



DONEGAL COMMUNITY BULLETIN NUAHTÁN POBAIL DHÚN NA NGALL

March 2009/ *Martá 2009*

ISSUES/EAGRÁIN 22

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1. General/Ginearálta

Review Of The Regional Planning Guidelines For The Border Region 2004-2016 And Preparation Of New Regional Planning Guidelines 2010-2022

Invitation For Submissions On Issues Paper And Issues For Inclusion In Environmental Reports

Closing date for receipt of submissions by Donegal County Council is 8th April

The Border Regional Authority has notified Donegal County Council, of its intention to review the current Regional Planning Guidelines for the Border Region, and prepare new Regional Planning Guidelines for the period 2010 to 2022.

As part of the review, a public consultation period is being launched to ascertain the views of the community and voluntary sector, public and interested parties. An Issues Paper and an information Leaflet have been prepared by the Regional Authority, outlining matters and issues to be considered in the preparation of the new Regional Planning Guidelines, and to assist in the writing of submissions. Copies of these documents are available on the Donegal County Council website www.donegalcoco.ie and in hard copy from the Planning Departments, Public Service Centres, Donegal County Council.

The Community and Enterprise Sections have been specifically asked to support the consultation process by consulting all relevant community groups/networks within the county that may have an interest in the Regional Planning Guidelines. As such we are contacting you in this regard. Any such response that you might have should be submitted via this office either in hard copy or by email to the address below, to arrive no later than **4.30pm 8th April 2009**, in order to enable us to meet our submission requirements.

Issue 3 Donegal - community in touch / E-zine March 2009

Donegal County Council in association with Donegal County Development Board has been involved in a Diaspora project, promoting the North West of Ireland over the last number of years. This project was supported by the EU Interreg Programme and represented a partnership of Derry City and Donegal County Councils, Donegal County Enterprise Board and North West Marketing. The project undertook a range of activities aimed at people who are living and working in other parts of the country or the world, and who want to return at some point to Ireland. The project had the further aim of encouraging individuals to come back to work, set up a business or be influential in an investment decision into the region.

Building on the success of the Diaspora project, Donegal County Council and Donegal County Development Board have published an e-zine newsletter to maintain our links with the many contacts established over the last number of years within the Island of Ireland, the UK and the US. This e-zine provides subscribers with information on news, events, and stories of interest from a Donegal / North West perspective.

The third edition of the Donegal e-zine will be published at the end of March 2009 and will be available on the CDB website at:

<http://www.donegalcdb.ie/publications/DonegalCommunityInTouche-ineIssue3.pdf>

or further details on the e-zine or to find out more about the work of Donegal County Development Board, please visit our website at www.donegalcdb.ie or contact Ms. Maria Ferguson, Donegal County Council tel: 0749724466 or email c&eunit@donegalcoco.ie.

Donegal Walking Week 24 – 29 May 2009

Donegal Walking Week 2009 takes place from the 24th to the 29th May 2009. This year's programme will be based on *The Family* theme and Donegal Sports Partnership hopes to get as many individuals, families schools or workplaces as possible to take part in the various events.

[Donegal Walking Week Flyer](#)
[Registration form](#)

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2. [Cultural Services/Seirbhísí Cultúrtha](#)

Bealtaine Arts Festival May 2009

Bealtaine is the national month long arts festival organised by Age & Opportunity, the Irish National Organisation working to promote greater participation by older people in society. The festival covers all art forms including visual art, theatre, creative writing, storytelling, music and dance.

Donegal County Council's Cultural Services has been producing the Donegal Bealtaine Festival for 12 years, in partnership with a wide range of organisations and co-ordinated overall by the Regional Cultural Centre. The programme has steadily grown to become one of the largest in the country with more than 100 events in libraries, arts and community venues, day-care centres and community hospitals throughout the county.

The Bealtaine festival is unique and celebratory – showcasing older age as a time for creativity and growth, it offers older people opportunities to participate in the arts at every level – as artists, performers, event organisers and audiences. The range of programming presented by The Regional Cultural Centre is immense – from art / music / reminiscence sessions in a day-care centre to film screenings, grandparent / grandchild art workshops; major concerts, theatre or group art projects, there really is something for everyone.

Highlights from The RCC this year include special screenings from the North West Film Archive, a unique digital archive of footage from the Northwest dating back to the 1920s, in centres across the county; The Beautiful Tomorrow Choir – a specially commissioned intergenerational choir who will perform with a variety of other musicians in a gala concert at the RCC on May 24th; Bealtaine Voices, a special festival insert in the Donegal News and The Dawn Chorus – where you can sing to the rising sun on Culdaff Beach with the Inishowen Gospel Choir at 6.00 am on May 31st!

