

Age Friendly Ireland Weekly Newsletter

22nd October 2021

REGISTER NOW for A SPOTLIGHT ON AGE FRIENDLY IRELAND | POLICY TO PRACTICE | WEBINAR 1 - AGE FRIENDLY HOUSING

We are delighted to announce our upcoming International Webinar Series, working in partnership with the World Health Organisation. Each webinar will focus on one of the 8 themes of the WHO Age-friendly Cities Framework



Additional COVID-19 vaccination dose for those who are immunocompromised

Having a weak immune system puts you at higher risk of serious illness if you get COVID-19. Getting vaccinated will give you some protection against this.



Government of Ireland





If you have a weak immune system, you may be offered another COVID-19 vaccine dose to give you better protection.

You can find information on <u>who may need an additional COVID-10 vaccine</u> <u>dose here.</u>

Hospitals will identify the people who need an additional dose. You do not need to register of contact anyone. People who need an additional dose will receive a text message with an appointment for their vaccine. These additional doses will be given through HSE vaccination centre near you, or your hospital if you're an inpatient. GPs may also vaccinate some people.

COVID-19 vaccine booster dose

If you have received a COVID-19 vaccine course, you will be offered a booster dose if you are:

- 80 or older, or
- 65 or older and living in a nursing home or long-term residential care facility

If you are living in long-term residential care and you are aged 65 or over, you will be vaccinated where you live.

If you are aged 80 or over and not living in residential care, you'll be invited for your vaccine by your GP. Some GPs will refer patients to a <u>vaccination</u> <u>centre</u>.

You can find more <u>information about the COVID-19 vaccine booster dose</u> <u>here.</u>

Where to find COVID-19 Vaccination Information

We encourage everyone to read about the COVID-19 vaccine and to get their information from a factual, trusted source – here are the links to the pages with information on the vaccine:

- Check <u>here</u> for information about the vaccine, information on this page is updated regularly
- Find the vaccine information materials at <u>https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/covid-19-resources-and-</u> <u>translations/covid-19-vaccine-materials/</u>
- Details on COVID-19 vaccines administered are available <u>here</u>
- Read the <u>full COVID-19 Vaccine Allocation Strategy</u>
- Read the <u>National Immunisation Advisory Committee Chapter about</u> <u>COVID-19 vaccine</u>
- <u>COVID-19 vaccine information for health professionals</u>
- Information in Irish Sign Language: information resources on the COVID-19 vaccines in Irish Sign Language are available <u>here</u>.
- COVID-19 vaccines easy read and accessible information formats are available <u>here</u>.

Flu vaccine

It's flu season so if you're 65 or over, it's time to get your annual flu vaccine. While anyone can catch the flu, people aged 65 or older are more at risk of getting seriously ill or needing hospital treatment. So make an appointment



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte Health Service Executive







with your GP or pharmacist today. You can find more information
at <u>hse.ie/flu</u>
'Let's Get Back' Campaign
'Let's Get Back' is a national awareness campaign encouraging the Irish public to get back involved in the sport and exercise that they love. 'Let's Get Back' has been created by Sport Ireland in partnership with Healthy Ireland to encourage members of the Irish public who are anxious or unsure about returning to sport and physical activity following the easing of COVID- 19 restrictions.
Members of the public can get information on how to return to sport and activities in a safe way by visiting <u>Sport Ireland</u> and at <u>Healthy Ireland</u> .
Public Health Information
As always, for the most up to date information and advice on Coronavirus,
please go
to: <u>https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/covid19/</u> and <u>https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/</u> .Clinical and professional guidance relating to COVID-19 is available on <u>https://www.hpsc.ie/</u> where you'll find up to date guidance for healthcare settings and non-clinical settings.
Please check <u>here</u> for the most up to date partner resources for COVID-19.
You can find the <u>COVID-19 A-Z information here</u> from the HSE's Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC).
Please also check the Healthy Ireland site <u>here</u> with further resources and information on the Keep Well campaign.
You can view the latest information on how Ireland is responding to cases of COVID-19 <u>here</u> .
Ireland's COVID-19 Data Hub is available here.

