COVID-19 Response and Information

A Message from Supporting Communities

Communities all over the world are now dealing with an unprecedented health emergency the likes of which we have not seen in our lifetimes.

At Supporting Communities, we want to do everything in our power to continue to support and assist our members to respond effectively to this crisis.

Groups everywhere are ramping up their efforts to reach out to the most vulnerable amongst us, devising creative ways to stay in touch and provide essential services.

Our mission remains unchanged – we will continue to support and empower communities and we will be there to help you face this challenge.

We believe in working together, supporting each other, and advocating for those who need our help.

We are working with our key stakeholders the Housing Executive, the Department for Communities, Housing Associations and other third sector organisations to pull together a unified response and a central point of practical information to avoid contributing to the deluge of news which is fuelling the anxiety of many.

We will focus on the positive actions we can take to help everyone get through this situation. What this COVID-19 virus has certainly shown is that we are all connected and in this together.

Our dedicated staff will continue to support your community groups and your committee by telephone, email, and video conferencing during these very difficult and testing times for us all.

Digital Inclusion Help: Get Connected, Stay Connected

Do you or anyone you know need help with digital skills such as shopping online, email, or keeping in touch with friends and family during this uncertain time?

Some basic digital skills support could be a lifeline for many who are isolated. You can find our digital inclusion resources here: https://supportingcommunities.org/digital-inclusion-resources

We also recommend NI Direct’s Go ON NI (www.nidirect.gov.uk/go-on-ni) for information, e-learning and training guides on many topics covering how to stay safe online, shopping and staying in touch through Social Media.

Training guides are available here: https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/learn-keep-touch-online-improve-digital-skills

Our Digital Inclusion Officer, Martin Quinn, is also available for help by phone. If someone in your area needs someone to talk them through the basics of getting connected and using online communication tools, ask your CDO to refer them to Martin.
Department for Communities

The Communities Minister, Deirdre Hargey, has issued the following letter to the community and voluntary sector; other Ministers have outlined the contingency plans for their respective Departments and these are available on each website.

I am writing to update you on the action I am taking to help mitigate the potential impact of Covid-19 on the people and communities that we support. You will be aware that the situation is fast-moving and evolving – it is therefore necessary that we respond with equal pace.

I have made plans to ensure that every area of my Department has contingency arrangements in place in the event that reasonable and worst case planning assumptions are realised.

The key business continuity priorities, for the Department and our Arm's Length Bodies have been identified as:

- provision of social security benefits and child maintenance services
- provision of social housing and essential repairs
- payment of grants and flexibility in our approach to supporting community and voluntary groups delivering essential services on the ground
- prompt payments to suppliers for goods and services

I have brought forward urgent changes to benefit rules to help those affected by Covid-19, including amendments to Statutory Sick Pay, Employment and Support Allowance and Universal Credit. These changes mean that there will be no delay in access to sickness related benefits.

My primary objective is to ensure that people are protected and that important community services will continue to be delivered. I am working with partners across the Executive and its agencies to discuss ongoing risk levels and to feed into emerging advice and planning. We will continue to rely on the advice from the Public Health Agency (PHA) at [https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/news/covid-19-coronavirus](https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/news/covid-19-coronavirus)

I recognise the vital role that you play in supporting many of those in our community who need help now more than ever. In recognition of this, and given the extraordinary circumstances that we find ourselves in, I have authorised the following additional steps to ensure that we are ready to face the challenges presented by Covid-19 together:

Grant funding flexibilities to include:

- an upfront payment of grant funding for three months (to be reviewed as necessary), to allow for, amongst other things, the continuation of salary contributions in circumstances where employees are required to self-isolate;
- temporary suspension of targets and funding conditions which are directly impacted by your response to the Executive’s published advice and guidance for employers;
- temporary suspension of grant monitoring arrangements such as vouching, and the need to secure prior approval for re-profiling of previously agreed budget; these to be recommenced at a later stage with a reasonable and proportionate approach based on risk.

Sponsor teams will be in touch very quickly to let you know how these flexibilities will work.

Covid-19 Community Support Fund

Given the emerging and predicted health, social and economic impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, there are likely to be disproportionate impacts on a number of vulnerable groups. Those who are socially and rurally isolated, those with health conditions and disabilities, carers and older people are likely to be among those most impacted.

