-up Fund.

The Fund will support social enterprises with small grants to help them expand their businesses and create jobs.

It is specifically aimed at early stage social enterprises which have a clear ambition to impact a critical social issue.

Full details of the Social Enterprise Start-up Fund are available at:

www.rethinkireland.ie

Social Enterprises

Social enterprises are businesses that work primarily to improve the lives of people. Their core objective is to achieve a social, societal, or environmental impact. Like other businesses, social enterprises pursue their objectives by trading in goods and services on an ongoing basis. However, surpluses generated by social enterprises are re-invested into achieving their core social objectives, rather than maximising profit for their owners.

They frequently work to support disadvantaged groups such as the long-term unemployed, people with disabilities, the Traveller community, etc., or to address issues such as food poverty, social housing, or environmental matters.

National Social Enterprise Policy

Ireland's first [National Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland 2019-2022](#) National Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland 2019-2022 was launched by the Department of Rural and Community Development on 18 July 2019, with the objective of creating an enabling environment for social enterprise to grow and contribute more fully to Ireland's social and economic progress.

The Policy is focused on three main objectives:

1. Building Awareness of Social Enterprise
2. Growing and Strengthening Social Enterprise
3. Achieving Better Policy Alignment

Rethink Ireland

Rethink Ireland is a national organisation supporting Ireland's best social innovations through cash grants and business supports.

They administer the Social Enterprise Development Fund on behalf of the Department of Rural and Community Development, a fund which will deliver €3.2M in grants and supports to social enterprise between 2018 and 2022.

Dormant Accounts Fund

The Dormant Accounts Acts 2001-2012, together with the Unclaimed Life Assurance Policies Act 2003, provide a framework for the administration of unclaimed accounts in credit institutions (i.e. banks, building societies and An Post) and unclaimed life assurance policies in insurance undertakings.

The main purpose of the legislation is to reunite account or policy holders with their funds in credit institutions or insurance undertakings and in this regard, these bodies are required to take steps to identify and contact the owners of dormant accounts and unclaimed life assurance policies.

However, in order to utilise the un-used funds in dormant accounts and unclaimed policies to best effect, the legislation also introduced a scheme for the disbursement of funds that are unlikely to be reclaimed from dormant accounts and unclaimed policies for the purposes of measures to assist:

1. the personal and social development of persons who are economically or socially disadvantaged;
2. the educational development of persons who are educationally disadvantaged; or
3. persons with a disability.

Social Enterprises work in many ways to assist people in these categories.

Strategic Infrastructure SPC meeting Agenda 29th July 2021

Longford County Council's Strategic Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee meeting will be held on **29th July 2021**. You are not required to attend this meeting but we do encourage you, if you have any issues or matters you would like raised at the meeting, to please contact the relevant PPN Reps (contact details below). Please see Agenda below. PPN reps will provide feedback for circulation to all members following the meeting. You are also invited to suggest items you would like included in the October meeting Agenda.

For more information on Strategic Policy Committees please see Longford County Council's Adopted Strategic Policy Committee Scheme 2019-2024 [here](#).

Previous SPC meeting feedback forms and related documents may be viewed at the PPN website [here](#).

PPN Representatives

Tess Murphy, gaique@live.com

Maria Keelty, mariakeelty@gmail.com

Stephanie Igoe, stephanieigoe@gmail.com

Local News and Services

Longford County Council are now recruiting for the following position:



- **Senior Staff Officer (Grade VI)**

Closing date for receipt of completed applications will be **4.00pm Friday 13th August 2021.**

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

Souvenir audio player launched for Longford Town Walking Trail



Longford County Council is delighted to announce the launch of a new multilingual souvenir audio player to complement the Longford Town Walking Trail. Cathaoirleach of Longford County Council Cllr Peggy Nolan officiated at the launch which took place on Thursday last, 15 July.

The 2km trail, established in 2018, covers 20 locations around Longford town starting off at the Market Square and taking visitors on a historic and sensory experience around the town, ending at the Convent of Mercy. A short video showcasing the walking trail and its new audio guide is available on the Longford Tourism YouTube Channel.

Souvenir audio players are available to buy from Longford Tourism for €5 alongside a map and brochure for the trail. These will also be available from Longford Branch Library in line with COVID-19 public health guidelines.

