

National Updates



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Information for students and their families about returning to school

The Department of Education and Skills have issued guidance for children and their families as the schools begin to reopen this week. They have created videos with some back to school advice for parents and children attending primary and post-primary school. Click [here](#) for the full list of online resource and supports.

COVID-19 Passenger Locator Form | Now Online

You must fill in a form before you arrive in Ireland called the COVID-19 Passenger Locator Form. Failure to do so is an offence. The COVID-19 Passenger Locator Form is now an online form. If you are arriving into Ireland on or after Wednesday 26 August 2020, you can complete this form by clicking on the button below in advance of arriving into the State. The information you provide may be used to contact you in the next 14 days to verify the details given on this form and to provide you with public health advice. This form may also be used for the purposes of contact tracing in relation to confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19. You are not required to complete a COVID-19 Passenger Locator Form if you are an essential supply chain worker (that is, air and ship crew and hauliers) or if you are an accredited diplomat. If you are travelling onwards to Northern Ireland, you will have to fill out a portion of the form. Click here to complete the online [COVID-19 Passenger Locator Form](#).



Reminder | Age Action | Getting Started Kit

Age Actions' Getting Started KIT supports older people to keep in touch with their loved ones during the Covid-19 pandemic. Now it is more important than ever to keep in touch with family and friends, so Age Action drew on their Getting Started programme which offered face to face digital skills classes, to create easy How To Guides. The Getting Started KIT is made up of seven How To guides that will support older people to learn, use, and be confident using smartphones and applications. Video tutorials presented by Mary Kennedy are available to view on their [YouTube Channel](#). The Age Action Getting Started KIT materials are available to download [here](#) or people can call **01 8730372** leave their name and address and Age Action will post the How to Guides within 10 days.



NTA announces €55m funding for walking and cycling

The National Transport Authority has announced €55m in funding for footpath and cycle lane projects across 11 counties, as part of the Government's July Jobs Stimulus Plan. The funding will be split between 547 projects. Dublin City Council is to receive the greatest amount, €12,065,000, followed by Limerick City and County Council, which will receive just under €10m. Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown County Council has been allocated just under €9m, while Cork City Council and Fingal County Council are to receive around €4m. Wicklow, Meath, Galway City, South Dublin, Waterford and Kildare will also receive funding. The funding will be used to improve walking and cycling infrastructure, and to adapt traffic management arrangements to facilitate the reallocation of roads to improve facilities and safety for cyclists and pedestrians. Minister for Transport Eamon Ryan said the funding “will make a real difference at local level when it comes to improving infrastructure for cycling, walking and will make our cities, towns and villages more accessible and attractive for everyone.” Full press release [here](#)



COVID-19 Nursing Homes Expert Panel

Examination of Measures to 2021

Report to the Minister for Health

Safeguarding Ireland calls for ‘one integrated system’ and ‘national standards’ for all long-term care

Safeguarding Ireland has called for one integrated system – underpinned by national standards – for all long-term care in Ireland, in response to the [Expert Panel Nursing Homes report](#). Safeguarding Ireland expressed overall support for last week's COVID-19 Nursing Homes Expert Panel report's recommendations but said that the strength of the report will only lie in its timely implementation. Chairperson Patricia Rickard-Clarke said key safeguarding elements to progress as recommended in the report include that identified parts of the Assisted Decision-Making Act be fast-tracked and implemented within six months and that wider implementation of Advance Healthcare Directives be applied immediately to greatly improve planning ahead.

“Safeguarding Ireland strongly supports the recommendations that all private nursing homes be integrated into a national public health and social care framework and that national standards be developed and rolled out across all services within nine months.”

Safeguarding Ireland made a submission to the Expert Panel report in which it called for an integrated system with overarching standards for all long-term care, both public and private sector. Full press release [here](#)



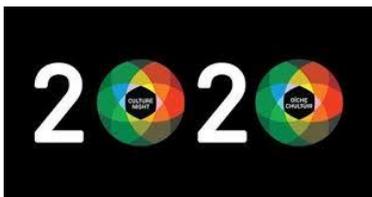
Message from The Irish Hospice Foundation about their **SUMMER RAFFLE 2020.**

The draw for our annual raffle will take place on Sept 15th, 2020. Closing date for ticket purchase Sept 10th.

Please support our raffle and help fund our crucial Nurses for Nightcare service. Last year this service cost €740,000 with over 6,830 hours of care provided. Now with coronavirus separating families in those precious final moments, fearful families are cocooning terminally ill loved ones at home in their dying days. Calls for help from our Nurses for Night Care have never been higher...