To address these anticipated needs, I will introduce a COVID 19 Community Support Fund; this fund could provide the following categories of support:

Financial: low income and at risk due to financial stress
Food: access to food (whether due to cost or availability)
Connectivity: those living alone or in rural and border areas that are likely to experience greater challenges in accessing services.

This will be an extraordinary fund to be delivered through the established Community Support Programme infrastructure in which local government distributes funding on our behalf. My officials are working with delivery partners in NICVA, Health and Social Care, Public Health Agency and Local Government to ensure that the proposed Fund takes account of emerging need, including by working with groups at the grass roots.

I am extremely grateful for your support as we face these challenging times – it is vital that together we work to support those in our community who will need it most in the weeks ahead.
Housing Executive and Covid-19

The Housing Executive has issued this guide to its response to the current public health crisis caused by the pandemic coronavirus.

In line with government advice on the management of the coronavirus outbreak, it has become necessary to make changes in the way we deliver our services. These changes are intended to protect our customers and our staff while ensuring that we continue to provide key essential services.

The main changes are as follows:

**Local Offices:**
All public reception areas in our local offices will close with immediate effect and until further notice. Staff will still be working from our offices and we can be contacted on these telephone numbers:

- 03448 920 900 - General enquiries
- 03448 920 901 - Repairs
- 03448 920 902 - Housing Benefit

Please note that staff will not be carrying out home visits until further notice.

**Homeless Services / Applying for a house**
Our services will be disrupted as a result of the closure of our local offices and staff being unable to carry out home visits. However, we will continue to provide advice and assistance by telephone. Customers should contact the general enquiries number above.

**Rental Payments**
Customers facing financial difficulties as a result of the on-going emergency should telephone their patch manager for further advice. We will have a sensitive approach to those in financial difficulty.

**Repair Service**
To minimise the spread of the virus and in keeping with the Governments advice on social distancing, over the coming days our repairs service we will be moving to an emergency service only until further notice. We will therefore only carry out repair works where there is a risk to life or property.

When reporting a repair, staff will be asking if customers are self-isolating, and, if so, our contractor will be advised. Our contractors will have to carry out a risk assessment before attending to the works and they will contact you to advise on what to do next.

Repairs can be reported by telephone - 03448 920 901 or online Report a repair online

**Housing Benefit**
Housing Benefit payments will continue as normal. Should you wish to make a new claim or advise of a change in circumstances please telephone the Housing Benefit number above.

NI ASSEMBLY UPDATE

Assembly Business and Covid-19

The Speaker of the Northern Ireland Assembly, Alex Maskey MLA, said:
“Further to my statement on Monday, I have had further conversations with the political parties today in relation to how Assembly business will be managed in the time ahead.

“Consequently, I have written to all MLAs this evening setting out some agreed initial changes, including to business next week. All non-essential Assembly business will be avoided in order that it does not distract from the delivery of public services to deal with the impact of Covid 19.

The priority of the Assembly will be on ensuring that decisions on Executive business, including legislation, can be taken, and that the ability for Ministers to provide updates and be scrutinised on these issues continues in a publicly transparent way in the Assembly Chamber. I am conscious that it is highly unusual for any Speaker to seek to reduce the ability of elected representatives to scrutinise Ministers but these are extraordinary times and they require extraordinary measures.

I am grateful for the co-operation that I have had from the political parties and their commitment to supporting public services and protecting public health during these difficult times.”
NIFRS Announces Measures to help keep Firefighters and Public Safe during Coronavirus Pandemic

Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS) has announced a number of measures to help protect employees and maintain its ability to respond to emergency incidents during the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic.

The suite of protective measures includes, suspending face-to-face fire prevention activities, such as school visits, community engagement sessions, engagement with older people and Home Fire Safety Checks.

NIFRS is keen to reassure the public that although it cannot deliver community safety programmes “face to face” that fire safety advice will still be available to everyone via specialist Prevention and Protection Teams. These teams are based in Belfast, Ballymena, Portadown and Derry/Londonderry. By phoning 02892664221 and providing your details you will be contacted by one of the teams to discuss your queries and circumstances and fire safety advice will then be provided to you over the telephone.

Other measures include:

- Community events, public access and public meetings on any NIFRS property have been suspended,
- NIFRS Youth engagement activities are suspended including our Fire Cadet Programme, and Princes Trust partnership delivery.
- The delivery of our Risk Based Fire Safety Audit Programme has been amended with audits only delivered on a prioritised high risk to life basis.
- Off Station emergency training exercises and non-essential training suspended.
- Restricted access to NIFRS Regional Control Centre.

