

PPN Connect Project- Getting back on track

This edition of the PPN Newsletter is issued as part of the **PPN Connect Project**.

This information brief provides up-to-date funding information for communities and groups and includes information about opportunities from local, national and EU sources. We have also included other useful information for your groups at this time.

In our efforts to find useful resources for you, we realised that ‘getting online’ will play an increasingly important part in our day-to-day lives. In this issue you will, therefore, also find information on webinars and ‘how to get online’. Moreover, by including advice, protocols and checklists we hope that you and your groups can begin talks of how to **‘get back on track’** and resume your important work safely, as soon as it is possible to do so. Please continue to adhere to national advice as regards physical distancing.

(All information is quoted directly from funder).

Stay informed [here](#) or on Twitter @GalwayCoPPN #PPNConnect

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FUNDING AND SUPPORT

Funding and Supports from the Department during COVID 19

In addition to the measures which have been introduced by the Department of Rural and Community Development for community and voluntary organisations, the Government has put in place a **range** of supports and guidance for businesses impacted by COVID-19. A downloadable guide to these supports and their **eligibility criteria** is available [here](#).

- Find out more about the Covid-19 '**Restart Grant**' for County Galway and apply [here](#).
- Further enhanced supports for businesses were announced by the Government on 2nd May 2020. Details of these supports are available [here](#). (Community and voluntary organisations, charities and social enterprises may find some of these supports and/or advice to be of interest).



Social Finance Foundation announces funding initiatives for community organisations and social enterprises

A recent announcement by Social Finance Foundation, of two new Agreements will mean **greater access to social finance loans** for organisations in the social sector.



Under the **first** Agreement, the Irish banks (AIB/EBS, Bank of Ireland, permanent tsb and Ulster Bank) will make available an additional €44 million in low cost funding to the Foundation over the period 2021 to 2025.

Under the **second** Agreement, the European Investment Fund has agreed to provide loan guarantees totalling €25m to support new lending by the Foundation. The €25m Loan Guarantee is being made available under the European Union's Employment and Social Innovation programme, part of the Investment Plan for Europe.

[Full details here.](#)



€70,000 COVID-19 Response Fund for Connemara, Co. Galway

SSE Renewables and Greencoat Renewables, joint owners of Galway Wind Park, have launched a €70,000 COVID-19 response fund to support local communities located within **10km** of the facility.

The funding, which is being made **immediately available**, will support community groups that are currently mobilising a rapid response to support those most-in-need as a direct result of the impact of the Coronavirus outbreak.

In addition to supporting rapid response initiatives that are currently being mobilised, funding will also be available for projects that will **help rebuild our community** in the months ahead.

[Full details here.](#)

Páirc Ghaoithe
na Gaillimhe
Galway Wind Park



sse Renewables **GREENCOAT** RENEWABLES



**Galway Wind Park COVID-19
Response Fund (2020)
Application form**

Apply now – we're here to help.

Coronavirus
COVID-19



Creative Places Tuam Artist Bursary

Creative Places Tuam is seeking applications from artists connected to the Tuam area whose collaborative **socially engaged** practice has been disrupted due to the COVID 19 restrictions. The purpose of this bursary is to support and nurture professional artists' practice within the Tuam town and hinterland area that has been disrupted during this time of crisis.

Clár Éire Ildánach
Creative Ireland
Programme
2017–2022



Deadline approaching! 5.00pm, Wednesday 3rd June 2020

The application Form is available [here](#) (for further information on the programme please email Carolann, Creative Places Tuam Coordinator on creativeplacetuam@create-ireland.com or call 085 1437774).



Arts Council Ireland- Festivals Investment Scheme

The Arts Council announces round one of the Festivals Investment Scheme (FIS) for festivals taking place between January and June 2021.

The Council recognises the distinctive role arts festivals play in sustaining a vibrant and sustainable arts **profile at a local level**. The Council acknowledges the valuable contribution made by voluntary committees in developing these festivals. The scheme will be open to multi-disciplinary festivals and single artform festivals.



Deadline **23rd July 2020**. More information available [here](#).



Visual Artists Workspace Scheme Update: Deadline extension

The purpose of the 2021 Visual Artists Workspace Scheme is to support artists' **workspaces** throughout the country to provide the best possible working environment for visual artists and, where feasible, to enable a level of subsidy for the artists working in these spaces.