Bealtaine 2009 will also include a diverse range of library events including storytelling, author visits, Internet training, a writers evening, flower arranging, gardening, consumer rights information, card-making, basket-making, wood-turning, painting, music & song. Aussie Bryson, Joe Brennan, Fergus Cleary, Brian Smeaton, Brendan Farren, Mary McGranaghan and many more will participate, as well as visits from those further afield such as author Ultan Cowley and storyteller Jerry Harmon. All library and Taobh Tire events are free and should be booked in advance – contact details and information will be available in the *Bealtaine* brochure.

For further information on the festival contact Sally Murphy on 91 29186, email: sally.Murphy@donegalcoco.ie / web: www.donegalculture.com
For information on library / taobh tire events contact Frances Crampsie on 91 21968

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3. Funding Opportunities/ *Deiseanna Maoiniú*

Approaching deadlines

PEACE III STRATEGIC GRANT PROGRAMME OPENS

The Donegal CDB Peace and Reconciliation Partnership have opened a call for funding applications for the delivery of specific strategic interventions under the Donegal Peace III Action Plan 2008 – 2010.

This Grant Programme is aimed at delivering specific actions under the Peace III Action Plan and is open to applicant groups and organisations that have the capacity in terms of skills experience and expertise to deliver strategic actions on a county, or sub-county wide basis over the lifetime of the plan.

Speaking recently the Partnership Chairman, Cllr Francis Conaghan said:

‘The Donegal Peace III Action Plan identified the need for a number of strategic interventions targeting a range of groups. The partnership is currently calling for experienced organisations to apply for funding to deliver strategic county or sub-county wide actions targeting older people, ex-sevicemen, and single identity groups including the protestant community. Applications to deliver actions to promote greater collaboration between churches are also being invited. As with all Peace III funding the central focus is again on building better relations at a local level and challenging attitudes to Sectarianism and Racism.’

It is envisaged by the Donegal CDB Peace and Reconciliation Partnership that only organisations with a clear capacity to work on a county or sub –county wide basis, and with experience of Peace and Reconciliation work, will be awarded funding under this grant programme. Smaller and more localised groups have already had an opportunity to apply for Peace III funding under the Small Grants Scheme which earlier this month awarded over €900,000 to 37 groups around the county.

Details of the types of actions that will be funded under this scheme are in the Donegal Peace III Action Plan 2008-2010 which was sanctioned by the Special EU Programmes Body last year. The plan can be downloaded from the Donegal County Development Board website www.donegalcdb.ie along with Guidelines for Applicants for this grant scheme and an Application Form.

Closing date for receipt of applications under this grant scheme is 1.00pm on Wednesday April 22nd 2009.

Ray Murphy Fund for leadership education and training 2009

The Ray Murphy Fund – managed by the Community Foundation for Ireland - will make grants to build leadership within the community sector for the next 10 years, 2008 - 2017.

The grants will be for a maximum of euro 4,000 each and 5 grants will be awarded per year. The fund is envisaged to assist people managing organizations within the community and voluntary sector access leadership - education or training.

2009 Closing Dates:

31st July (successful grantees will receive their grants in September)

30th October (successful grantees will receive their grants in December)

The Ray Murphy Fund Application Form is not freely available.

Potential applicants must contact the Grants Officer to discuss the suitability of a proposed project prior to making an application: email info@foundation.ie tel 01 874 7354

Integrating Communities Application deadline 14/08/2009

Description:

Grant funding through the Support Phase will provide a maximum of £10,000 to implement a small project. Integrating Communities is a programme of support provided and administered by the Northern Ireland Rural Development Council (RDC) and the International Fund for Ireland.

The scheme is intended to encourage and facilitate community organisations that are based in Northern Ireland and the Border Regions of Ireland to co-operate on a cross-border and cross-community basis, in order to develop relationships and carry out projects of common interest. The programme offers a mixture of training, support and funding.

Addresses and Contacts:

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

Yvonne Breen

Northern Ireland Rural Development Council
17 Loy Street
Cookstown
County Tyrone
BT80 8PZ
Tel: 028 8676 6980

Culture Ireland Application deadline 15/05/2009

Description:

Culture Ireland is a voluntary body reporting to the Department for Arts, Sport and Tourism and offers grants for the promotion and enhancement of Irish art and cultural activities abroad. The aim of the grant is to support the staging of events, for example performances, exhibitions and lectures, in other countries which would otherwise be unable to take place due to lack of funds.

The long term objective of Culture Ireland is to enhance Ireland's cultural image and reputation abroad.

Addresses and Contacts:

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

Culture Ireland

Department of Arts, Sports and Tourism
Room 3.32 , Frederick Buildings , South Frederick Street , Dublin 2
Tel: 01 631 3927

St Stephen's Green Trust grants scheme 2009

Grants will be made to organisations working in 3 specific areas. They are homelessness, prisoners / ex-prisoners and Travellers.