For information on things to do in County Longford, visit www.longford.ie and find out all you need to know about accommodation, food and drink, activities, events and more. You'll also find ready-made itineraries listed to help visitors plan ahead. Follow Longford Tourism on Social Media for further great ideas and activities. The local monthly events guide is also available on www.longford.ie.



Longford County Development Plan 2021 – 2027

Current Stage: Stage 4: Material Alterations to Draft Plan - Public Consultation

The Elected Council Members, having considered the Draft Longford County Development Plan 2021-2027 and the Chief Executive's Report on submissions received, resolved, following Council meetings dated 14th April, 12th May, 9th June and 21st June 2021, to amend the Draft Plan. These amendments constitute a material alteration to the Draft Longford County Development Plan 2021-2027. Longford County Council has screened the Proposed Material Alterations and has determined that Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) are required with respect to certain Proposed Material Alterations.

The proposed Material Alterations, the associated SEA Screening Determination and SEA Environmental Report, AA Screening Determination and AA Natura Impact Report are available for public display **from Monday 12th July 2021 until 4.00pm on Tuesday 10th August 2021** (both dates inclusive).

A full copy of the Longford County Development Plan 2021-2027 may be viewed at the Longford County Council website [here](#)

Longford Connected Communities (Broadband Connection Points)



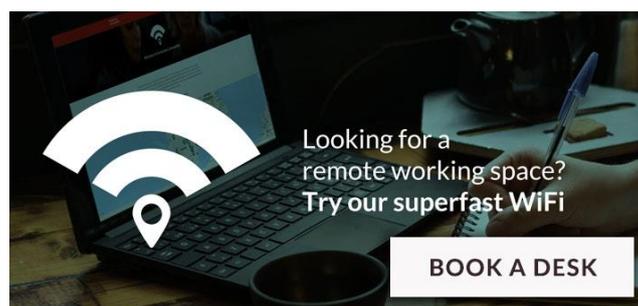
Longford Connected Communities



Connected Communities is the national communications name for the Broadband Connection Points (or BCPs) initiative.

Broadband Connection Points (or BCPs) are public locations which have been selected to receive 150Mb high-speed broadband connectivity in the first year of the National Broadband Plan. A BCP, is a location where public WIFI will be provided. People living in the general area shall then be able to make use of the broadband as they require. 8 locations were selected and approved in County Longford. The 8 Longford locations are made up of public buildings, community centres and sports clubs. All BCP's offer external access to high-speed broadband and some offer internal access. 9 primary schools will be connected but **will not be** providing public WIFI access. [Mullinalaghta Community Centre](#) and Ballymore Shamrocks GAA Grounds were one of the first live BCPs in the state. Click here to view press release [Connected Communities](#).

The following sites are now live Mullinalaghta Community Centre, [The Latin School Community Centre Moyne](#), [Abbeyshrule Airfield](#) and Moydow Community Centre are offering both internal and external access to HSB. If you wish to book a desk please complete the booking form available at: <https://bit.ly/3kv2STI> Ballymore GAA, Colmcille GAA, Carrickedmond GAA, and Corlea Trackway Visitor Centre are offering external access at present.



For more information on where to find your nearest BCP point visit Longford County Council's website webpage on BCPs [here](#)

Customer Services Charter



Longford County Council has officially launched the Council's Customer Services Charter. We have drawn up this Customer Services Charter so that you, the Customer, are clear on the quality of service you can expect from us in Longford County Council.

Central to our Customer Services Charter is our aim to stay connected with all our customers.

This Charter gives our customers a clear and comprehensive statement of service they can expect from the Council and a means to engage more effectively with service areas.

As a public service provider, we value quality customer service in every area of our work and for everyone who uses our services.

Longford County Council will work continuously to monitor and improve our service for all our customers.

[Customer Services Charter](#)



HERITAGE WEEK 2021

National Heritage Week is taking place this year from the 14th to the 23rd of August next. We have a blend of online events, presentations and – COVID restrictions allowing – live in-person events taking place in the county. We are inviting individuals and groups to participate. We would especially welcome online events, either Zoom or Microsoft Teams talks, or short video presentations that we can schedule online during Heritage Week. We had a fantastic response to our online programme last year, which allowed our local heritage to be even more accessible to a local, national, and even international audience. If you have a video idea, please get in touch as video and editing assistance is available.