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Charity Trustees' Week (CTW) Event

Charity Trustees' Week (CTW) provides an opportunity to highlight the excellent and often unseen work of charity trustees and encourages new people to consider volunteering opportunities. Pobal is very pleased to take part in Charity Trustees Week 2021, the theme of which is Renewal. To celebrate CTW 2021 Pobal is building on this theme and is focusing specifically on "Building Resilience During and Post COVID-19".

Pobal will be running a full schedule of events throughout the week, these will include a series of regional sessions, hosted and facilitated by Pobal. The sessions will share the experiences of how organisations, supported by the Department of Rural and Community Development and Pobal, have built their board and organisation resilience during the pandemic with a



BOARD



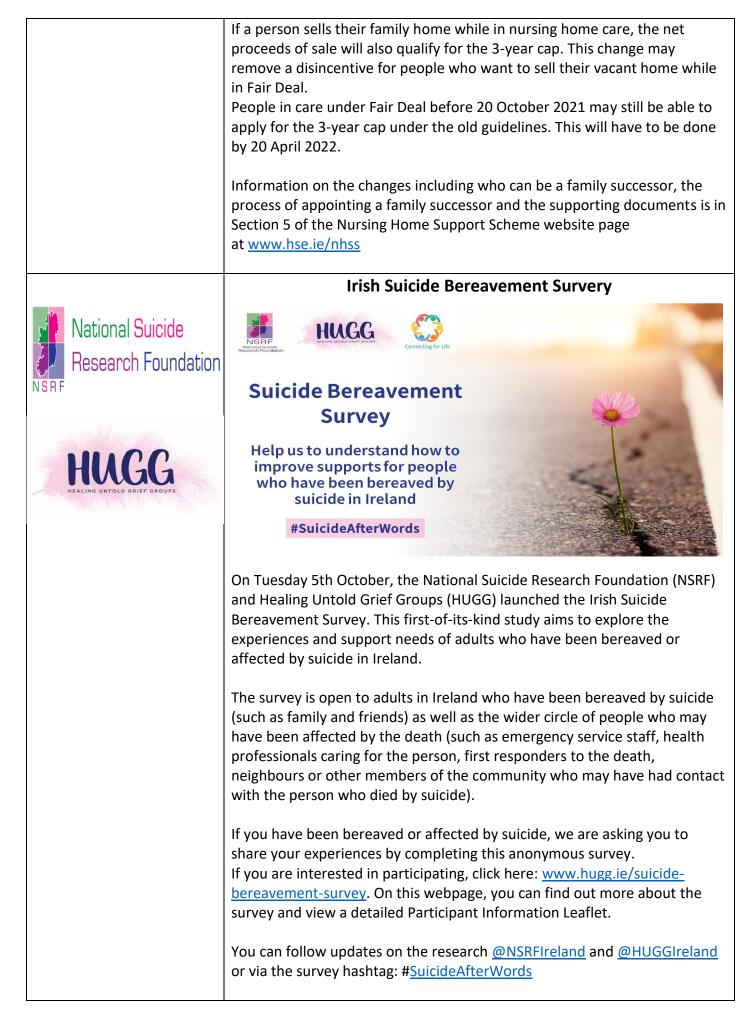


particular emphasis on what their plans are for the future to maintain this resilience post COVID-19.
The regional events, during the month of November, are as follows:
 Monday 15 – Munster: Rape Crisis Network Ireland – Miriam Duffy & Obair Newmarket-on-Fergus – Edwin Bailey
 Wednesday 17 – Leinster: Independent Living Movement Ireland – Des Kelly & Akina Dada wa Africa – Oluchi Porter Thursday 10, Elletan Durdally EM – Energy Coffax & Kasakatallar
 Thursday 18 – Ulster: Dundalk FM – Emma Coffey & Knockatallon Development Company – Mary Mullen
 Friday 19 – Connaught: Galway Traveller Movement – Margaret O'Riada & Crossmolina Community Council board member
All regional events will be in the morning from 9.30-10.15am Register by <u>clicking here.</u>
Updated Nursing Homes Support Scheme legislation
The Nursing Home Support Scheme, also known as Fair Deal, has been updated as of 20th October 2021. Fair Deal, provides financial support to people who need long term residential care. The amount you pay towards the cost of nursing home care depends on your income and assets. If you have little income and assets you pay less and if you have more income and assets you pay more. The scheme applies to approved public, private and voluntary nursing homes. No one receiving nursing home care will be negatively impacted by these changes, which come into effect in line with updated legislation.
 The main changes to the scheme are The <u>3 year cap</u> is extended to family farms and business assets The net proceeds of the sale of the family home is subject to the 3-year cap
The changes to the scheme may affect
 farmers or business owners availing of nursing home care under Fair Deal
 a person in nursing home care who intends to sell their family home a person in nursing home care who has already sold their family home
To calculate the cost of nursing home care, the value of certain assets is only included in financial assessment for 3 years. This is known as the '3- year cap'. From 20 October farmers and business owners may also avail of the 3-year cap on family farms and business assets once certain conditions are met. For example, a family successor is appointed who commits to run the family farm or business for a period of 6 years from their date of appointment.

















