



Your Local Rural Support Network

The Local Rural Support Networks

- Supporting rural living across Northern Ireland -

COSTA Community Newsletter

January 2017

COSTA
Local Rural Support Network

**Rural Community
Development Support
Service**
(Mid Ulster Zone)



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**



Comhairle Ceantair
**Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster**
District Council



COSTA EVENTS

COSTA 'Open Door Support Day' **Wednesday 15th February 2017**

Book now to receive a one-to-one support session – for community groups at COSTA in President Grant's Homestead.

The following time slots are available and will be offered on a first-come, first-serve basis – note that pre-booking a time slot in advance is essential:

1. 9:30am – 11:00am
2. 11:30am – 1:00pm
3. 2:00pm – 3:30pm
4. 3:30pm – 5:00pm
5. 5:30pm – 7:00pm
6. 7:30pm – 8:30pm

'Charity Registration & Annual Returns Information Workshop'

A Workshop guiding groups through all you need to know for the Charity Commission NI Registration & Annual Returns Processes

Tuesday 21st February 2017
7:00pm – 8:30pm

At COSTA, President Grants Homestead, Dergenagh, Dungannon

- Please reserve places in advance -

EVERYONE WELCOME!

To book any of the above events please contact the COSTA office

**Tel: 028 855 56880 or
Email: info.costa@btconnect.com**

***Would your Group
like any assistance?***

Does your group have any Skills, Training, Support, Funding or Information needs?

Outreach Service available

Please contact COSTA

Tel: 028 855 56880

Email: info.costa@btconnect.com

Community Organisations of South Tyrone
& Areas Ltd
President Grants Homestead
45 Dergenagh Road
Dungannon BT77 0DE

Tel: 028 855 56880 Fax: 028 855 56881

Email: info.costa@btconnect.com

Web:

www.costaruralsupportnetwork.org

Facebook: Board Costa

COSTA

Upcoming Events & Workshops

- COSTA 'Energy Efficiency in the Home' Info Session - details TBC in New Year 2017.
- COSTA 'Waste & Recycling' Info Session - details TBC in New Year 2017.
- COSTA 'Charity Registration & Annual Returns' Information Workshop (*one every 4 - 6 weeks*)
- COSTA 'Open Door Support Day' (*one Day per month*)

--- MORE TO FOLLOW SOON ---

COSTA plans to deliver

'Energy Efficiency in the Home' & 'Recycling in the Home' Information Sessions

**in Ballygawley for all the community
in the New Year 2017**

**To book or for more information
contact COSTA: Tel: 028 855 56880
or info.costa@btconnect.com**

Silver Line:

Helpline for Older People.

Call us ANYTIME on: 0800 4 70 80 90

The Silver Line is the only free confidential helpline providing information, friendship and advice to older people, open 24 hours a day, every day of the year:

<https://www.thesilverline.org.uk>

Mid Ulster District Council

Draft Community Plan

Additional Rural Dates Added

The Consultation on the Draft Mid Ulster Community Plan opened on Monday 5th December 2016 for 9 weeks with a series of public consultation sessions.

To help us highlight to the community, the partnership approach to the development and co-delivery of our Community Plan, we would most welcome you joining us as we deliver one of our sessions.

Further Consultation dates have now been added for rural areas:

- **Wednesday 1st February at 6:00pm – 7:30pm, Ballygawley Area Development Association, Ballygawley**
- **Wednesday 1st February at 8:30pm – 10:00pm, The Crieve Centre, Stewartstown**
- **Wednesday 8th February at 6:00pm– 7:30pm, St Colm's High School, Draperstown**
- **Wednesday 8th February at 8:30pm– 10:00pm, The Link Centre, Maghera**

Attendees are asked to register with Louise Devlin at louise.devlin@midulstercouncil.org or call 028 8676 4714.

Focus Group sessions are also being set up with a number of groups representing the Section 75 sectors of youth, women, disability, carers and BME, along with sessions with the Learning Partnerships (schools) and the Skills and Tourism Forums.



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COSTA Newsletter

COSTA Rural Community Development Support Service (RCDSS)

COSTA provides a FREE

Outreach Support Service

for local Member Community / Development Groups and Charities to increase capacity and access to funding throughout the Dungannon & South Tyrone area –

To book an appointment contact Loraine Griffin on Tel: 028 8555 6880 or email: info.costa@btconnect.com



Business Plan Training for (FBIS) Farm Business Improvement Scheme

DAERA Minister Michelle McIlveen has announced a new training programme for farmers and growers applying for Tier 2 of the new Farm Business Improvement Scheme – Capital in Tranche 1.

Tier 2 is primarily for construction projects and the purchase of higher value equipment to support sustainable growth in the agriculture and horticulture sectors. Given the scale of investment applicants must support their project proposal with a robust business plan so we are providing training to enable people to complete this element of their application. The business plan must provide important information about the project costs, economic objectives and financial projections that will be assessed against the FBIS-C scheme objectives.