<https://www.heritageweek.ie/>

Protect Our Past campaign

A new campaign entitled *Protect Our Past* launched this week, urging visitors to heritage sites to be mindful of their actions over the summer. The focus of the campaign is to raise awareness of the value, importance and sensitivity of Ireland's built heritage and to convey some key messages around visitor behaviour at monuments.

The campaign is a joint initiative of the Office of Public Works and the National Monuments Service (DHLGH). A short guide has been produced for visitors (available here:

https://issuu.com/obair/docs/protecting_our_past)

There are over 145,000 recorded archaeological monuments around the country in private and public ownership, with latest research suggesting evidence of human activity in Ireland well over

10,000 years ago. Examples of archaeological monument types in Ireland include megalithic tombs, stone circles, standing stones, rock art, ecclesiastical enclosures, churches, graveyards, ringforts, souterrains, crannógs and castles.

As people enjoy a summer exploring Ireland, the two Departments are encouraging people to visit the many varied heritage sites that Ireland boasts but to be especially mindful of how fragile, vulnerable, and irreplaceable our heritage sites can be. Recent evidence of graffiti and anti-social behaviour at several of Ireland's most significant monuments - some of which are ancient burial sites - has illustrated the need for more respectful behaviour. Some archaeological sites are suffering damage that threatens the preservation of archaeological remains. Small fires and ground disturbance, for example, which may be carried out with no ill intention, can destroy or seriously damage these monuments

Over the coming weeks the Department and OPW will be sharing on respective social media channels a series of animated videos to highlight the impact that inappropriate behaviour can have on sites. They hope that raising awareness of the value of these sites will lead to an even wider appreciation and understanding of their significance and help in their protection. These will have the hashtag #ProtectOurPast.

#ProtectOurPast campaign information is available on www.gov.ie/opw/. with further information available at <https://www.gov.ie/en/news/4ceab-protecting-our-past/>



New Irish Language Learning Resources in the Library

A new selection of Irish books specifically written for adult learners of Irish have recently been purchased by the library. Also available a FREE Language course via the Library website. Click on "Online Library and Electronic Resources" followed by "Language Courses" gives the adult learner access to interactive and engaging courses in over 120 different languages including Irish. These courses are suitable for beginners and lower intermediate levels.

Email: library@longfordcoco.ie

A short video on the **National Childcare Scheme** below. This video may be helpful to parents accessing childcare supports for the first time.

National Childcare Scheme YouTube video [here](#)

Eligibility for ECCE

The Early Childhood Care and Education Programme (ECCE) programme is a universal two-year pre-school programme available to all children within the eligible age range.

The programme is provided for three hours per day, five days per week over 38 weeks per year and the programme year runs from September to June each year.

There is one point of entry at the beginning of the programme year. The programme will be available to all children who have turned 2 years and 8 months of age before September 1st as long they won't turn 5 years and 6 months of age on or before June 30th of the programme year.

The programme is available to all children from the September after the child has turned 2 years and 8 months. Link to the calculator <https://longfordchildcare.ie/.../ecce.../ecce-calculator/>

Longford's 'Green Keep It Clean Campaign' If any individuals or households would like to take part in the "Longford's Green Keep It Clean" initiative, they're invited to contact their local Tidy Towns group. Any questions or queries can be referred to Gary Brady Environmental Awareness Officer on 043 33 43451 or via email to gbrady@longfordcoco.ie. Press Release [here](#)



HSE Resource Office for Suicide Prevention Longford/Westmeath & Louth/Meath

Some of the services provided below:

- Awareness and Training Programmes
- Suicide Bereavement Liaison Service
- Local and National Supports and Services
- Information/Signposting Posters, Leaflets and other resources:

Contact: The Health Centre, St. Joseph's Campus, Dublin Rd., Longford Tel: 086 380 1152 Email: eddie.ward@hse.ie



Longford Community Call Helpline: 043 3344255 or Freephone 1800 300 122

Keep Well Campaign: Further details on all activities and initiatives at county level will be made available on the Council's website www.longfordcoco.ie

