

National Updates

20th National Health Summit



Our Chief Officer Catherine McGuigan is excited to be speaking at the 20th National Health Summit.



Join Catherine on **7th February** at the iconic Croke Park as we dive into the future of healthcare. Don't miss this opportunity to gain valuable insights and be part of the conversation shaping the healthcare landscape.

Secure your spot now: Book Your Ticket [Here](#).

For more information on the summit:

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/68351995/admin/feed/posts/>

Twitter: https://twitter.com/Health_Summits

World Health Organisation Portal Training



On Tuesday some of our Age Friendly Ireland team took part in training with the World Health Organisation on updating our global portal. You can find out more about global age friendly projects at

<https://extranet.who.int/agefriendlyworld/...>

South Korean Students Visit - Age Friendly Dublin City



The 4 University of Seoul undergraduate students from a variety of Courses (Haneui – Choi; Yunseok-Lee; Sieun Kim and Jungbin Kim) are spending a month in Dublin City – looking at how Age Friendly policies are being developed in Dublin City with a particular emphasis on Housing.



The delegation discussed the Age Friendly Programme with Age Friendly Ireland Regional Manager – Bruce Mc Devitt and the Age Friendly Health Homes Programme with Healthy Homes Age Friendly Regional Manager – Eimear Mc Cormack.



They then visited the Dublin City Council / HSE Cardiac Rehabilitation class being provided through the Community Wellness Programme at St. Catherine's Sports Centre, Marrowbone Lane, Dublin 8. The Community Wellness Programme provides supervised exercise classes for citizens recovering from chronic illness. Our thanks to Dublin City Council Community Wellness Manager – Celine Cully for facilitating us with the visit.

The group will spend the next few weeks visiting a number of different organisations from Dublin City before reporting back on their findings.

St Brigid's Day



In Ireland, 1st February marks the beginning of spring and the celebration of Lá Fhéile Bríde, St Brigid's Day.

The day has long symbolised hope, renewal and the feminine. Since 2018, Irish Embassies and Consulates across the world have been marking the day by celebrating the creativity of women, through a broad programme of events.

Various organisations, groups, and libraries throughout the country are all celebrating St. Brigid's Day in various ways.



An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Public consultation on policy proposals for adult safeguarding in the health and social care sector

Adult Safeguarding is about putting measures in place to reduce the risk of harm to adults who may be at risk of abuse. It is about promoting and protecting people's human rights. It is also about empowering people to make decisions about their health and welfare, including their protection against abuse.

This policy, when finalised, will cover the full spectrum of healthcare and social care services (public, voluntary and private). It will also set out policy on co-operation, information-sharing and referral arrangements between the health and social care sector and other key sectors, including the Garda Síochána, for the purpose of safeguarding at-risk adults against abuse and harm.

How to participate in the public consultation

Please either:

- read the policy proposals below and [complete the survey online](#) or
- read the easy to read executive summary below and [complete the easy to read survey online](#)

For more information click [HERE](#)



International
Federation on
Ageing

Shingles Awareness Week 2024: Civil Society Support Session



To raise awareness of the risk of shingles and how individuals can protect themselves the International Federation on Ageing (IFA) is leading a knowledge mobilization campaign across Shingles Awareness Week (SAW) (26th February to 3rd March) and needs your help!



Patient Voices: We want to hear from you!



comhairle chontae na mí
meath county council



Cumann Lucht Bainistíochta Contae agus Cathrach
County and City Management Association

Recognizing the critical importance of lived experience and the patient perspective, the IFA is looking to identify individuals who have previously had shingles and who would be willing to share their experience and add their voice to IFA's SAW 2024 Campaign.

If you are interested in adding your voice and helping advance Shingles Awareness advocacy efforts, be sure to reach out to Policy and Project Coordinator Cera Cruise (ccruise@ifa.ngo) to learn more!

[I'm interested!](#)

Shingles Awareness Week 2024
Civil Society Organization
Support session

A dynamic virtual session where representatives can provide updates on planned activities across Shingles Awareness Week (SAW), learn and support other CSOs in their SAW activities, and receive access to adaptable SAW resources to share with their networks.