Applicants can only use the DAERA templates consisting of a narrative section and Cashflow Calculator.

[READ FULL ARTICLE ON DAERA WEBSITE](#)

Environmental Farming Scheme (EFS) Information events

The aim of the multi-million pound EFS - **opening end of Feb** – is to restore, preserve and enhance biodiversity, improve water quality and mitigate climate change. The scheme will offer participants a five-year agreement to deliver a range of environmental measures and will operate at three levels:

- A higher level, primarily for environmentally designated sites and other priority habitats;
- A wider level to deliver benefits across the countryside, outside of environmentally designated areas;
- A group level to support co-operative action by farmers in specific areas such as a river catchment.

It is very important to note that **applications for this scheme must be made online**. Potential applicants who do not already have a Government Gateway account should make arrangements now. A series of information events across NI will assist potential applicants to begin preparing for the scheme.

The dates are as follows, with sessions starting at 1.30pm, 4.00pm and 7.00pm:

- **01.02.17 – CAFRE, Loughry Campus, Tyrone**
- **03.02.17 – CAFRE, Enniskillen Campus, Fermanagh**
- **06.02.17 – The Armagh City Hotel, Armagh**
- **08.02.17 – Roe Park Resort, Limavady, L/Derry**
- **09.02.17 - Millbrook Lodge, Ballynahinch, Down**
- **13.02.17 – CAFRE, Greenmount Campus, Antrim**
- **17.02.17 – Silver Birch Hotel, Omagh, Tyrone**

Full details of the scheme, and how to apply, will be publicised on the DAERA website in advance of the EFS opening: www.daera-ni.gov.uk

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Mid Ulster to Benefit from £8m in Rural Development Funding via Mid Ulster Rural Development Partnership Local Action Group



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DISTRICT COUNCIL
www.midulstercouncil.org

Mid Ulster Rural Development Partnership is responsible for delivering LEADER funding throughout Mid Ulster District Council under the 2014 – 2020 NI Rural Development Programme and is seeking applications for funding under **4 new Measures**.

At local level, funding will be used to encourage the economic development of rural Mid Ulster and will be delivered across a range of schemes.

What's Available

The NI Rural Development Programme (2014-2020) is open to people who live in, or organisations which operate in, either the countryside or in settlements with a population of less than 5,000.

MURD Partnership has identified the following schemes within its local rural development strategy. Click the links below to open the scheme sheet for further detail on each.

Current Programme Measures:

[Rural Business Investment](#)

[Rural Services](#)

[Village Action Scheme](#)

[Rural Broadband Scheme](#)



Attendance at a funding workshop - Anyone thinking about making an application must attend a funding workshop specific to the Scheme they are applying under. These will be advertised in both local press and on this website prior to the opening of a call for applications.

Match Funding - Evidence of match funding for the project must be demonstrated and provided with your application.

Planning Permission Approval - For projects requiring planning permission, full approval must be granted and supplied with the application.

Quotations – Project costs must be supported with quotations for the equipment / infrastructure being applied for.

Business Plan - Private sector business must complete a business plan to submit with their application for funding. New businesses will be required to complete the Regional Start Initiative before making an application.

Community / voluntary groups: will have to prepare a project plan to support their application.

Please note applications cannot be accepted unless all of the pre-requisites which apply to your project are met and supplied with your application.

Attendance at a funding workshop does not constitute an offer of funding. The application process will be competitive and not every application will be funded.

For further information on LEADER Rural Development funding and the application process, contact the Rural Development Team at Mid Ulster District Council on 028 8676 4714 or email eamon.gallogly@midulstercouncil.org or Visit the Website: www.midulsterrdp.org

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STOP AND THINK

SAFE

SLURRY ANIMALS FALLS EQUIPMENT

Farm SAFE aims to increase awareness of farm safety and to reduce work related fatalities and injuries on farms. We advise farmers to stop and think about the four main farm hazards:

Slurry, Animals, Falls and Equipment (SAFE).