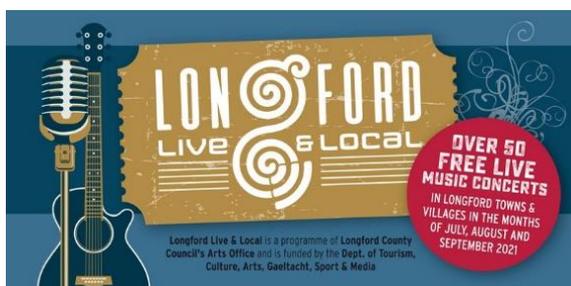
What's On



Longford Tourism Please see link to **August Events Guide:** [here](#)

Below is a link to a new video launched yesterday to promote the Royal Canal Greenway in Longford.

<https://www.longford.ie/en/visit/trails/royal-canal-greenway/>



Over 50 live outdoor music events to take place around county – more information at the link below

<https://www.longford.ie/en/events/longford-live-local-outdoor-music-programme.html>

WORKSHOPS/WEBINARS



Free Video Workshops for Nonprofits

The 2021 Charity Impact Awards are launching soon. Sign up for our free video storytelling course to help your entry shine!

We know that making a video can be intimidating, especially if you have limited time, budget, or experience.

That's why we've brought in **Glen Mulcahy, founder of Titanium Media and former Head of Innovation with RTÉ**, to teach you how to tell your story on film — without spending a fortune (or anything at all).

[SIGN UP HERE](#)



**GLEN
MULCAHY**

The former head of Innovation with RTÉ, Glen has inspired and driven the growth of mobile journalism within RTÉ's newsroom and across other European broadcasters.

Glen has trained over 5,000 journalists in the US, Europe and the Middle East, across television, radio, print and online. He is the founder of Titanium Media and MojoFest, an annual international conference which explores professional mobile content creation.

Session 1: An Introduction to Video on a Budget - now closed

15 July 2021, 4pm to 5pm

This session introduces mobile video storytelling, showing just how much of an impact it can make.

We'll look at case studies from a wide variety of industries, and explain how you can build the skills to tell incredible stories using a device you already have in your pocket!

After this session, you must complete a short assignment over the summer to attend Sessions 2 and 3.

Session 2: Filming Interviews and Sequences

31 August 2021, 10am to 12:30pm

In this workshop we will explore tried and tested techniques for shooting a compelling video.

We will explore the secret of the 5-shot sequence and how it is the foundation of visual storytelling. Using examples and case studies, we will deconstruct some TV reports to explore how sequences and interviews were used in the construction of a narrative.

This workshop will include a practical shoot exercise, and a short video assignment to be completed before the final session.

Session 3: Editing, Audio, Graphics, and Subtitles

7 September 2021, 10am to 12:30pm

In this final workshop we will take the assignment material created after Session 2 and use it to build an edited story.

To finish, we will add graphics, branding, and subtitles.

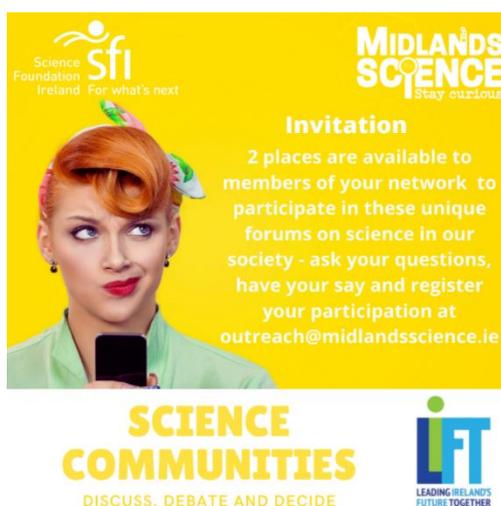
The training is completely free, but as spaces are very limited we ask that you consider the following before signing up:

- Attendees are asked to commit to all three sessions: this is a course of training rather than a series of standalone workshops.
- Your organisation should be planning to enter the Charity Impact Awards in September. This will involve completing a written application and submitting a video about your organisation's work. Full details will be available later in the summer at charityimpactawards.ie.
- The workshops require you to have access to a smartphone that can record video. You will be asked to download several free apps for the editing process.