Assistant Chief Fire & Rescue Officer Alan Walmsley, NIFRS, said:

“These are unprecedented and challenging times and the health and wellbeing of our employees is of primary importance. This is why we have taken these difficult decisions – to help protect our people and keep them safe. We all have a responsibility to ensure we are playing our part to help prevent the spread of the Coronavirus and to protect the most vulnerable in our community. We have regularly been updating our employees and sign posting them to the most up to date information as the situation evolves to help keep them safe.

“We are continuing to engage via the Civil Contingencies Group NI, Department of Health and Public Health Agency to monitor and respond to the situation. NIFRS COVID 19 Gold Command Group are meeting regularly and we have enacted these measures to also help ensure we can maintain a level of service delivery that is prioritised to fulfil our critical functions.

“I would like to reassure the community that we have contingency measures in place to help ensure that we can continue to respond to emergency incidents and support partner agencies as and when required.

“I am asking all our Partner organisations, who we work with in protecting people at risk from fire in our community, to continue to make referrals to us through the existing partnership arrangements. This will help us identify people who need our help the most so we can deliver fire safety advice again to these individuals over the telephone. Fire safety information, which will be useful to everyone, but especially to those who may be self-isolating, is available on www.nifrs.org and on our social media platforms.

“As it is likely that over the next while people will be spending more time in their homes, we would like to reiterate the importance of fire safety in the home, and following the STOP Fire Message -

S - have a Smoke alarm on every floor of your home;
T - test your smoke alarms weekly;
O - be aware of the Obvious dangers in your home; and
P - plan your escape route, should a fire occur. Anyone who is concerned for their own or someone else’s home fire safety should contact NIFRS HQ on 02892664221”

REMEMBER you can find free Home Fire Safety information on our website – www.nifrs.org.
Big Spring Clean and Covid-19

A message from Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful

It's a strange and uncertain time we are living in – the current COVID-19 outbreak is a worry on everyone's minds and with 24 hour social media and news there seems to be no getting away from it. We understand that you may be feeling anxious, it is a natural response as it has the potential to effect those closest to us. But we are also heartened by the number of you who want to roll up your sleeves and help. So we want to update you on our response to Covid-19.

Our first priority is to make sure everyone stays safe. During this time we would ask that you DO NOT organise or attend large BIG Spring Clean litter picks or other events. To keep you safe and our staff healthy, please note that we will not be giving out BIG Spring Clean packs or lending equipment.

Struggling to keep the family occupied or feeling isolated yourself? The current advice on social distancing does not mean you need to stay indoors all the time. Many of us know therapeutic impacts of time spent outdoors, it can boost your immune system and have a really positive impact on your mental health.

Following the advice on social distancing and where safe to do so, you could pick some litter with your family or as an individual and #doonesmallthing for the environment!

Just remember to do it safely, ensure you follow social distancing advice and wash your hands after (see our Hints and Tips Booklet for more general information on carrying out a safe clean up https://bit.ly/lhhresources).

If you do decide to do a small litter pick, we would love to hear from you! We’d love to share your #notsoBIGSpringClean activities on our social media and share some positivity with our community. Just send us a message on Facebook or send an email to Karina.Robinson@keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org.

Remember you can also register your results on the Live Here Love Here website to be entered into our handicart competition! We’re extending the deadline until the 1st October 2020 so if you are rescheduling your larger Big Spring Clean event you still have a chance to win.

The Live Here Love Here team are still here, active and ready to support where we can. If the past week has taught us anything it is that by pulling together and helping each other we can really make a big difference for the wider community.

If you or someone you know can offer a community service in these trying times please get in touch, we are happy to promote these gestures of community spirit!

We will of course be following Government and Public Health Agency advice closely and will update this information if anything changes. Thank you for your support and patience as we work through this. We need community now more than ever as we pull together to help the most vulnerable.

Social Enterprise

Social Enterprise Plus Notice

Please note that the launch of the Housing Executive’s Social Enterprise Plus Awards has been postponed given the current situation regarding Covid-19 (Coronavirus).

We will continue to keep this under review in line with Government guidelines and advice.
Third Sector Advice on Managing the Impact of Coronavirus

**NICVA**

NICVA has produced an excellent resource page signposting to authoritative sources of information that they are updating regularly.