For Confidential advice on workplace health and safety call our

Freephone Number: Tel: 0800 0320 121

Web: <http://farmsafe.hseni.gov.uk>

Stop & Think Farm Family Key Skills Health & Safety Information Sessions

**Free Farm Health & Safety Workshops
on farm venues throughout NI to
farmers, members of the farm family
and employees.**

If you know of a farming group or if you have farmers in your area that would be interested in attending a workshop please contact Rural Development Council (RDC) and we can arrange a suitable date, farm venue & trainer:

Anne Marie Bell - PYDP Support Officer

Tel: 028 8676 6980 Web: www.rdc.org.uk

cafre
College of Agriculture
Food & Rural Enterprise

Workshops:

Coagh Area 2nd February 2017 @ 7pm
(Register by 30th January)

Pomeroy Area 21st February 2017 @ 7pm
(Register by 16th February)

rdc
Rural Development Council

Stop & Think

Farm Family Key Skills Health & Safety Training

- Farm Health & Safety Workshop
- Delivered 'on-farm'
- Free to Farmers, Farm Families and Employees
- Topics include Slurry, Animals, Falls & Equipment
- Overview of the Making it Safer Tool

Register online www.cafre.ac.uk/industry-support or for further information please contact the Farm Family Health & Safety team on **Tel: 028 867 66980**



You can also Register online to attend a pre-planned event:

www.cafre.ac.uk/industry-support

A series of three-hour Workshops are currently running on the following dates:

- ✓ Thur 2nd February 2017, Coagh, Cookstown, 7pm.
- ✓ Mon 6th February 2017, Omagh, 7pm.
- ✓ Wed 8th February 2017, Hilltown, 7pm
- ✓ Tue 14th February 2017, Dungiven, 7pm
- ✓ Wed 15th February 2017, Armagh, 7pm
- ✓ Tue 21st February 2017, Pomeroy, 7pm
- ✓ Thur 23rd February 2017, Roslea, 7pm
- ✓ Tue 28th February 2017, Greyabbey, 7pm

**To register for one of the scheduled workshops please contact RDC on
Tel: 028 8676 6980.**

For more information or if you have a Farm Group and would like RDC to arrange a specific workshop please get in touch.

Managed by the College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise (CAFRE), the programme is funded through the Rural Development Programme (RDP) 2014-2020 with support from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD).

COSTA Newsletter

NI Regional Food Programme

The Northern Ireland Regional Food Programme (NIRFP) is now open for applications from 20th January 2017.

The aim of the DAERA-funded 2017/18 Regional Food Programme is to promote quality regional food and to help increase its consumption by provision of financial support in three key areas – seminars / workshops, information programmes and regional fairs / exhibitions.

This is an important and welcome funding programme for the food and drink sector that encourages collaboration between all sectors and representative bodies within the local food industry.

In previous years, the programme has supported many local events and initiatives. In particular the programme offered in excess of £300,000 to 24 projects across Northern Ireland during the Year of Food and Drink 2016.

Applications for projects taking place from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018 will open on Friday 20th January 2017. **Closing date for completed applications is 12 noon on Tuesday 14 February 2017.** Applications are also welcomed for projects contributing to the legacy of the Year of Food and Drink 2016.

Successful applications to the Programme can obtain up to 40% financial contributions on eligible expenditure. Only not-for-profit groups with an NI membership, registered charities or not-for-profit regional development agencies that plan to delivery projects that raise the profile of NI regional food can apply. Applications for collaborative ventures involving two or more eligible organisations working together to deliver the objectives of the Programme are encouraged. An application form for funding can be downloaded from the [DAERA website](#) or obtained from the contact details below:

NIRFP Management Team, Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Room 518, Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast, BT4 3SB. Tel: 028 9052 4497 Email: supplychaindevelopment@dardni.gov.uk

Welfare Changes Helpline

A free and independent Welfare Changes Helpline is available for anyone in need of help or advice about changes to the welfare system.

The contact telephone number is: 0808 802 0020

The helpline is open 9am to 5pm (Monday to Friday) and is operated by the Welfare Reform Advice Services Consortium (Advice NI, Citizen's Advice and the Law Centre NI). To help people, face-to-face independent advisers will be available in each of the 11 council areas through the local Citizens Advice and Advice NI offices. Specialist legal advice is available at the Law Centre NI and it can arrange access to specialist services when required. These services are free for anyone who needs help or advice about any of the changes to the welfare system.



DTNI's (iREAD) bespoke analytical resource assesses an organisation's capacity to advance on sustainable enterprise development and its capacity to draw investment to its work. The iREAD tool assesses against the key pillars of Governance, Finance & Financial Planning, Social Impact, Business Planning and Asset Management and development. The tool produces a composite report cross referencing all of the information in-putted to give the organisation an outline of their strengths and weaknesses in each area thereby where they have capacity gaps and need to plan for support to address these.

If you want to assess your organisational investment readiness contact:

fiona.molloy@dtni.org.uk for a code to enter.
www.dtni.org.uk <http://www.iread.org.uk>

DISCLAIMER: The views and opinions expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily in Accordance with the views of COSTA / COSTA Board or Staff. Every care is taken to ensure accuracy of the information presented at time of print.

COSTA is funded by
Department of Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs through DAERA's Rural Community Development Support Service
Tackling Rural Poverty & Social Isolation Programme
Mid Ulster District Council

Registered Company in Northern Ireland No: NI 42832

Charity Registration in NI: NIC101598

ISO 9001:2008 Cert: FS 536859