The scheme will award grants of up to €40,000 towards running costs such as light, heat, rent, artists' development programmes, administration and/or appropriate salary costs.

Due to COVID-19 the application period for this scheme has been extended. The new closing date for applications to the Scheme is **17:30, Thursday 2 July 2020**. More info available [here](#).

Culture Ireland

Culture Ireland's regular grant funding scheme is designed to support the presentation and promotion of **Irish arts internationally**. The scheme is currently operated on the basis of three grant rounds per year with deadlines in mid-February, mid-June and mid-October.



Culture Ireland
Cultúr Éireann

The next deadline for receipt of grant applications is 15th June 2020, i.e. applications for funding to present work internationally from 1 September 2020 onwards have to be submitted by this date. More information available [here](#).



Save our Seas Foundation- Application for Keystone and Small Grants open

The Save Our Seas Foundation (SOSF) offers a series of grants dedicated to **research, conservation and education projects** worldwide. Projects should integrate at least two of these components and focus on charismatic marine megafauna, particularly sharks, rays and skates.



A special call is aimed at supporting projects that promote the recovery of sawfishes, wedgefish and guitarfish.

Depending on the grant category you are applying for, the online application process, deadlines and conditions are different. More info available [here](#).



Patagonia- Corporate Grants Program

The Corporate Grants Program supports small, **grassroots activist organizations** that have provocative direct-action agendas and that are working strategically on multipronged campaigns to preserve and protect our environment. Patagonia support local groups that work to protect local habitats and frontline communities through bold, original actions.



Patagonia have the freedom to fund groups off the beaten track, and that's where they believe small grants are most effective. The funding range is typically between \$5,000 and \$12,000, depending on the specific needs of the project. More info available [here](#).



LIFE Programme Grants

The EU LIFE Programme provides funding opportunities for the support of **Environment, Nature Conservation and Climate Action** projects throughout the EU. Applications are encouraged from public and private organisations seeking co-funding for projects. Large and small companies, government and non-government organisations (NGOs, Higher Education Institutes and community groups) can participate.



Every year a call for LIFE project proposals is launched around April. Following competitive selection, awards are made that are typically in the range of €1-5 million for projects with durations of 3 to 5 years.

The maximum EU co-financing rates for projects are 55, 60 or 75%, depending on the project topic. Submitting a LIFE application is a challenging process and early planning is recommended. Various deadlines apply. [Full details here](#).

→ The Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment (DCCAE) is hosting Ireland's LIFE Information Day 2020 on **Wednesday 10 June 2020 from 09.00 until 12.00**, with presentations from DCCAE, the European Commission and successful applicants, followed by a Q&A Session. The event will take place on Zoom, you can [register here](#).



DM Thomas Foundation for Young People Grants

Previously known as the Hilton in the Community Foundation, the DM Thomas Foundation for Young People (DMTFYP) funds smaller charities and organisations that may be otherwise **overlooked**. The Foundation's grant process aims to identify the most effective projects helping disadvantaged young people in the UK and Ireland. Groups working with the following focus are eligible:



- Children and young people with disabilities
- Children and young people who are sick in hospital
- Children and young people who are life limited (requiring palliative care).

UPDATE: Due to COVID-19 the Foundation has made the decision to postpone its next quarterly deadline for the receipt of funding applications until **22nd July 2020**. Full details [here](#).



Trading Online Voucher Scheme – up to €2,500 grant available

Grow your business online - The expanded Trading Online Voucher Scheme is designed to assist small businesses with up to 10 employees to **trade more online**, boost sales and reach new markets. Participating in this scheme can make the process of trading online much easier for you. It offers **financial assistance** of up to €2,500 with co-funding of 10% from the business along with training and advice to help your business trade online.



Local Enterprise Office: [Trading Online Voucher Scheme – up to €2,500 grant available](#)



GUIDELINES, PROTOCOLS, CHECKLISTS

The Department for Business Enterprise and Innovation have prepared some useful Guidelines on 'Getting Ireland Back to Work Safely' - these documents may also **be useful for some PPN members**.

- Read the Guidelines [here](#)
- Return to Work Safely Protocol available [here](#) | [Prótacl um Fhilleadh ar an Obair go Sábhálite](#)
- Health and Safety Authority (HSA) Covid 19 [checklists and templates](#).

