

Looking Back to Go Forward

As we emerge from the pandemic and a cost of living crisis seems to get worse by the day how do you see the future of rural communities across NI? DAERA has developed its Rural Policy Framework but how will it be implemented and what actions would you like to see?

We are hosting a half day conference on the future of rural development funding delivery on

Thursday 23 June in O'Neill Arms Hotel Toomebridge from 10am to 1:30pm.

Professor Ruth McAreavey, Newcastle University will present findings and recommendations from her research commissioned by RCN and NIRWN on LEADER in Northern Ireland.

This is an in-person only event and **registration is essential.**

To register email kelly@ruralcommunitynetwork.org or call 028 8676 6670



Ours to Share Grant Round 2

Funded by the Northern Ireland Heritage Lottery Fund, we've just opened a second round of the Ours to Share grants programme.

The aim of the programme is to encourage rural

communities to engage with heritage in an inclusive way. We are particularly interested in receiving applications from groups wanting to try a heritage project for the first time.

We anticipate making 8 grants of up to £3,500 for projects taking place between 01 September 2022 and 31 January 2023.

The closing date for applications is **5pm on Thursday 30 June.**

More information including the programme guidance notes and application form is available [here](#) and if you want to discuss a project idea, please contact Nigel McKinney, nigel@ruralcommunitynetwork.org



2022 Summer Institute

University of Massachusetts Boston, (UMASS) in partnership with Ulster University's INCORE and the John Hume and Tip O'Neill Chair in Peace and community-based charity International Peace Education Resources (IPER) invite applications for the **2022 Summer Institute** on Peacebuilding, Public Order and Conflict Management. It is delivered by UMASS and Ulster University professors from INCORE and the Hume O'Neill Chair, Rural Community Network, Holywell Trust, Bloody Sunday Trust, the Newgate Centre, and other high profile activists and politicians from across the spectrum in Northern Ireland.

This will take place on **the 8th - 18th July 2022 (in person)** **Ulster University, Magee Campus, Derry/Londonderry** For more information and to apply, please follow the link below:

<https://www.ruralcommunitynetwork.org/news/2022-summer-institute-on-peacebuilding-public-order-and-conflict-management/>

Rural Remote Working

Rural remote working offers opportunities to support rural development, help reduce commuting and congestion and support health and wellbeing.

RCN along with the Centre for Cross Border Studies are hosting this event at **10am on the 28th June in the Junction, Dungannon**, where we will learn and consider:

- **Lessons from the work in developing remote working hubs in Ireland**
- **Policy around development of remote working hubs in Northern Ireland**
- **Actions needed to better support rural communities take next steps**

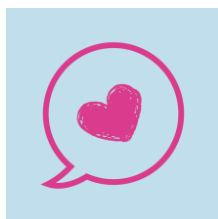
We will hear from officials and practitioners north and south and also engage in small group discussion on the actions needed to further support and develop rural remote working here.

Register [here](#)

Organ Donation Law Change

Next spring 2023, the organ donation system in Northern Ireland is changing to an opt-out system.

Dáithí's Law will mean, in the event that organ donation is a possibility after you die, it will be considered that you agree to being an organ donor unless you choose to opt-out or are in an excluded group. The best way to opt-out is to register a decision [not to donate on the NHS Organ Donor Register](#). You can find out more about the law change and your choices at www.organdonationni.info



Mindset Mental Health Awareness

Mindset is funded by the Public Health Agency and aims to raise awareness and increase knowledge and understanding of Mental and Emotional Health and Wellbeing, promote self-help/resilience techniques, self-care and provide information and/or resources on mental health support organisations available (locally and regionally) To book a spot please contact:
E: amhmenssanani@amh.org.uk
T: 028 9442 5356



Climate Change Awareness Talk

Interested in becoming more climate smart in your home, business, local community group or workplace?
Wondering where to start?
Why not join one of the free online Climate Change Awareness talks, available across Northern Ireland. This stand-alone training, delivered virtually in under two hours, offers valuable insight into climate change, and an awareness of the impacts and risks for Northern Ireland.

Please contact Scott Howes at scott.howes@keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org to organise this for your staff/group at no cost.

Gambling with Lives

Gambling with Lives is a charity that was set up in 2018 by families bereaved by gambling-related suicide. We soon found we weren't alone: research suggests there are up to 650 gambling-related suicides every year in the UK.

That's why in 2021 we launched our ground-breaking education programme, which aims to provide young people with as much complete information as possible so that they know the risks of engaging with harmful gambling products.

If your school, community group, or youth club is interested in us delivering the programme in the classroom, then please get in touch with Barry Fennell (barry@gamblingwithlives.org), our Programme Manager for Northern Ireland.

The Fibrus Community Fund

The Pandemic has massively increased our use of technology and it now plays a vital role in our daily lives. The fund is aimed at addressing digital poverty by awarding grants of up to £2,000 to enable local groups and organisations in particular areas, to provide access to digital technology for the most vulnerable in that community, with a particular focus on older people and young people aged 18 and under to address the digital divide. The closing date is **June 20th at 1pm**.

For more information and to apply, please follow the link below:

<https://communityfoundationni.org/grants/the-fibrus-community-fund/>

Micro Community Fund

The fund will enable those organisations who are making the lives of others in their communities better, by improving their financial, physical, and mental wellbeing. There is no deadline for this fund, to apply and for further information check out:

<https://communityfoundationni.org/grants/micro-community-investment-fund/>

