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National Updates



Adult Safeguarding Stakeholder Forum

The Department of Health hosted a Stakeholder Forum on 3 June 2026 to support the development and implementation of the National Policy Framework for Adult Safeguarding in the Health and Social Care Sector.

The forum brought together a wide range of stakeholders, including Government, the HSE

and community organisations, to discuss how best to protect and support adults who may be at risk of harm.

Discussions focused on key areas such as future legislation, implementation planning and the development of safeguarding supports, including an online system and a national research strategy.

There was also a strong emphasis on empowering people to stay safe, including a session on self-guarding and practical guidance on staying safe online.

Philip Daly and Amro Hamid are the two representatives on this forum nominated from the National Network of Older People's Councils.

SEEKING RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS

If you are interested in taking part, contact Brídín Carroll at
bridin.carroll@universityofgalway.ie
086 842 6295

We want to speak with adults aged 55 or older with disabilities who are:

- Experiencing homelessness, or
- Have recently experienced homelessness, or
- Are at risk of losing their home

Participation involves:

- A **1-hour interview** with the researcher
- held online or in-person (your choice!)

All information is confidential and anonymous.

All disabilities welcome. This includes physical, mental health, cognitive, intellectual or sensory disabilities.

Translation available (including ISL).



We Want to Understand:

- The challenges you faced finding and keeping a safe home
- How easy or hard it is to use housing and homelessness services
- What needs to change to improve support

This research is led by Dr. Brídín Carroll from the Irish Centre for Social Gerontology in the University of Galway. It is in collaboration with the Simon Communities of Ireland. The study is funded by the National Disability Authority.

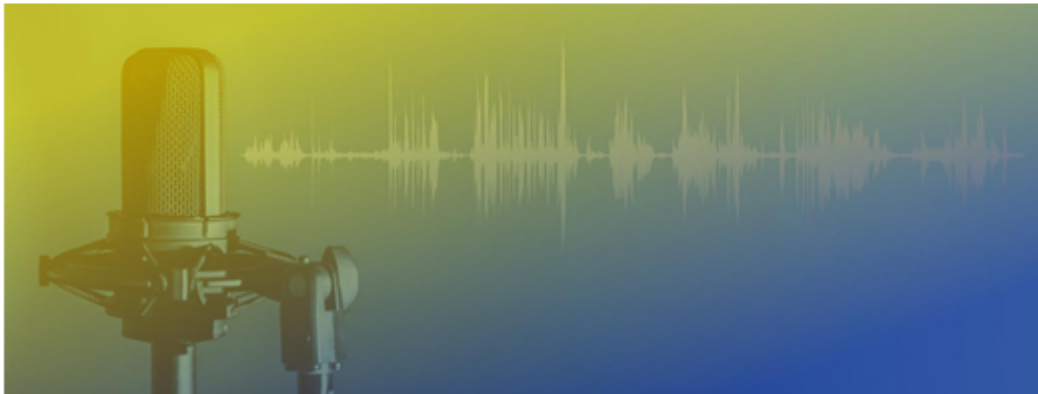


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OF GALWAY





Irish
Gerontological
Society



IGS Podcast - Cultural Gerontology

In this episode, Edel talks to Professor Des O'Neill, Dr. Gemma Carney and Dr. Neasa Fitzpatrick about Cultural Gerontology. Professor O'Neill is a Consultant Physician in Geriatric Medicine at Tallaght University Hospital and Trinity College Dublin. Dr. Carney is a lecturer in social policy and ageing in Queen's University Belfast. Dr. Fitzpatrick is a specialist registrar in geriatric medicine and assistant professor in Trinity College Dublin.

They discuss cultural gerontology, depictions of ageing, ageism, inter-generational connections and lots more. They discuss the work and impact of the late Professor Davis Coakley and the background to the session named in his honour at the IGS annual scientific meeting.

Listen Here



Dementia Café Ireland

A dementia cafe is a welcoming, once monthly meeting for anyone who is affected by dementia. People living with dementia, their families and friends, healthcare professionals, and people who are interested in supporting a dementia inclusive community, are all welcome to attend. Dementia cafes are run by local voluntary steering committees, and are always free of charge.

Find Your Local Café Here

Local Updates





Minister of State for Planning and Local Government John Cummins Visits Near-Completion of Beechwood Court Age Friendly Homes in Daingean

Offaly County Council was pleased to welcome Minister of State for Planning and Local Government, John Cummins TD, to Beechwood Court, Daingean, for a site visit to view the strong progress made on this Age Friendly housing development, which is now approaching completion.