Care and Repair

Age Action's Care and Repair does small DIY jobs, free of charge, for older people to help them maintain their homes and their independence.

Age Action's Care and Repair prioritises carrying out jobs in the homes of older people who are being discharged or have recently been discharged from hospital. If someone is coming out of hospital, no matter where they live, we would support them to make sure their home is safe.

Care and Repair can remove trip hazards, install handrails, replace toilet seats or move a bed downstairs to make sure the home is ready for their return.

If you require work done in your home to make it safer after a stay in hospital we can help.

If you are a professional working with older people who would benefit from this service you can download a referral form from **www.ageaction.ie**.

For all other queries about Care and Repair please contact us using these numbers:

Can

We

Help

Age Action national line: 0818 911 109 Age Action in Dublin: 01 4756989 Age Action in Cork: 021 2067399 Age Action in Galway: 091 527831 Email: careandrepair@ageaction.ie



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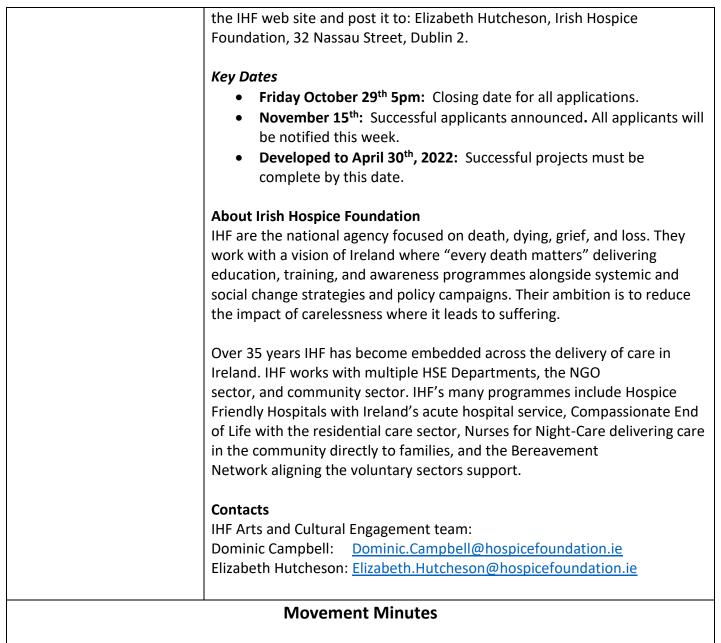