There is one grants meeting in 2009.

Deadline for receipt of applications: Friday, 11th September, 2009.

<http://www.activelink.ie/ce/active.php?id=2317>

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4. Training opportunities/Deiseanna oiliúina

Carmichael Centre Training and Support:

training courses for voluntary or community groups (April)

Good Practice for Management Committees (April 20, Galway)

<http://www.activelink.ie/ce/active.php?id=4158>

Conflict Resolution (April 23, Dublin)

<http://www.activelink.ie/ce/active.php?id=4115>

Finance for Non-Financial People (April 24, Dublin)

<http://www.activelink.ie/ce/active.php?id=3268>

Financial Reporting for Charitable Organisations (April 29, Dublin)

<http://www.activelink.ie/ce/active.php?id=3021>

Dealing with Grievance & Disciplinary (April 30, Dublin)

<http://www.activelink.ie/ce/active.php?id=3121>

Citizens Information Board National Calendar of Training Events March to June 2009

Date(s) and Region	Title and Trainer(s)	Venue and Time
15 Apr Region 1	Family Law – Advanced (NEW) Anne O'Carroll, Director, Cascade Training Consultancy	Newgrange Hotel, Bridge Street, Navan, Co. Meath 9.30am – 4.30pm
21 Apr Region 5	Community Welfare Service and Payments Mary Geraghty, HSE Training Unit	The Menlo Hotel, Galway 10am – 4.30pm
21 Apr Region 2	Role of the Rights Commissioner Service (NEW) Brendan Smith, Deputy Director, Rights Commissioner Service and Eibhlin Clifford, Advocacy Resource Officer, South Midlands	Jurys Inn, Custom House Quay, Dublin 1 10am – 1.00pm
Day 1: 23 Apr Day 2: 7 May Region 3	Family Law and Relationships (NEW) (Apply for 1 or 2 days) Day 1: Appropriate Interventions for Information Providers, Jim Gogarty, Training Consultant Day 2: Legal Issues, Anne O'Carroll Director of Cascade Training Consultancy	Day 1: Anner Hotel Thurles, Co Tipperary 10am – 4.30pm Day 2: Athenaeum House Hotel, Christendom, Ferrybank, Waterford 10am – 4.30pm
23 Apr Region 4	Social Welfare Appeals Dan Kavanagh, Office Manager, Social Welfare Appeals Office and Terrence Rea, Advocacy Resource Officer	The Montenotte Hotel, Cork. 10am – 4.30pm

More detailed information is available on www.citizensinformationboard.ie or contact Regional Training Executive Claire Ruddy at Tel. 094 90 22169 email Claire.ruddy@ciboard.ie

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5. The Environment/ An Timpeallacht

Litter Campaigns Spring Summer Clean UP Programme

Donegal County Council offer assistance to the general public every spring/summer season to clean up litter and illegally dumped waste from their local environs e.g. approach roads, local beauty spots, beaches and general public areas. It is also intended through the programme to develop a community led approach to the problem of litter and fly tipping. The programme runs from April to September. Donegal County Council also encourage groups to get involved in an Taisce's National Spring Clean Month

Who Qualifies for the Programme?

Groups that may apply include the following: Bona Fide Clubs, Organisations, Associations, Environmental Groups and Tidy Towns Committees. Groups of individuals not necessarily attached to a group may also qualify for assistance provided it is a public area they are intending to clean up. Private household clean ups will not qualify for the scheme and skips in particular will only be distributed to group led clean ups in public areas. Groups interested in organising an environmental clean up can apply for assistance through their local area office. Bags, Gloves and Litter pickers are available at the offices below. Any groups organising a major environmental clean up can apply for a skip. They must however register and complete the application form, which is available at the main council offices in Carndonagh, Dungloe, Donegal Town, Letterkenny, Lifford and Milford.

NATIONAL SPRING CLEAN APRIL 2009

www.nationalspringclean.org

National Spring Clean in 2008 was the most successful campaign to date with a total of 4,500 groups organising events with 450,000 people volunteering to carry out clean-ups. These 4,500 clean-ups yielded approximately 1,596 tonnes of litter.

Organise a clean-up of your local area to take place any time during April and register your event online, by phone, by fax or post. Register online at www.nationalspringclean.org. Once registered you will receive a FREE Clean-Up Kit with gloves, bags and tabards. To supplement your clean up kit please contact the

Environment Section of your local Donegal County Council office and request extra materials and also if necessary make arrangements for the collection and disposal of the collected litter.

Contact Suzanne Tinney (074) 91 76276 or email suzanne.tinney@donegalcoco.ie for more information.