We're looking forward to seeing you there!

SIGN UP HERE

charityimpactawards.ie



You are invited to attend Science Communities - Science Communities is an exciting new project funded by Science Foundation Ireland.

The project is designed to create dialogue between people in the Midlands and those involved in science and public policy. It is your chance to have your say on issues in science and how it affects your life. This project is a unique opportunity for people to enhance their skills engage with science and how it impacts

their communities. It will consist of four short interactive forums and a LIFT training day. These forums will feature leading Professor of Biochemistry and Immunology, Luke O' Neill, representatives of the RSCI and policy agencies

As an additional benefit, all 'Science Communities' participants will be offered free training in LIFT facilitation skills. LIFT is a not for profit organisation that aims to increase the level of positive leadership in Ireland.

Given the current restrictions that are still in place nationwide, these forums and the LIFT training day will all take place online. The LIFT training day will be a full day-long event during **week commencing July 19th, with the forums running one per month from August to November (August 19th, September 22nd, October 20th & November 24th).**

Participation at the event is limited and as a key organisation in the midlands, we are inviting your organisation to nominate 2 representatives to attend the forums and take part in the discussions and training.

Aoife Scanlon

Public Engagement Executive

Phone: 057 9323 902

Email: outreach@midlandsscience.ie Address: 2nd Floor, Block 6, Central Business Park, Tullamore, Co. Offaly.

Website: www.midlandsscience.ie



Community Health & Wellbeing Podcasts

given by the Health Promotion Officer, Mental Health (Midlands)

Conversations vary and range from family-related issues to Men's health to the impact of domestic violence on children. Longford Talks are part of a collection of Mental Health & Wellbeing podcasts created for the Midlands.

To access Longford Talks, please use any of the following links: <https://lclrl.ie/longford-talks/> Alternatively, you can access them on Spotify by searching 'Longford Talks' on the App.



Gauge of community support in Longford for an Irish Government initiative on a UN Resolution calling for a global ban on fracking.

Information on the petition [link](#) with another link here to the initiative. <https://twitter.com/UNBanOnFracking/status/1386677542137077769>

Safety Before LNG www.SafetyBeforeLNG.ie Tel: 087-2804474

NATIONAL NEWS



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

**Well-being Framework for Ireland: first report
published by Department of the Taoiseach**

This week, the Department of the Taoiseach published its first report on the Well-being Framework for Ireland.

The Report reflects the first phase of this work, and it will be followed by further consultation phases. Both the Department of the Taoiseach's report and the NESC Council report are available to view here: <https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/fb19a-first-report-on-well-being-framework-for-ireland-july-2021/>

As PPNs have been involved in the consultation on this national Well-being Framework, we would appreciate if you could share this with your member groups.

An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail

Department of Rural and Community Development

You are invited to Talking Art Online

The Irish Museum of Modern Art (IMMA), in collaboration with the Department of Rural and Community Development, wishes to connect with groups or individuals in rural areas to participate in the free Programme of 'Talking Art Online' for adults. This free programme aims to provide people with poor or no internet connection with the opportunity to take part in online artistic and cultural programmes through the free connectivity offered at their local Broadband Connection Point (BCP)

This free programme will take place on: • Wednesday July 21st from 11am-12pm • Wednesday August 18th from 11am-12pm Participants wishing to take part must attend the session from a Broadband Connection Point – poster attached



Launch of Upcycle Challenge 2021

€6,000 worth of prizes to be won

The Upcycle Challenge is a yearly competition that encourages people to look at the objects around them and to give them a new lease of life. The challenge is simple, find something that is no longer in use and transform it into something new. By creating unique pieces and submitting them to the competition, the lucky winners will be in with a chance to

share €6,000 in prize money across a range of different categories.

The Upcycle Challenge helps to highlight how easily and creatively reuse can be applied to everyday life. Ireland is consuming at a rate that is unsustainable and by keeping items in circulation for longer, it will help to reduce the environmental burden on our planet. By embracing the circular economy we can extend the life of objects that we buy and use.