Rather than reinvent the wheel, we encourage our members to read the information here: https://www.nicva.org/article/nicvas-advice-on-managing-the-impact-of-coronavirus

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**Charity Commission Guidance**

The Charity Commission assures charities that their approach to regulation during this period will be as flexible and supportive as possible.

Please see the latest from them here: https://www.charitycommissionni.org.uk/news/covid-19-coronavirus-information/

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**Volunteer Now**

**Challenging Times – Let’s #HelpEachOther**

In such uncertain and changing times, Volunteer Now is mindful of the amazing support volunteers are bringing to those ‘most at risk’ in our communities and more and more people are stepping up in terms of getting involved and offering help. They have launched a new campaign ‘HelpEachOther’ to encourage organisations to register their specific virus related, safe opportunities which will then be promoted to individuals who would like to help.

Denise Hayward, CEO, Volunteer Now explains: “With thousands of people self isolating and distancing themselves, they are likely to be worried, afraid and to feel lonely. It has never been more important that these people know there are connections which can be made.

*We are getting more and more calls from the public with offers of help and we feel that it is important that we channel these offers whether one-off or ongoing to those most in need.*

*We know that community spirit is alive and well and this campaign will harness our desire to do good and to make sure people don’t feel that they are on their own”*

Volunteer Now operates a Befriending Service within the Belfast area and Victoria O’Neill, Service Co-ordinator said: “Due to COVID-19 and its implications we have changed how we support our clients and volunteers. Our volunteers are happy to continue their role of befriender by keeping in touch by phone or to drop off essentials whilst keeping a safe distance. Contact is still really important and our volunteers have been brilliant in adapting to the changing needs.”

If you are a volunteer involving organisation who would like to involve more volunteers as a result of Covid-19 please contact us or if you would like to volunteer please register your interest via our website.

Good practice information is also there to keep everyone safe. Volunteer Now will update our website and social media accounts regularly on how people can #HelpEachOther

For more information go to www.volunteernow.co.uk and click on HelpEachOther or email: info@volunteernow.co.uk and lets make a difference now!
All Training Postponed
Due to the current circumstances, all training programmed for March and April 2020 has been postponed. We are looking into different ways of bringing our training to you so monitor our website and social media channels in the coming weeks. Further communication regarding our face-to-face training will be issued towards the end of April.

For more information on Volunteer Now training courses and to book places, go to: https://www.volunteernow.co.uk/training/courses-scheduled/2/

Housing Rights Training Courses

Training & Events
For the safety of all service users and staff, Housing Rights has announced it will not be conducting any training sessions until further notice.

For more information and to keep up to date on Housing Rights activities, go to: https://www.housingrights.org.uk/training-events

Advice NI Training Courses

Advice NI is following current guidance in relation to Covid-19 and has cancelled all face to face training for the duration of our current training calendar - to the end of June 2020. Advice NI have issued this notice.

- If you are currently booked onto training with us we will be in touch to confirm cancellations.
- If you have booked bespoke training with us we will be in touch to make alternative arrangements.
- If you are on one of our continuing courses you will hear from us in the coming days with new arrangements to meet your needs.

Please rest assured that we will strive to be flexible for you in the current circumstances so that you can access the training you need in a way that meets your changing requirements.

We are piloting our online training platform this week and will update the website shortly with new offerings for scheduled online training and pre-recorded courses.

We will be working on new training to meet your needs and be adding it to the website over the coming weeks. If you have any questions or if you want to speak to us about your training needs please email training@adviceni.net and we will be in touch as soon as possible.

Wiseradviser NI - We are currently working to re-develop our Wiseradviser NI face-to-face training to online formats to continue delivery of this programme where possible. We will be in touch with information as we progress in this area. For any queries please contact wiseradviser@adviceni.net

In the meantime you can access our range of Wiseradviser NI online courses available at http://www.wiseradviser.org/northern-ireland
Funding

Coronavirus Community Fund

Who can apply:
Constituted organisations based in Northern Ireland. We want to support community groups working together; particularly in smaller geographical communities. We will therefore encourage a partnership approach, and one application from one lead organisation, rather than a number of separate applications.

Criteria:
The fund will be open to constituted community organisations throughout Northern Ireland, who are supporting isolated older people at this time. The focus of the fund will be to offer community organisations emergency funding to deal with emerging issues in the community, affecting older people (aged 50 and over), as a result of the continuing threat of coronavirus, and the need for self isolation, and potential for further exacerbation of loneliness and isolation of these older people.