📅 February 6th 2024
🕒 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (EST)

[REGISTER NOW](#)

 International Federation on Ageing  Vaccines 4 Life  A contribution to the Decade of healthy ageing

Amplifying Messaging: A call to Civil Society

If you represent a Civil Society Organisation and are interested in supporting shingles awareness you are invited to join the IFA's Shingles Awareness Week 2024 Civil Society Organization (CSO) Support Session

 **Date: 6 February 2024**

 **Time: 1:00pm EST.**

[Register here!](#)

Open Call: Bealtaine Hero Award 2024



We are excited to announce that applications for the **Bealtaine Hero Award 2024 are now open!**

The call for applications to the Bealtaine Hero Award is open to local, community-based groups (or individuals) who wish to submit proposals for an event that offers an ambitious, creative and experimental invitation to their community this May, and that celebrates the spirit of the festival. All art forms and event types will be considered, however non-arts events will not be considered (please see guidelines for examples of arts and non-arts events).

Two awards of €500 will be made to the two successful applicants.

Deadline: 5pm, Friday February 19th, 2024.

Application Process:

Those wishing to apply for the **Bealtaine Hero Award** should complete the online application form, from the link below.

Online Application Form: <https://www.tfaforms.com/5103208>
Application Guidelines: [Bealtaine Hero Award 2024 guidelines](#)

Eligibility Criteria:

The project/event should be led by a community organisation or individual with a track record of organising community activities. The project/event should include at least one professional artist* working in any art form. Artists may apply but only in partnership with a community organisation. The award is not intended for government-funded organisations such as local authorities, although community groups that are working in partnership with or in receipt of funding from local authorities are eligible. The award is also not intended for applicants applying to deliver their own workshops.

*For the purposes of the award, we are defining a professional artist as someone who is either making a living from or attempting to make a living from their work, and/or who is a member of a professional representative body such as: Visual Artists Ireland, Film Director's Ireland, Association of Irish Composers etc.).

[Online Application Form](#)



Applications are open for the Creative Youth on a Shared Island Funding Scheme



The Shared Island-dimension of the Creative Ireland Programme wants to explore creative opportunities for young people to connect.

The scheme seeks to reach children and young people across the island of Ireland. Our aim is to harness the experience and expertise of organisations working in the creative, cultural, arts, community and youth sectors to engage young people. Together we can bring children and young people together and nurture a sense of collaboration, understanding and hope for the future, through a creative medium.

We are seeking projects from partnerships that are of significant scale and ambition. Applications should have at least one partner based in each jurisdiction. Grant funding of up to €180,000 will be awarded to at least 3 projects. It is envisaged that at least one grant will be awarded to a partnership that targets seldom heard children and young people. The projects should run between June 2024 to December 2025.

A full briefing document and FAQ is available below:

[Briefing Document in English](#)

For more information click [HERE](#)

Applications must be completed online and submitted via Submit.com by **25th March 2024**.

A link to the application form is below.

[Apply Now](#)



**Vision
Ireland**

Centre to Help People with Disabilities Access Public Transport Unveiled

A “first of its kind” centre has opened in north Dublin that aims to help people with disabilities become familiar with public transport and teach authorities how to design more accessible services.

It is understood that just 6% of people in Ireland with disabilities use public transport.



The National Transport Authority (NTA) and Vision Ireland, formerly the National Council for the Blind (NCBI), showcased The Wayfinding Centre, which cost €7.83m, on Wednesday.

The centre is located on a 31,000 sq ft site of a former printworks on Botanic Road in Glasnevin and will open to the public in April after six years of construction.

Read full article [HERE](#)

Local Updates



Think before you Park

Think Before You Park – Fines and links to an educational video

Limerick City and County Council, **along** with local gardaí, have launched the "Think Before You Park" campaign. The campaign includes fixed penalty notices for offenders and QR stickers on vehicles, inviting them to watch a video on the impact of their actions.



Motorists who park on footpaths, even for a short time, can obstruct footpaths and pose safety hazards for individuals using wheelchairs, walking aids, with fatigue or with limited sight. One lady explains how hazards could stop her leaving the home leading to isolation.

Watch here: <https://vimeo.com/907380525>



Bunclody Library

Ireland Reads Creative Writing Workshop with Caroline Busher

As part of our Ireland Reads programme, join author Caroline Busher for a creative writing workshop. Whether you are already writing a novel or want to know where to begin, Irish Times bestselling author, Caroline Busher, will give you her top tips for success. The workshop will consider the importance of setting, characterisation, plot, dialogue, and how to build tension in writing. Participants will be given the opportunity to discuss their work and advice on getting their work published. Places limited, **booking required**. Please telephone 053 9375466 or book online at wexfordcoco.libcal.com.