	Independent Advocacy Gathering 2021 "Rights and Medication"
INDERENDERICE EMPOWERMENT	The Independent Advocacy Gathering started in Cork in 2012. They have a planning group that meet regularly to plan the gatherings.
	A group of people who are interested in different types of advocacy come together to learn about advocacy and share stories and ideas and develop advocacy in Ireland.
	Every year they host an Independent Advocacy Gathering. They invite speakers to talk about different issues in advocacy. This event is for anyone who is interested in advocacy.
	The next event is scheduled for Wednesday 17 th November.
	Email: independentadvocacygathering@gmail.com to book your place and get a zoom link.
	For more information <u>click here.</u>
	Irish Hospice Foundation (IHF) offer Seed Grants to
	communities wishing to creatively process or memorialise loss.
Hospice Foundation	IHF offer up to 26 Seed Grants to support communities and individuals across the country with self-directed creative explorations of dying, death, grief, bereavement, and loss. Grants are a maximum of €1,000 each.
	IHF Seed Grant Programme 2021-2022 Supported by the Creative Ireland programme, IHF sets out to inspire and support the work of groups, organisations, and individuals who wish to mark in some tangible way their response to the universal realities of dying, death, and bereavement, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.
	Seed Grants support groups, organisations, and individuals exploring creative ways to do this. They might use the grant to help start new local art projects, or support existing projects to gain momentum - this may involve artists, crafts people, or digital coders. Alternatively, it may be a group or an individual who has a good idea. Priority will be given to creative initiatives that take innovative approaches to reflection and remembrance. During the pandemic, and with the support of the Creative Ireland Programme, IHF began an Arts and Creative Engagement initiative. With all citizens affected by loss, normal patterns of grieving disrupted and care staff fraught, the programme offered a way for people to make meaning in a difficult time. <u>Watch a short film of projects</u> <u>supported previously here.</u>
	Full details and a digital application form can be found on the <u>IHF</u> <u>website</u> . Alternatively, you can download and print an application form via



















Bealtaine Festival – A message from Age & Opportunity



Have you got your ticket for The Gathering? Our online event is happening soon so make sure you book in to meet some interesting new people and to get some inspiration for next year's festival and we'll see you October 26th & 27th!

We are continuing to invite contributions to Ireland's first National Arts & Creative Charter for Older People and hope you'll take part in our survey.

We also have plenty of opportunities this month as we are recruiting an Arts Programme Assistant Manager (contract for maternity leave cover). In addition, we've also announced call outs for our Bealtaine Tour and Flagship Choir for 2022 and a Speed Meeting for Slow Art initiative for Tipperary and Roscommon.

Finally, Age & Opportunity Arts is part of the ongoing Creative Enquiry



project which is now presenting its What Next? programme of arts and ageing resources.

Interested? To visit the website, <u>click here</u>.



Webinar: Getting Older, Staying Active: Promoting physical activity to older adults

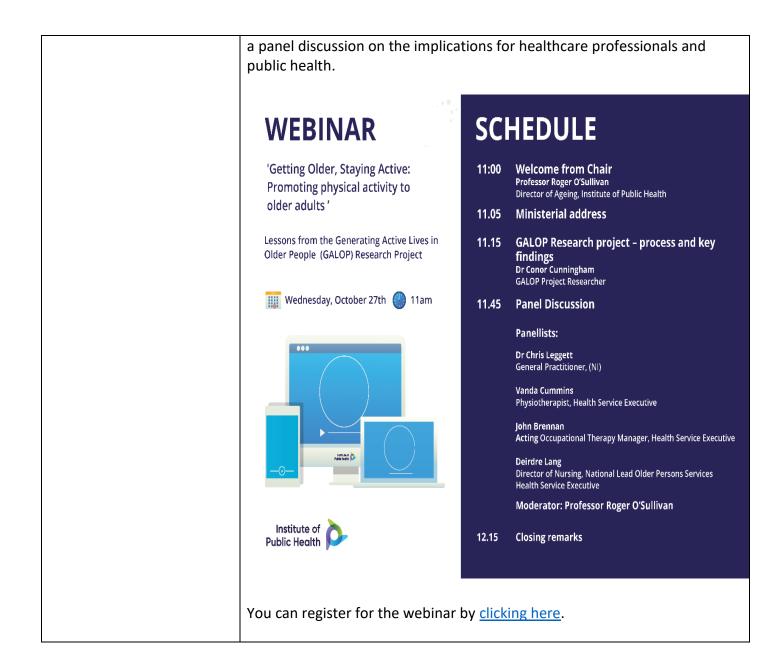
Keeping active and well as we grow older is a key challenge for public health. This event will share the key findings from IPH's Generating Active Lives in Older People (GALOP) research programme and will be followed by a panel discussion on the implications for healthcare professionals and public health.