Designed with accessibility and independent living at its core, Beechwood Court will provide high-quality accommodation tailored to the needs of older persons and those requiring universally designed homes.

Arranged in two terraces, the scheme has been carefully designed to create a safe and accessible residential environment, with level pathways, easy-to-navigate layouts, and on-site parking supporting ease of access for residents.

Minister of State for Local Government and Planning John Cummins TD said:

“This development in Daingean is a great example of what can be achieved when local authorities work closely with delivery partners to provide high-quality, age-friendly homes that enable people to live independently in their own communities.

“I want to commend Offaly County Council and all those involved in bringing this project to fruition. As our population ages, developments like this will become increasingly important. They provide not just homes, but dignity, security and the opportunity for older people to remain connected to the places and communities they know best.

“This is exactly the type of collaborative, well-designed housing delivery that we need to see replicated right across the country, and I look forward to supporting more projects of this kind in the years ahead.”

Chief Executive of Offaly County Council, Eoghan Ryan, commented:

“Beechwood Court reflects our focus on delivering housing that responds to real community needs. By combining universal design principles with high energy efficiency standards, we are providing homes that will enable people to remain living independently in their community, while also ensuring long-term sustainability.”

The homes are being delivered to Near Zero Energy Building (NZEB) standards and will incorporate air-to-water heat pump systems, with each unit targeting an A2 Building Energy Rating.

The scheme has been developed by Offaly County Council’s Housing Team, supported by J.J. Carroll, Age Friendly Technical Advisor, in collaboration with SDS Design Engineers (civil and structural), Hayes Higgins Partnership (mechanical and electrical), and Tobin Consulting (quantity surveying). Construction is being carried out by Carroll O’Keefe & Co. Ltd., with works having commenced in late June last year.

Funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage under the Social Housing Investment Programme, the €3.4 million project forms part of the Council’s wider programme of housing delivery across the county.

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DUBLIN NORTHWEST PARTNERSHIP

Empowering | Collaborative | Accountable | Purposeful | Courageous

Alone Information Session for the Older Person

Date: Wednesday 5th Aug
Time: 2:30pm - 3:30pm
Venue: Cabra Library, Navan Road, Dublin 7



Contact: pauline.hazel@dublinnorthwest.ie
Tel: 086 041 6155
To book your place, visit www.dublinnorthwest.ie

 **Kiiltas na hÉireann**
Government of Ireland

 **Am a chomhoibriú ag an Aontas Eorpach**
Co-funded by the European Union

 **An Rann Fostairis Tuaithe agus Pobail agan Gaeltachta**
Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht

 **Intreo** | Partner



"The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) is co-funded by the Irish Government through the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, and the European Union"

Register Here

**CYBER & FRAUD AWARENESS TALK
HOSTED BY AIB FRAUD & SECURITY TEAM**




Stay Safe, Stay Informed, Stay Connected

📅 Thursday, 27 August 2026

**📍 Doohamlet Community Centre Doohamlet, Co.
Monaghan Eircode A75 EF99**

🕒 10.30am – 12.30pm

Presentations by:

- ✓ AIB Fraud Prevention Team
- ✓ An Garda Síochána

**TO REGISTER PLEASE CONTACT LINDA
LENNON 04745090 OR
LINDA.LENNON@MONAGHANCOCO.IE**





Library News

Skills for Life: Tech SOS Clinic, Thursday 23rd July, 7-8pm

Need help with your digital device (tablet, phone, or laptop)? Want to find out more about how to access the free library eResources like BorrowBox, Transparent Languages, Kanopy, Freegal and much more? Learn about the range of online resources accessible through Bunclody Library and become more confident using your device. This event is for adults only and it is also an Age Friendly event. Booking required:

<https://wexfordcoco.libcal.com/event/4564294>

Friday Film Club Friday 31st July, 11am -1pm

Join us every month for a movie screening (some golden oldies as well as more modern classics) for adults. Library staff will select the perfect movie! This movie is for adults only. No booking required. If you require any additional assistance, please contact the library at 053 9375466.

Vodafone Foundation's Hi Digital programme for older people.

Wexford Libraries has partnered with the Vodafone Foundation's Hi Digital programme to improve digital access for older people through a tablet loan scheme.

The scheme is now available in Bunclody Library, allowing library members to borrow ready-to-use tablets with the Hi Digital course, preloaded data, and apps like BorrowBox and RTÉ Player.