It is €3 per ticket for this year's draw. Our 1st prize is €3,000, the 2nd prize is €1,000 and the 3rd prize is a 5* hotel break in The InterContinental Hotel, Dublin.

Feel free to call our raffle helpline on **1850 211 861** if you would like to pay for tickets over the phone or if you have any questions regarding paying online. Click [here](#) to buy tickets online.



Culture Night 2020 goes online with over 250 free gigs, workshops and discussions

The National Programme for Culture Night 2020 – to be held online from 4pm on September 18 – has been unveiled. The national arts and events initiative will include over 250 performances, tours, workshops and conversations, streamed from across the island. A number of national landmarks will be available for virtual tours, including the Houses of the Oireachtas, the National Gallery of Ireland and Wild Nephin Ballycroy National Park Visitor Centre in Mayo, while singer-songwriter Inni-K will be part of a special celebration of Dublin's parks. To see the full programme of events, book online tickets and meet Culture Night's Trailblazers, head to www.culturenight.ie

Local Updates

 <p>Age Friendly LOUTH</p> <p>Message from our Older People's Forum on Grandchildren returning to school.</p>  <p>Grandparents - Grandchildren Stay Safe - Stay Connected - Stay Aware - Stay Happy</p>	<h3>Message from Louth Older People's Council on Grandchildren returning to school</h3> <p>We are now learning to live with the COVID 19 virus. Every week we are advised by NPHET as to what steps we need to take to stay safe and avoid getting COVID, and ultimately admission to hospital. We all know, as we age, we are more susceptible to catching the virus and being more affected by it.</p> <p>We have now got used to face masks, social distancing, hand hygiene, good sneeze and cough etiquette. The Louth Age Friendly County Programme and the Louth Community Call Forum would now like to highlight the importance of being even more aware of the significance of these measures when our grandchildren go back to school. Click here for a few points we need to be even more mindful of.</p>
 <p>Age Friendly SOUTH DUBLIN</p> 	<h3>Hotel group plans new affordable housing in South Dublin</h3> <p>Hotel group Tetrarch, which owns the Citywest Hotel, has submitted a planning application for a new 224-apartment development on Garter Lane. Tetrarch says the scheme will provide a “significant volume of affordable homes for rent and accommodation for independent and senior living.” The firm has submitted an application through An Bord Pleanála’s Strategic Housing Development fast-track system, and says the development is in line with the Sustainable Neighbourhoods Statements of the South Dublin County Council Development Plan. Read more here</p>
 <p>Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Luimnigh Limerick City & County Council</p>  <p>Age Friendly LIMERICK</p> 	<h3>Project managers appointed for Project Opera in Limerick</h3> <p>Limerick City and County Council’s special purpose vehicle Limerick Twenty Thirty has announced that Cogent Associates have been selected to act as project managers for the €180m Project Opera development. The firm will oversee the transformation of the area behind Patrick Street into a mixed-use scheme featuring three multi-storey buildings, bars, restaurants, apartments and an apart hotel. Limerick Twenty Thirty chief executive David Conway hailed the appointment as a “significant step” in the programme, adding: “It’s been a long wait for Limerick and it’s understandable that some people questioned if the Opera Site would ever go ahead but it will as of this autumn and right when we need it most.” Mayor of the City and County of Limerick Cllr Michael Collins said the development will be a “springboard for the recovery here in Limerick.” Read more here</p>



THE TIME IN BETWEEN by BOB GILBERT

Another excellent poem from Chair of Cavan Older People's Council, Bob Gilbert. Bob has almost become our resident poet at this stage. We really love your poem's Bob – keep them coming!

What were you doing in the lockdown when you were cocooned in your home?

When you weren't allowed to go outside your fence or to go for a roam?

Did it seem so surreal - did it seem strange?

Did you often wonder if you could cope with the change?

It started in March - in mid-June we were next seen,

What happened to all of the time in between?

Are you someone who likes to go out?

To meetings or golfing or just gadding about?

Did you miss all these things when you were cocooned?

Did you feel that your whole life was totally ruined?

Or did you use the lockdown to get fit and lean?

Or do you wonder what happened to the time in between?

Did you spend the lockdown looking for things to do?

To stop you going mad, or to stop feeling blue?

Did you sit watching telly in your sitting room

Or did you learn WhatsApp, Face Time or Zoom?

From March to mid-June is a long time unseen,

What happened to all of the time in between?

I started walking – just to lose weight,

I never ventured outside my garden gate.

The garden is large, so I walked round and round,

And managed to lose a couple of pound.

I watched Mother Nature turn everything green,

As I was spending the time in between.

I started writing to pass the time,

I seem to try to make everything rhyme.