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"Welcome to the Good Old Days, the finale of Positive Ageing Week - October 1st 2021." – A message from Age Friendly Offaly written by Bridie Costello Hynes

We had a good week with lots of activities; unfortunately, some had to be called off due to the weather. PAW is an initiative of Active Age that has been running for 19yrs to highlight the contribution that Older people make to their families, workplace and communities. This year PAW was organised by the Offaly Age Friendly Alliance. The main partners were the Library Service, The Community Gardai, PPN, Offaly County Council, LOETB and Offaly Network of Older People/ Older Persons Council. The theme for the week was 'Reconnecting Our Communities by Reframing Ageing'. This aims at challenging the negative stereotypes about Older People. During Covid older people were sometimes portrayed as vulnerable, frail and in need of care and protection.







We need to promote Age Equality, and challenge Ageism which can happen when people interact with one and other or within organisations, it can also be self- directed. Ageism creates divides in society, which is unjust and can lead to disadvantage and undermining human rights. This event is a very good example of Positive Ageing. We had plenty of fun, something we are very good at.

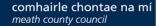


A big thank you to everyone for coming and making a reality of PAW. Also to the organising group, Bridie, Eileen, everyone from the Age Friendly Alliance, Michelle from The Library Service, Willie and Fergus, Paul, Community Gardai, Declan from OLDC, Gillian from LOETB, and my colleagues in the Network of Older People/Older Persons Council - Frances, Ita, Alice and Ann. Thank you to Jenny's Kitchen for the refreshments, Johnny Butterfield, Carmel, Joe and our own Frances Kawala for the entertainment. And of course, the Charleville Centre, a great facility.



We hope to see you all again soon: keep your eyes and ears open for upcoming events and opportunities to meet up and have a bit of fun.













"Recite Me" – A message from Wexford County Council

Wexford County Council is delighted to announce the launch of Recite Me a fantastic new assistive technology support, with many features including converting text-to-speech which is now available to use on our website, <u>www.wexfordcoco.ie</u>.

Its range of functions are designed to make our website more accessible and usable by all, particularly for people who have a disability, including those with common conditions like sight loss, colour blindness and dyslexia.

It helps people who experience challenges accessing information due to poor literacy skills. It can also assist those of whom English is not their first language by translating text-to-speech into the language of their choice.



The Recite Me assistive toolbar can be accessed by clicking on the icon shown at the top right-hand corner of the website.



There are several examples where Recite Me can assist such as:

- Any documents, PDFs or text on our website can be converted from text-to-speech
- Text can be translated into more than 100 different languages including Irish

A quick four-minute video on all of the features and how to use Recite Me is available at the following link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ei2TNX8od68.





County Cork Libraries Encourage Readers with Dementia to 'Come Sit Awhile'

Cork County Council Library and Arts Service has released a collection of short stories, poems and recipes that can be read by or read to, a person with dementia. The book, called 'Come Sit Awhile', hopes to support reminiscing. It includes articles from Ireland's Own, works by local historians and family recipes from a well-known Irish chef.

The collection is part of the Library's Age Friendly Programme which aims to create an inclusive place for older people, including those affected by







dementia. Copies of the book are available to borrow from branch libraries and mobile libraries across County Cork.

The title 'Come Sit Awhile' was inspired by a poem written by Alice Taylor. The best-selling writer from County Cork, joined Mayor of the County of Cork, Cllr. Gillian Coughlan to launch the collection.



Speaking at the launch, Mayor Coughlan praised the Council's Library and Arts Service for their hard work on the collection. The Mayor said, "Research shows that reading poems and stories can have a positive effect on people with dementia, as does the act of evoking memories through reminiscence. I hope that this collection will summon happy memories for all who take the time to read it. I'm delighted to be able to launch this book with Alice Taylor today. Not only is the title inspired by her poetry but she is best known for her nostalgic works looking back at life in a small village which is really fitting."

Chief Executive of Cork County Council, Tim Lucey added "There are currently 64,000 people living with dementia in Ireland, the majority of which live in the community. Libraries are at the heart of these communities and play an essential role in providing information, services and access to resources for someone with dementia or their carers. We want our libraries to be welcoming and inclusive spaces for the entire community. The 'Come Sit Awhile' collection is an important element in our work towards that. We also appreciate the support and advice of the HSE through their programme 'Dementia: Understand together in Communities'."