Each tablet comes ready to go with internet access, helpful apps, and the free Hi Digital course already set up. Hi Digital, in partnership with ALONE, is a free Vodafone Foundation course helping older people build digital skills through simple lessons on smartphones, online safety, and everyday apps, supported by flexible, self-paced learning in a familiar community setting. The tablets can be borrowed for a period of up to four weeks, and assistance is available from library staff. For more information, please contact the library by telephone at 053 9375466 or by email at bunclodylibrary@wexfordcoco.ie.

Loughboy Library Weekly Online Clinic

Tuesday 21st July from 2.30 - 3.30 pm

Would you like to learn more about the wealth of online resources available from Kilkenny Libraries?

Pop in to see us at our weekly online clinic and we can demonstrate to you how to use such fabulous online resources as Borrowbox, Universal Class and more!

No booking required. Just drop in!

Ciorcal Comhrá Gaeilge / Irish Conversation Group in Loughboy Library

Wednesday 22nd July from 11.00 – 11.30am

This is an enthusiastic gathering, seeking to use their cúpla focail. It is open to all levels of fluency, beginners, improvers and advanced.

Just come along any Wednesday agus beidh fáilte romhat!

Word Games in Ferrybank Library

Every Friday from 2.30 - 3.30 pm

Are you a fan of wordle, crosswords and scrabble? Indulge your passion by dropping in to our Friday afternoon word game group.

A good exercise for the brain cells but lots of laughter guaranteed.

Knitting and Crafting Group in Ferrybank Library

Every Tuesday from 10.00 am – 12.30pm

Do you enjoy getting creative with crafts Meet fellow craft lovers at our weekly get together, where you can share tips, swap inspiration, and work on your own projects in great company.

All are welcome - no booking required.

Nattering Knitters in Castlecomer Library

Every Thursday from 10.00 am – 12.00 pm

Join this talented bunch of knitters for a knit and a cuppa every Thursday morning 10am to 12pm. No need to book, everyone welcome.

Chess Club in Castlecomer Library

Saturday 18th July from 11.00am – 12.00pm

Our Chess Club continues every Second Saturday 11.00am to 12.00pm. This is a self-led, everyone welcome, beginners and seasoned players Chess Club. Come along and share skills or learn from one another and enjoy chess at any level.

No Booking Required

Adult Book Club in Graiguenamanagh Library

meets on the first Tuesday of every month at 7.00 pm. New members are always welcome.

Ciorcal Comhrá Gaeilge / Irish Conversation Group in Graiguenamanagh Library

Every Wednesday, 11.00am – 12.00pm If you're looking to use your cúpla focal, this is a great group to meet up with. It's open to all levels of fluency — beginners, improvers, and advanced speakers are all welcome. Just drop in any Wednesday agus beidh fáilte romhat!

Crafty Crew in Graiguenamanagh Library

Every Wednesday from 10.00am – 12.00pm Enjoy meeting up with like minded crafters?

Drop into the library any Wednesday morning to share tips, have a chat, and enjoy a cuppa while you work on your projects. All are welcome — no booking required.

Word Searches & Sudoku in Graiguenamanagh Library

Every Friday from 11.30am–12.30pm Drop into the library for an hour of quiet time and enjoy our weekly word searches and sudoku. A lovely way to unwind at the end of the week.

Film & Book Club in Graiguenamanagh Library

meets on the second Tuesday of every month at 6.00 pm.

Age Friendly resources available at Graiguenamanagh Library

include hearing loops, magnifiers, C Pens, and a book trolley for use within the library. Reading glasses If you forget your glasses, fear not — we have a selection of reading glasses available to use in the library.

If you would like a PDF version of the newsletter, please click [HERE](#)

- This Newsletter is prepared and circulated by Age Friendly Ireland
- The Newsletter is published weekly, every Friday
- If you wish to provide information that may be included in the

Newsletter please email it to: agefriendlyireland@meathcoco.ie no later than midday on the Thursday. Age Friendly Ireland retains full editorial responsibility for content of the Newsletter.

Age Friendly Ireland Shared Service, Meath County Council



Age Friendly Ireland Shared Service Office

Telephone: 046 9032170

Email: agefriendlyireland@meathcoco.ie

Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme (Referrals)

Telephone: 046 9248899

Email: healthyagefriendlyhomes@meathcoco.ie

HSE Advice Line: Call save 1850 24 1850

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

Saturday and Sunday



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