The Upcycle Challenge was launched by the Minister of State with Responsibility for the Circular Economy, Ossian Smyth TD. Minister Smyth TD stated "I am delighted to officially launch the Upcycle Challenge 2021. The Upcycle Challenge is an opportunity for people to tap into their creativity and to take on the challenge of making something unique. There is a wealth of materials already in circulation in our homes, second-hand shops and many resale websites. Taking these existing items and upcycling them allows us to make something truly unique. Projects like this demonstrate the value of the circular economy in meeting climate action ambitions and provide an opportunity for us all to be part of the solution."

Philippa King, Southern Region Waste Management Office Coordinator stated, "The Upcycle Challenge is in its fifth year, and it just keeps getting better. Each year I am astounded by the level of creativity and ingenuity from the applicants. I particularly enjoy seeing the journey that they took to create the finished product. We have secured some great prizes for this competition and it is open to applicants from all over Ireland. I am looking forward to seeing this year's submissions and being inspired once again by the upcycling talent that is in all of us."

The competition is open for applications on mywaste.ie between Monday 5th July 2021 and Friday 15th October 2021. To successfully showcase the creation of the upcycled item, the participants must include before and after pictures along with some information about the inspiration behind the finished product. Winners will be announced at the Upcycle Challenge Awards Ceremony, which will be held on Thursday 18th November 2021. Prizes are sponsored by the Regional Waste Management Offices and the Environmental Protection Agency.



RE: PHONE SCAMS – ALLEGING TO BE FROM AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA

This message is to alert you to a Phone Scam involving fraudsters claiming to be members of An Garda Síochána.

Please be vigilant and alert your family, friends, colleagues and others in your networks and communities to help to protect everyone from this type of crime.

As I'm sure you are aware, in recent days Gardaí have received reports of people receiving phone calls from fraudsters claiming to be members of An Garda Síochána. The number calling appears to be the phone number of a genuine Garda station.

There are several stages to these scam calls –

1. The person receiving the call is subjected to a pre-recorded or automated message that prompts them to select an option.
2. The person is then put through to a person alleging to be a member of An Garda Síochána.

3. The scammer either looks for personal information or informs the person that their details have been involved or linked to a crime.
4. After giving over personal details the victim receives a follow up call from another scammer seeking more details on behalf of An Garda Síochána (This call appears to be coming from a genuine Garda station number).

An Garda Síochána will never make contact with members of the public in this fashion. Most members of the public realise these type of calls are not legitimate and do not engage with the scammers.

However, we at An Garda Síochána appreciate that a section of society may have very little to no previous interaction with An Garda Síochána and may be more susceptible to this type of fraud.

With this in mind the Garda National Diversity and Integration Unit have decided to reach out through our various networks to highlight this scam to all.

On receipt of these communications, the advice of An Garda Síochána is as follows:

Do not engage with the caller.

Do not return the call.

Do not follow the automated instructions – Do not press 1 etc.

Never transfer money.

Never disclose personal or financial information.

Hang up and end the call.

Whilst the scammers may change their stories and methods, their goal is always the same – they want to access your sensitive information and get their hands on your money. Gardaí are urging the public to spread the word of fraud prevention as people continue to fall victim to scams on a daily basis. In many cases the subsequent call from the fraudsters appears to provide reassurance to the victim that this is a legitimate call, which it is not.

If you believe you may have fallen victim to this scam, contact your financial institution and report the matter to your local Garda station.



Sergeant Geraldine Greene

Garda National Diversity & Integration Unit
Garda National Community Engagement Bureau



Harcourt square 01-6663150 / 087-0601849





New Website to Search all local Government Jobs

In conjunction with the Local Authority sector, the Local Government Management Agency have developed a new website to advertise and promote employment opportunities in the Local Government sector - www.localgovernmentjobs.ie.

The new website officially launches today to coincide with #YourCouncilDay.

All local authority jobs, including national and sectoral vacancies, will be advertised on localgovernmentjobs.ie.

In addition to our other platforms, Longford County Council will advertise external vacancies on this website going forward.

Be Summer Ready 2021



The Government of Ireland recently launched the 'Be Summer-Ready' campaign to provide information on issues that may affect the general public this summer.

This year, there is a particular focus on water safety as Ireland's waterways and beaches become very popular in the summer. Sadly, this can lead to associated risks including drowning accidents. So we are asking everyone to 'be alert to water safety'. More information and tips are available at www.gov.ie/summerready