Included in the book are six uplifting and easy to follow dementia-friendly short stories that were entered in a competition held by the Library as part of the Bealtaine Programme. The annual festival celebrates creativity in older age.









Other works in the collection include a recipe provided by Darina Allen for her mother's apple pie, features written by local historians as well as articles from publications like Ireland's Own. Library staff sought advice from the HSE and endeavored to include as many pieces as possible that support reminiscing.

37 Businesses in Donegal Town awarded the Age Friendly Recognition award





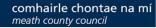
The Age Friendly Business Recognition programme was delivered by Donegal Age Friendly Alliance and the Local Enterprise Office in conjunction with Age Friendly Ireland, Donegal Older Persons Council and Donegal Community Chamber & Business Forum. Donegal Town is the first town in county Donegal to roll out this initiative. On the 15th of October, Leas Cathaoirleach of Donegal County Council, Cllr Martin McDermott, Liam Ward Director of Planning and Community Development awarded 37 businesses with the Age Friendly Business Recognition Charter along with recognizing a further 30 people having received the training.



During this process businesses have installed 9 Age Friendly parking places to the town, are providing Age Friendly Seating, toilet facilities, improved lighting and sound inside the premises and many more initiatives to improve the experience for the older customers.







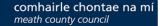






A huge congratulations to everyone involved and to the following businesses that have received the Age Friendly Business Recognition award: AIB Bank Donegal Town, All Sports, Anthony Conaghan Cars, Ashtree Garden Centre, Abbey Hotel, Bank Of Ireland, Begeleys Pharmacy, Bradys Opticians, Central Hotel, Donegal Manor, Donegal Railway Museum, Donegal Town Community Chamber, Donegal Credit Union, Donegal Family Resource Centre, Edge Clothing, Elite Botique, Eske Pharmacy, Eurosaver, Furey's Diner, Harbour Restaurant, Harvey's Point Hotel, Julie's Beauty Salon, Kelco Communications, Kitty Kellys, Little Mamas, Lough Eske, MABS, Mc Nutly's XL, Old Stone Café, Peter's Menswear, Quay West Restaurant, Specsavers, Supervalu, Timony' Spar, Tots & Tassles, Ulster Bank, Upper Cuts.









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 Rachel at <u>rleavy@meathcoco.ie</u> Information is one thing we can share right now!

International Updates	
	IFA Global Cafe: In Conversation with Ms Amanda O'Rourke on "Homelessness in Parks"
International Federation on Ageing	
	il GLOBAL CAFÉ
	In Conversation with Ms Amanda O'Rourke: Homelessness in Parks
	Executive Director of 8 80 Cities
	日 22 October 2021 ① 07:00 - 08:00AM EDT 日
The International Federation on Ageing held a Global Cafe event thi called - In Conversation with Ms Amanda O'Rourke, Executive Direc Cities, on "Homelessness in Parks"	
	A recording of this event will be available on the Federation's website <u>https://ifa.ngo/ifa-global-cafe/</u> and <u>https://drbarometer.com/community/resource-library</u>

Important Tips

Always have your **Eircode** close by in case of emergency. You can find your Eircode <u>here</u>

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











Useful Contacts

Age Friendly Ireland Shared Service Office Telephone: 046 9097413 Or Email: <u>rleavy@meathcoco.ie</u>

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

Legal Authority	
Local Authority	Community Response Number
Carlow County Council	1800 814 300
Cavan County Council	1800 300 404
Clare County Council	1800 203 600
Cork City Council	1800 222 226
Cork County Council	1800 805 819
Donegal County Council	1800 928 982
Dublin City Council	01 222 8555
DLR County Council	1800 804 535
Fingal County Council	1800 459 059
Galway City Council	1800 400 150
Galway County Council	1800 928 894
Kerry County Council	1800 807 009
Kildare County Council	1800 300 174
Kilkenny County Council	1800 326 522
Laois County Council	1800 832 010
Leitrim County Council	1800 852 389
Limerick City and County Council	1800 832 005
Longford County Council	1800 300 122
Louth County Council	1800 805 817
Mayo County Council	094 906 4660
Meath County Council	1800 808 809
Monaghan County Council	1800 804 158
Offaly County Council	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





