

Ours to Share - Survey



As part of the Rural Community Network's newest heritage project, 'Ours to Share', we are undertaking a survey to gain a better understanding of what heritage means to rural communities, what types of projects rural community groups have been involved in and what support is needed in rural areas in regards to heritage. This will help shape the future of this project in relation to funding opportunities, training, and events.



Link to survey - <https://forms.gle/Nd9GLAUnSwbuXPm8A>
Closing **Friday 20th August at 5pm.**

Partition: What did it do for us?

RCN in partnership with The Junction Community Relations and Peace Building is holding a series of courses. Each will be delivered via Zoom from 2 - 3.30pm



1. The Road to Partition – **19th August**
2. State Security and State Religion – **26th August**
3. The Partition of Irish Unionism – **2nd September**
4. The Partition of Irish Nationalism – **9th September**
5. The Boundary Commission: An Exercise in Futility – **16th September**
6. What will we do with the future? – **23rd September**

To register contact craig@ruralcommunitynetwork.org

DAERA Draft Rural Policy Framework

Rural Policy Framework
for Northern Ireland



Rural Community Network is holding a Zoom workshop with members and other rural stakeholders on

Tuesday 24th August from 7.00 – 8.30pm

to discuss DAERA's Draft Rural Policy Framework. The Rural Policy Framework is the replacement for the Rural Development Programme which was funded by the EU. DAERA is currently consulting on the Policy Framework with a deadline for responses on 6th September.

The link to download the Draft Rural Policy Framework and supporting documents is [here](#).

DAERA is also holding a series of consultation workshops on the thematic pillars within the Framework via Zoom. For information on those workshops click [here](#).

To register for RCN's workshop on the consultation phone 028 8676 6670 or email kathryn@ruralcommunitynetwork.org

Funding local peacebuilding at grassroots

Rural Community Network is delighted to have been awarded a 2-year investment in its Rural Peacebuilding and



Good Relations programme from Community Relations Council as part of an investment of over £1.2 million aimed at a grassroots level with groups dedicated to good community relations across Northern Ireland. The Core Funding Scheme provides support for organisations which are considered of strategic importance in promoting community relations work across the entire region.

At the core of RCN's work is an ambition to work with local groups to support them to address the legacy of the past and move them towards a more shared and peaceful future. Other recipients include Holywell Trust, Community Relations Forum and Building Communities Resource Centre.

Together for our Planet



The National Lottery Community Fund is opening a new small grants programme on 1st September called [Together for our Planet](#). This programme will

support communities across the UK to take action on climate change.

If interested a virtual information session will be held on **Monday, 16 August at 2:00pm** which is aimed at groups who have never applied for funding from The National Lottery Community Fund. If you are interested [book your place now](#).

For more information contact the team at togetherforourplanet@nlcommunityfund.org.uk

Rural Community Awards competition

NIHE is delighted to launch 2021 Rural Community Awards competition.

NIHE was so encouraged by the response to the 'Community Champion' award that it is to be included again this year.

There are also two new awards which are aimed specifically at young people to recognise the importance of engaging children and young people in community activities and the vital contribution they can make.

In total, there are 5 different awards up for grabs this year for both North and South regions. The application form is straightforward and the prize money and individual prizes would go a long way towards extending and developing community activities.

Feel free to share this application with rural community groups or stakeholders who may be interested.

The application is also available on: <https://www.nihe.gov.uk/Documents/Community/Rural-Community-Awards-application.aspx>

For further information contact Sinéad Collins
Rural & Regeneration Manager
Tel 028 9598 2507 ext 82502 or
Email: Eoin.McKinney@nihe.gov.uk



Register for vote

From 1 July 2021, the electoral register in Northern Ireland will be renewed as part of the national canvass. If you want to vote you must register, even if you have registered before. You'll be asked for your National Insurance number (but you can still register if you do not have one). After you've registered, your name and address will appear on the electoral register. There's a different process to [register anonymously](#). Check if you're already registered [Contact your local Electoral Registration Office](#) to find out if you're already registered to vote.

<https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>

Discretionary Support Review

The Minister for Communities has appointed an independent, expert panel to review the Discretionary Support scheme which provides financial support to individuals in crisis situations in Northern Ireland.

Discretionary Support is designed to support people who live in Northern Ireland and need short-term financial help. The panel would like to hear from people who have used the Discretionary Support scheme and organisations who support people to use the service. The panel aims to provide recommendations for improvement to the Minister for Communities by 1 October 2021. If you would like more information on the review, please email the panel. discretionarysupportreview@communities-ni.gov.uk
<https://www.ulster.ac.uk/discretionarysupportreview>

Future Planning Model Seminar

NICVA seminar on the Future Planning Model Integrated Care System NI Draft Framework which will give attendees an opportunity to get directly involved in the consultation discussions with the Dept of Health representatives.

Tuesday, 31 August - 11am to 1pm | Online event

Sign up here: [Future Planning Model - Integrated Care System NI consultation event | NICVA](#)