It's a thrill to see the words on a page,

Am I getting poetic in my old age?

It only takes a few hours, so you see what I mean

When I ask you what happened to the time in between?

I hope that the rest of our lives doesn't fly so fast,

We've got to make our remaining years last.

Then when Gabriel does blow his horn

And asks us to account for from when we were born,

We'll tell him what we have done and where we have been

And show how we have spent all the time in between.

International Updates



International Federation on Ageing | Town Hall

The International Federation on Ageing held a Town Hall event called 'COVID-19 and Older People: Humanitarian Responses in the Middle East' yesterday. A recording of this event will be available on the Federation's website <https://ifa.ngo/>



Project for Public Spaces | Reimagining Streets as Places | virtual training course

Project for Public Spaces (PPS) is a non-profit organization based in New York dedicated to creating and sustaining public places that build communities. PPS is the central hub of the global Placemaking movement, connecting people to ideas, resources, expertise, and partners. Opportunities to learn from other placemakers can take your observation, community engagement, and implementation skills to the next level. PPS provides regular in-house trainings, conferences, and speaking engagements, as well as customized events, tailored to your community.

This Autumn, PPS is teaming up with Dutch mobility firm Mobycon to present "Reimagining Streets as Places," a virtual masterclass-style training about the intersection of placemaking and transportation planning. The course will take place over three weeks in October 2020, and upon successful completion participants will be awarded a Streets as Places Certificate.

This multi-day training will be designed to support new and emerging professionals who work in transportation, as well as those who advocate for safe, multi-modal street systems and a lively and welcoming public realm. Through virtual learning sessions and assignments, participants will learn the essentials for systematically changing transportation infrastructure and behaviour, preparing community-based street activations, and balancing the movement and public space functions of a street.

If you have any questions about this training course or registration, please contact info@pps.org. You can also check out all of their previous webinars and conferences [here](#)



Important Tips

Always have your **Eircode** close by in case of emergency. You can find your Eircode [here](#)

Perhaps keep a **daily diary** to record the people you are in contact with every day, so if you develop symptoms it will be easier to trace them

Coronavirus COVID-19



If you have fever and/or cough you should stay at home regardless of your travel or contact history.

If you have returned from an area that is subject to travel restrictions due to COVID-19 you should notify your movement for 14 days. Check the list of affected areas on [www.hse.ie](#)

How to Prevent



Wash

your hands well and often to avoid contamination

Cover

your mouth and nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing and discard and reuse

Avoid

touching eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands

Clean

and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

Stop

shaking hands or hugging when saying hello or greeting other people

Distance

yourself at least 2 metres (6 feet) away from other people, especially those who might be unwell

All people are advised to:

- > **Reduce** social interactions
- > **Keep a distance** of 2m between you and other people
- > **Do not** shake hands or make close contact where possible

If you have symptoms visit [hse.ie](#) Q&A phone HSE Live **1850 24 1850**

Symptoms

- > Fever (High Temperature) > A Cough > Shortness of Breath > Breathing Difficulties

For daily updates visit

[www.gov.ie/health/covid-19](#)
[www.hse.ie](#)

Useful Contacts

Age Friendly Ireland Shared Service Office T: 046 9097413 E: rleavy@meathcoco.ie

HSE Advice Line: Callsave 1850 24 1850

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

The following is the list of each **Local Authority's Helpline phone numbers**

Local Authority

Carlow County Council
 Cavan County Council
 Clare County Council
 Cork City Council
 Cork County Council
 Donegal County Council
 Dublin City Council
 DLR County Council
 Fingal County Council
 Galway City Council
 Galway County Council
 Kerry County Council
 Kildare County Council
 Kilkenny County Council
 Laois County Council
 Leitrim County Council
 Limerick City and County Council
 Longford County Council
 Louth County Council
 Mayo County Council
 Meath County Council
 Monaghan County Council
 Offaly County Council

Community Response Number

1800 814 300
 1800 300 404
 1800 203 600
 1800 222 226
 1800 805 819
 1800 928 982
 01 222 8555
 1800 804 535
 1800 459 059
 1800 400 150
 1800 928 894
 1800 807 009
 1800 300 174
 1800 500 000
 1800 832 010
 1800 852 389
 1800 832 005
 1800 300 122
 1800 805 817
 094 906 4660
 1800 808 809
 1800 804 158
 1800 818 181

Roscommon County Council	1800 200 727
Sligo County Council	1800 292 765
South Dublin County Council	1800 240519
Tipperary County Council	076 106 5000
Waterford City and County Council	1800 250 185
Westmeath County Council	1800 805 816
Wexford County Council	053 919 6000
Wicklow County Council	1800 868 399