To be eligible to apply your project must support older people (aged 50 and over) and help to:
- Reduce isolation and vulnerability of older people during any isolation period that may arise as a result of the threat of covid 19,
- Supporting ongoing needs of older people, to ensure that their well being is maintained,
- Any initiative that will help ensure older people remain connected with the outside world during this time.

What can be supported within the fund themes?
- Running costs for organisations to provide such support, including volunteer expenses, staff costs, and transport; providing the organisation is focusing their attention on providing support to both existing, and any potential new beneficiaries
- Small capital costs are eligible, providing the capital item will address the priorities of the fund, and is linked to keeping the older person connected to the outside world

Examples might include:
- Enabling older people to keep warm by accessing home heating oil or warm clothes.
- Enabling older people to access a nutritious meal by connecting them to services providing groceries, and/or ready made meals.
- Enabling and encouraging older people to use and access technology to keep them connected to the outside world.
- Reaching out to isolated older people by telephone, and befriending if possible.

The Fund will not support:
- Holiday schemes
- Parties and shopping trips
- Promotion of religion, this includes organisations whose main purpose includes advancement of religion
- Party political activity
- Applications from statutory organisations
- The Community Foundation will also not fund organisations or activities which promote causes that are contrary to our purposes. Causes and activities that are contrary to our purposes include, but may not be limited to, those outlined in our investment policy. We will not therefore fund organisations or activities which we determine are linked to the promotion of armaments, alcohol, human rights abuses, tobacco or pornography.

Applying for The Coronavirus Community Fund
The Fund is open from 9am 16th March 2020 and will remain open on a rolling call basis. We do, however, expect a high level of interest in this fund. Depending on current funding available, and any future funds raised, we therefore may decide to close for applications within a relatively short space of time, if we do not have enough funds to meet the demand for support. It is recommended that you read our Grant FAQs before starting your grant application. Should you have any further questions please contact the Grants Team on 028 9024 5927.

Communities Minister, Deirdre Hargey MLA, has announced that she is providing £200,000 match funding to Community Foundation NI’s (CFNI) Coronavirus Community Fund. Minister Hargey said: “My Department is proud to see the proactive approach being taken by our colleagues in the Voluntary and Community Sector and I commend CFNI on their very quick response to the emerging crisis. This £400k fund will help to ease pressure for some of our most vulnerable citizens.”.

For more on this please visit https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/news/communities-minister-releases-ps200000-coronavirus-community-fund
£1m available from Money Saving Expert’s Martin Lewis to tackle coronavirus related projects

£1,000,000 from MoneySavingExpert’s Martin Lewis for grants of £5,000 to £20,000 to small registered charities, or local arms of bigger charities, across the UK – to help with specific UK coronavirus-related poverty relief projects. We face an unprecedented challenge to our health, economy, businesses, personal finance and way of life. And many of those who normally help society – our charities – are going to face similar pressures right now too.

To try and help I’m going to release £1,000,000 from my personal charity fund to provide grants of £5,000 to £20,000 to small registered charities, or local arms of bigger charities, across the UK – to help with specific UK coronavirus-related poverty relief projects.

Examples could include foodbanks, charities engaged in community aid, financial advice help and more. My hope is to get the money distributed within the next couple of weeks, and I’m looking for projects that are up and running, or are in the process of being set up – as we want to deliver help at speed.

To make this happen – as I’m tied up with TV and MSE work providing direct coronavirus help information – I have recruited Archna, a trusted former senior member of the MSE team, and Jonathan, a charity specialist, to review and approve the applications and ensure help is spread across the UK as best as possible.

How to apply
If you are an appropriate official of a registered charity then we’ve arranged a simple coronavirus poverty relief grant application form

As this is all about speedy delivery APPLICATIONS CLOSE AT 11.59pm ON WED 25 MAR 2020 – I’ll extend it in the unlikely event we don’t get enough applications.

If you’ve questions about the charity grant applications, contact Archna/Jonathan, but please keep them short and sweet – we want to keep this a nimble process.

Two important quick points…
• Please don’t use these contacts for anything else, it won’t go to me or the MSE team, they are purely for the grant applications.
• Please ONLY apply for funds for specific coronavirus projects; there’s no point chancing your arm for other charity projects, no matter how good, it will just slow us down in making grants where needed.