2009 COMMUNITY COMPOSTING WORKSHOPS *Don't delay, book your composting workshop today!*

In 2009, the Waste Awareness Officer plans to deliver a number of Composting Workshops to local community groups. These workshops are becoming popular and there is a lot of interest among local community groups for information on composting etc.

1/3 of our household waste is organic waste that can be composted. This can be done using a compost bin or heap and will turn food waste into rich compost that can then be used as a garden fertiliser. Diverting this food waste from your regular waste bin will also cut down on waste to landfill and waste costs for the householder.

If you are involved in the local Tidy Towns committee why not consider a composting workshop as it will help with your next application for the Tidy Towns competition next year.

If any group would be interested in hosting a composting workshop please contact me directly at (074) 91 76276 or email suzanne.tinney@donegalcoco.ie

WANTED: BATTERY RECYCLING COLLECTION POINTS!

To increase the number of waste batteries that are collected for recycling Donegal County Council is interested in hearing from any community groups that would like to become a collection point for waste batteries in their local area.

Battery Boxes will be provided to any interested groups and when boxes are full they may be brought to any Donegal County Council Civic Amenity Site, Public Service Centre or make arrangement with Mr. David Friel, Recycling Officer (074) 91 76274 or Suzanne Tinney, Waste Awareness Officer (074) 91 76276 for their recycling.

Waste Batteries

Waste Batteries must never be placed in your waste disposal or recycling bins. There is a bin for small batteries in your local store. Battery Recycling is free.

What to do with Waste Batteries:

Under the new Battery Regulations that came into effect on the 26th September 2008 waste batteries can be dropped off **FREE OF CHARGE** at any retailer supplying similar batteries and with no obligation to purchase batteries.

Retailers do not have to accept leaking batteries or more than 5kg at a time. Batteries can also be dropped off **FREE OF CHARGE** at your local Civic Amenity Site. Donegal County Council also has collection points for batteries at all the Public Service Centres.

On all new batteries there is a crossed out wheelie bin sign, this is to remind you not to put the waste battery in the ordinary bin.

In 2007, Donegal County Council collected 23.6 tonnes of lead acid batteries (car batteries) and 3.3 tonnes of primary batteries (radio batteries) at its Civic Amenity Sites and Public Service Centres.

For more information on the Waste Battery Collection and Recycling log onto www.weeeireland.ie or www.viron.ie

Tax Relief On Bin Charges: Lo Call Revenue 1890 777 425

Did you know that you can claim tax relief on the bin charges you pay each year. Tax can be claimed back on annual charges and pre-paid tags, receipts are not necessary. To make your claim call into your local Revenue Office or Lo call 1890 777 425 and quote your P.P.S. number.

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6. Community & Voluntary Register / Clár do grúpai pobail agus deonach

If you are aware of other community and voluntary groups who would like to receive the monthly Donegal Community Bulletin, then please advise the group to contact Ms Breid Neely, Community & Enterprise, Station Island, Lifford, Co Donegal, Tel: 074 9172573 or Email: bneely@donegalcoco.ie. In order to receive the monthly bulletin, the group must be registered as a community and voluntary group with Donegal County Development Board Community & Voluntary Register.

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7. Insurance / Árachas

The Irish National Community and Voluntary Forum has teamed up exclusively with leading insurance broker BHP Insurances to assist in minimising insurance costs for its members. The INCVF is the umbrella body for the community and voluntary sector and this arrangement will give its 22,000 members direct access to the

most competitive and comprehensive insurance package for their sector. Savings of up to 45% can be expected.

If you wish to avail of this competitive insurance package, you must have your ID number to hand when contacting BHP Insurances, together with your existing insurance arrangements where applicable.

To obtain your ID number you should contact **Breid Neely, Community Development Officer, Community, Culture and Enterprise Directorate, Donegal County Council at 074 91 72 573.**

A dedicated BHP Forum helpdesk and free phone number has been set up to deal with all enquiries on 1890 666 111. You can also find out more information on the insurance package at BHP's website, www.bhpinsurance.ie.

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8. Flight of the Earls / Imeacht na nIarlaí

Flight of the Earls Commemorative Poster Postéir Cuimhneacháin Imeacht na nIarlaí

2007 saw Donegal County Development Board and the County of Donegal commemorate this landmark event in our history. To mark this year and the landmark event that was commemorated, a limited edition of numbered Flight of the Earls/Imeacht na nIarlaí Posters has been produced. The poster denotes a lasting reminder of 2007 and the Commemoration, which took place.

The posters cost (€20) unframed and (€75) framed.

Posters can be acquired from –**Michelle McGill**

Community & Enterprise Division, Donegal County Council, Lifford, Co Donegal
(074) 9172568 michellem@donegalcoco.ie



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