A Government of Ireland Initiative brought to you by the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation and the Department of Health

Return to Work Safely Protocol
Workplace Safety Guidelines Published

→ The key to a safe and continued return to work requires strong communication and a shared collaborative approach between employers and workers.

→ Familiarise yourself with the Protocol at [dbei.gov.ie](#)

Ríocht na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



While we await formal guidance and resources to assist charities, community & voluntary organisations, with getting back to work, we recommend the following **useful advice** provided by Adare Human Resource Management:

- [Practical Considerations of Returning to Work Safely](#).
- [Return to Work Safely Protocol- Briefing](#)



Return to work: HELPDESK for community organisations

The Wheel, Irelands association for charities and community groups, has set up a new **helpdesk service** for the sector. The helpdesk offers advice on matter concerning HR, employment law and up-to-date information on the Wage Subsidy Scheme.

- To find out more about the free helpdesk service please see [here](#).



Advice on how to run Annual General Meetings (AGMs) at this time

Following an increasing number of queries relating to AGMs, The Wheel has now put in place a new **information and advice page** on our website relating to this important topic.

Produced against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, this information will be particularly relevant to a wide number of organisations struggling to cope with their usual governance activities in this difficult period.

[Visit their AGM information page here](#) for up-to-date guidance, further resources, as well as contact details for those who require further information.

Resource to support the implementation of the Charities Governance Code

A **guidance document** has been developed by the Carmichael Centre to help charities that are implementing the Charities Governance Code by matching the standards in the Code against resources that are available to **help with implementation**. The resource can be accessed [here](#).

Carmichael.

Included in the resource pack are:

- [Carmichael Sample Compliance Form](#)
- [1-hour Webinar on the Charities Governance Code](#)
- [Board/Trustee Governance Handbook Template](#)
- [The Charities Governance Code Podcast](#)

Submission of Claims for Charities VAT Compensation Scheme Extended

A decision has been made to extend the closing date for the VAT Compensation Scheme in 2020 from **30 June to 31 August**. The Revenue has asked that charities who can make claims by the **earliest possible** date, and even by 30 June, to please do so. This is extremely important as the more claims are submitted early, the more checking can be done and the better the prospect for the final amounts to be paid out to charities.



WEBINARS- ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW

What is a Webinar?

A webinar is a live web-based video conference that uses the internet to connect the individual hosting the webinar to an audience—the viewers and listeners of the webinar from all over the world. Essentially a webinar is a **seminar** conducted over the internet.

Many webinars are being piloted nationally to ensure that community organizations in rural settings are given the opportunity to **stay connected** and continue their services.



Note: You don't need any level of technical expertise to be part of a webinar.

Using Webinars

- [How to Host a Webinar on YouTube Live for FREE](#)
- ['12 Principles for Better Community Webinars'](#)
- [How to use Webinars for Non-profits'](#)

Online Meetings

- [How to: Virtual board and committee meetings for your Not-for-Profit or charity](#)
- [Delivering online meetings and events using Office tools.](#)
- [Using Zoom: Support during the COVID-19 pandemic.](#)
- [Blog: 'Virtual meetings don't have to be a bore'.](#)
- [How to: '7 Best Practices for COVID-19-Necessitated Online Meetings'.](#)

Online engagement/training

- [Articulate 360](#): e-learning course development tool
- How to Launch a Successful Online Community: [A Step-by-Step Guide](#).
- eLearning: [Move your training online in 6 steps.](#)'
- McGraw Hill: Moving your course online. [Here's how.](#)
- [5 Ways to Successfully Build an Online Learning Community](#).
- eLearn magazine: [Transition from Tradition: 9 Tips for successfully moving your face-to-face course online'](#)

Help to get ONLINE

Age Action have launched 'How To' guides on using digital technology such as downloading Apps to your phone, using Zoom, using WhatsApp etc. These are all great ways to keep in touch with family and friends. You can also call Age Action on 01 8730372, leave your **name and address** and Age Action will post the Guides to you within 10 days.