Sensory Friendly Hour

Every Saturday from 4.00 – 5.00pm, Sensory Friendly Hour will be observed in Bunclody Library.

We encourage you to come along and relax in the calm environment of the library. No booking required. All welcome!

Gorey Library Events

Scrabble Club at Gorey Library

Every Tuesday

7pm - just drop in. No booking required.

Gorey Library Knitting Circle

Every Friday

11am to 1pm - just drop in. No booking required.

Activator Poles for Beginners

Tuesday 6th February: 2.00pm to 3.00pm



Try out these Activator Poles at this free guided taster session. Great for increasing the workout of a walk and suitable for people with stability concerns. Give your walking a boost! Activator Poles are available to borrow from Gorey Library. Limited places.

Book Online at: [Activator Poles for Beginners - LibCal Study Seat Booking and Events - Wexford County Council Public Library Service](#)

Tel. 053 9423820

email goreylibrary@wexfordcoco.ie

Happy to Chat Conversation Hour

Wednesday 14th February at 11.00am

New to the area? Learning English? Or just love to chat?

Come along - no booking required.

Movie Memories!

Monday 19th February: 11.00am to 1.00pm

Join us for a screening of a classic film. Choose from our selection of DVDs on the day. We'd love to hear your favourites for the next event.

Tel. 053 9423820

email goreylibrary@wexfordcoco.ie

Healthy Age Friendly Homes Information Drop-In Clinic



Gorey Library

Healthy Age Friendly Homes Information Drop-In Clinic, Gorey Library Friday the 9th February at 11am.

Friday
February 9th
11:00am-
02:00pm

Drop-in
clinic



Drop by and meet your local coordinator and find out more about the programme that aims to support older people to live in their own home with dignity and independence, for as long as possible.

If you require additional assistance, contact the library on 053 9423820 or email goreylibrary@wexfordcoco.ie



See here for more information

<https://wexfordcoco.libcal.com/event/4175136?fbclid=IwAR0dUoWLM5nZftZBZ-TTd-gaBVEeM75QNaKeGEho7GnmwYJUP3KGU0MW6Sk>

Age Friendly Laois February Newsletter



Please see attached February Age Friendly newsletter. Hard copies can be downloaded and printed from <https://laois.ie/departments/community/promoting-social-inclusion/age-friendly/>



These will also be available from Laois Library branches, Laois County Council reception and by request. Live Well Expo coming soon (read newsletter for more info. Register your attendance or exhibition space now.

Register by calling / messaging
Tom on 086 0363426 / 05786 64150 / tcurran@laoiscoco.ie
Emma on 086 0665215 / 05786 64042 eoconnor@laoiscoco.ie

Your Voice



We've heard about so much good work going on all around the country, please let us know what's happening in your area so we can share those innovative ideas with everyone.

Please **email us** your news to us at agefriendlyireland@meathcoco.ie before 1pm Thursday for inclusion in our weekly newsletter.

Don't forget, we are on **social media** so why not follow us for all the up to date information on all things Age Friendly happening around the country 😊

Twitter: @agefriendlyirl

Facebook: Age Friendly Ireland

International Updates



IFA Global Café | In Conversation with Prof. Lars Kayser and Ms. Emilie Kauffeldt Wegener

The International Federation on Ageing held a Global Cafe event this morning called: In conversation with Prof. Lars Kayser and Ms. Emilie Kauffeldt Wegener on “Leveraging digital technology to improve the social inclusion of older adults”



A recording of this event will be available on the Federation’s website <https://ifa.ngo/ifa-global-cafe/> and <https://drbarometer.com/community/resource-library>

Useful Contacts and Info

Age Friendly Ireland Shared Service Office Telephone: **046 9032170**

Or Email: agefriendlyireland@meathcoco.ie

Twitter: [@agefriendlyirl](https://twitter.com/agefriendlyirl)

Facebook: [Age Friendly Ireland](https://www.facebook.com/agefriendlyireland)

Website: www.agefriendlyireland.ie / www.agefriendlyhomes.ie

HSE Advice Line: Call save 1850 24 1850

Call from 8am – 8pm Monday to Friday and 10am to 5pm Saturday and Sunday