National Emergencies Trust launches appeal to help Civic Society support those affected by the Coronavirus outbreak

The National Emergencies Trust has launched an appeal to raise funds to help local charities support those individuals suffering hardship as a result of the coronavirus outbreak. The appeal has been launched with the support of media, business and governmental organisations, and in partnership with the British Red Cross who will be managing donations. The Trust will then award grants to ensure the funds reach those who need it most across the UK. Donations can be made at: www.nationalemergenciestrust.org.uk.

Charities will be able to apply for grant aid through their local community foundation, rather than directly to the Trust. Charities will be able to apply for grant aid through their local community foundation, rather than directly to the Trust. Charities will be able to apply for grant aid through their local community foundation, rather than directly to the Trust. Charities will be able to apply for grant aid through their local community foundation, rather than directly to the Trust. Charities will be able to apply for grant aid through their local community foundation, rather than directly to the Trust.

Grants will be awarded to existing members of Neighbourly in UK and Ireland whose work will involve supporting members of the community suffering economically, socially or from ill health as a result of the outbreak.

This may include, but not be limited to, elderly people, those on low incomes and people at risk of food insecurity.

Grants are unrestricted and can go towards food provision, emergency supplies, practical support, running costs, transport and other essentials.

For more information please visit https://www.neighbourly.com NeighbourlyCommunityFund

The Big Give’s #DonateYourCommute appeal for the NET

The Big Give’s matched funding campaign is raising funds for the National Emergencies Trust’s coronavirus appeal, and is doubling the first £200,000 donated.

Partnering with the National Emergencies Trust (NET), all donations made through The Big Give’s Covid-19 Emergency Appeal will go to NET’s appeal to be distributed to charitable organisations and community foundations serving those affected by the coronavirus across the country.

The Big Give will double the first £200,000 donated through its crowdfunding website, with matched funding provided by the Reed Foundation and the Reed family.
And to end on a Positive Note

Boost for Northern Ireland’s beautiful landscapes as 11 heritage projects across the country set to benefit from £5million National Lottery investment.

Two ambitious landscape projects will receive more than 2.7m of the total.

The Binevenagh and Coastal Lowlands area is to be celebrated with a £2.6m project connecting people to its significant natural and cultural heritage.

This stunning landscape is home to significant habitats and sites. It also has a fascinating history, with defence features dating from the Napoleonic era to The Troubles.

Another £145,300 will go to a project developing a Nature Recovery Network which will better connect and look after nature reserves and protected sites across Northern Ireland.

Paul Mullan, Director of The National Lottery Heritage Fund in Northern Ireland, said: “We are delighted to make this huge £5m investment in 11 new projects that place heritage at the heart of local communities and will help to deliver positive change to places, people, the environment and our economy.”

Also on the list of projects to benefit are a restoration of the iconic Bangor Court House as a community hub. A new interpretive centre will also showcase Derry’s historic railway heritage, creating opportunities for adults with learning disabilities to become visitor guides.

The 11 projects

- Open House Festival – restoration and transformation of Bangor Court House: £854,900.
- Causeway Coast and Glens Heritage Trust – project celebrating the natural and cultural heritage of the Binevenagh and Coastal Lowlands area: £2.6m.
- Destined Ltd – development of an interpretive centre to showcase Derry’s railway heritage: £242,100.
- Raise the Roof – restoration and renovation of St Peter and Paul’s Church in Bessbrook, plus young people’s street art project: £240,400.
- Our Places, Our Pasts, Our Perspectives, Corrymeela Community – heritage project offering training to marginalised groups and support the process of reconciliation and sustainable community building: £159,800.
- Aghalee Parish Development Project – repair of Holy Trinity Church of Ireland Aghalee, plus exploration of the history of the parish: £185,400
- Treasure Island, National Churches Trust – grants of £500-£10,000 to be available to up to 100 churches and their communities. These will come from a Community Grants fund jointly funded by The National Lottery, Pilgrim Trust and National Churches Trust: £284,200.
- Friel Reimagined – Connecting Diverse Audiences with Heritage, The Queen’s University of Belfast Foundation – a selection of the archives of playwright Brian Friel will be opened up via digitisation: £234,600
- Building Capacity to Deliver Nature Recovery Networks, Ulster Wildlife Trust – Ulster Wildlife, RSPB, National Trust and Woodland Trust will work together on a Nature Recovery Network: £145,300
- The Portview Heritage Project: Spinning Memories and Sustaining Communities; Northern Ireland Trade Union Educational and Social Centre Ltd – a masterplan will be created for the conservation and development of Portview Trade Centre’s historic mill complex: £221,200.