Check the guides at the links below:

- [How to download apps to your smartphone](#)
- [How to set up an email account on your smartphone](#)
- [How to use FaceTime on your smart device](#)
- [How to use WhatsApp to make video calls on your smartphone](#)
- [How to use Zoom on your smartphone and laptop](#)
- [How to avoid false information about COVID-19](#)

Other types of online Support:

Aware have announced a Zoom Support & Self Care group (in addition to a Phone-in group) for people experiencing anxiety, depression, bipolar disorder and other mood-related conditions – who would like to see others on video. Good WIFI is necessary. To book a place go to: <https://www.aware.ie/support/support-groups/>

Friends of Suicide Loss: Support after Suicide online via Zoom. Friends of Suicide Loss support group meet on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday every month online via Zoom. For more details please contact 0035314927576 or email: foslpost@gmail.com

Online AA meetings: [Online Intergroup Alcoholics Anonymous](#)

Family Carers Free Counselling Sessions: Family Carers Ireland offer help to family carers, as they believe no one should have to care alone. They have developed **a free, short-term online and phone counselling service** for family carers and will connect carers with a qualified counsellor from a panel of approved professionals. The service can be accessed [here](#) or through the National Freephone Careline on 1800 24 07 24.



ONLINE EVENTS

An Introduction to The Living Better, Using Less Toolkit Webinar

Friday 5 June is World Environment Day!

The Wheel invite you to join Johnny Sheehan and Claire Downey from Community Resources Network Ireland at 10am online to learn **practical ways** you can promote sustainability in your organisation, community or in your own home.

In this free webinar, we will take a dive into The Wheel's **sustainable communities toolkit** and explore emerging tools that communities can use online and following COVID-19 guidelines.

Find out more and register [here](#).



Getting your Head Around EU Funding (Workshop)

Are you interested in EU projects and affairs but not sure how it fits for your organisation? The Wheel with Leargas is holding a special online event on Thurs, 18 June 2020 to support organisations to connect their own work to the **values and policy of the European Union**.

Register [here](#).



Working from Home (Webinar)

Would you like to get some practical tips on **how to manage** working from home that keeps an **effective work/life balance**? Join a 90 minute seminar on the **11th June at 11am** to get some

useful advice on working from home from Linda Ford who is a personal development coach and trainer working with clients around the globe.

This training is open to anyone working or volunteering in the not for profit sector. Register [here](#).



Volunteer Ireland: Thinking of Volunteering (Webinar)?

Calling all potential volunteers, check out our online webinar to help you make the **right choices** when it comes to volunteering. If you've new to volunteering or perhaps you were a volunteer in the past and have decided that now would be a good time to return, we suggest you join our Thinking of Volunteering webinar.



Sessions take place at 11.00am online on the following dates:

Thursday 4 June; Wednesday 10 June; Wednesday 17 June; Wednesday 24 June; Friday 3 July

Book your free place [here](#).



E-learning available:

➤ National Biodiversity Data Centre Ireland: [Identifying Irish Bumblebees Online Course](#)

➤ Carmichael Centre: Cyber Security issues & COVID-19 – 5th June

Online course, with lots of examples of the types of scams that will target work-from-home users and tips on how to protect them and the organisations data. It will be delivered virtually via GoToWebinar/GoToMeeting/GoogleMeet on 5th June at 10.30am to 11.30am. Cost is €35.

➤ Carmichael Centre: Using Social Media to promote your work during a crisis – 9th June

The course will help participants to define their audiences and understand which platform best suits their needs, and then tips on how to effectively communicate their work online. It will be delivered virtually via GoToWebinar/GoToMeeting on 9th June at 10.30am to 11.30am. Cost is €35.

➤ Carmichael Centre: Introduction to Risk Management –
16th June

This course will enable participants to develop a good understanding of Risk Management within an organisation and the tools which can be employed to minimise risk. It will delivered virtually via GoToWebinar/GoToMeeting on 16th June at 10.30am to 11.30am. Cost is €35.

You can find more details on all of these courses [here](#).

New Online Programme for Working in Residential Services During Covid-19

COVID-19 has brought extensive challenges to all of us, not least ensuring that staff cover is provided in service areas that remain open and ensuring that staff are **well informed** working in areas possibly unfamiliar to them.

The Open Training College now offer a 12-module Foundation ONLINE Programme to people working in Residential Services.

Full details [here](#).

STAY IN TOUCH

Please stay in contact with us- We are here to support and connect.

Tag us on social media @GalwayCoPPN or forward on resources, and info to update the network.

Contact: Charlotte May cmay@galwaycoco.ie; Tel: 091 509130

For all the latest PPN news check out our website [here](#).