

## Appendix A

### Member Training

Provider/Course	Date & Time	Location	Costs	Attendee Requests

### Conferences

Provider/Course	Date & Time	Location	Costs	Attendee Requests
Lough Neagh Conference – The Way Forward	Tuesday 10 March 2020 9.30am-4.30pm	Lough Neagh Discovery Centre	Travel and subsistence	
Building the Cross Border Economy: Post Brexit	Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2020 9am - 1.30pm	Carrickdale Hotel, Dundalk, Co. Louth		
The Computer says No: How 'Welfare' Algorithms Punish the Poor."	Wednesday 25 March 2020 5.30pm	Conor Lecture Theatre, Belfast Campus, Ulster University, York Street, Belfast	Free Travel and subsistence	Cllr Molloy
NI Housing Conference	Thursday 26 March 2020 am-2pm	Titanic Belfast	£195+VAT travel and subsistence	
NILGA - Caring Councils: A local government response to poverty, addiction and improving mental health	Friday 27 March 2020	Girdwood Community Hub Belfast	Travel and subsistence	
Cross Border Tourism Conference 2020	Wednesday, 22nd April	Four Seasons Hotel,	€30 plus VAT travel	

Be part of Ireland's Ancient East Brand Growing your visitors - Learning from the best	2020, 8.30am to 2.00pm	Carlingford, Co. Louth	and subsistence	
NI Local Partnership on Travellers Issues 'Pioneering a brighter future together with the Travelling Community'	Thursday 14th May 2020	Corick House Hotel & Spa, 20 Corick Road, Clogher BT76 OBZ	To be confirmed	Cllr D McPeake



The **Lough Neagh Partnership** invites you to an upcoming conference to discuss the main issues associated with Lough Neagh. It is a full day conference with all of our local parties giving their policy perspective on the Lough, representatives from the main government departments and local stakeholders explaining their present roles and responsibilities.

I intend to use the conference as a **tool** to find new agreed cross-party policies which can help address the real social, economic, safety and environmental **needs of the Lough**.

I would be grateful if you could put the date in your diary and we will follow up with details of the order of the day (9.30am - 4.30pm). You can confirm attendance now by clicking the registration link below.

I look forward to seeing you there.

**Conor Jordan**

Chairperson

Lough Neagh Partnership

# BUILDING THE CROSS-BORDER ECONOMY POST-BREXIT CONFERENCE

**DATE:** Wednesday 11th March 2020

**TIME:** 9am – 2pm

**VENUE:** Carrickdale Hotel & Spa, Co. Louth

**PRICE:** FREE

Secure your place at this high-profile conference at:  
[www.dundalk.ie](http://www.dundalk.ie)



## PROGRAMME

### **11<sup>th</sup> March Carrickdale Hotel**

#### **BUILDING THE CROSS-BORDER ECONOMY – POST BREXIT.**

The UK's Exit from the EU will present new challenges for businesses operating within the cross-border economy. This cross-border conference will provide a timely update for businesses on the challenges and support available for Businesses post Brexit.

#### **Programme**

**MC** Mark Simpson, Broadcaster and Journalist

**08:30** Registration

**09:00** Welcome by Cathaoirleach of Louth County Council

**09:05** Welcome by Chair of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

**09:10** Address by Government Spokesperson(s)

#### **THE FUTURE FOR EUROPE AND WHAT IT MEANS FOR BUSINESS**

**9:40** Cross Border Trade. What are the future challenges and opportunities – Intertradelreland speaker

**10:00** EU Future thinking – What are the practical issues and opportunities for your business. Emma Kerins, Head of Policy and Public Affairs, Chambers Ireland

**10:20** Local Enterprise Office Louth, Thomas McEvoy, Head of Enterprise, Louth Local Enterprise Office.

**10:40** Q&A

**10:55** Tea/Coffee – Networking

#### **THE UK/EU CHANGING RELATIONSHIP**

**11:15** The Economic Outlook and what a Future EU – UK Trade Deal would mean for your business. Oliver Mangan, Chief Economist AIB

#### **SUPPORT TO GROW YOUR BUSINESS**

**11:45** The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Workplace. – The Development and Upskilling of Your People - Paul Healy CEO Skillnet Ireland

**12:05** Accessing Finance to Grow Your Business. David McComb Full Circle Management Solutions

**12:25** Support for Cross Border Businesses – Deirdre Maguire, Brexit Manager at InterTradelreland

**12:45** Changing Migration Rules and what it means for your business.

**13:05** Lunch & Networking

# Northern Ireland Housing Conference 2020

New decade, new approach for social housing



Thursday 26th March 2020  
Titanic Belfast

Media partner

[www.agendaNi.com/events](http://www.agendaNi.com/events)

**agendaNi**  
magazine



## Housing conference

As we begin a new decade, the challenges that faced the social housing sector in the previous ten years are continuing. The number of households in priority need of social housing in Northern Ireland is at the highest level ever recorded. At the end of March 2019 there was 37,859 households on the social housing waiting list, of which 26,387 are considered to be in housing stress and 19,629 are deemed to be homeless.

At the root of the crisis is the disparity between supply and demand. With a shortage of housing, we must find new ways to supply housing for people in need. Welfare reform has also had a huge impact on the lives of many. As we move forward, we must continue to prioritise the most vulnerable. There must also be a broader range of affordable housing options both for rent and for purchase. The challenge is to provide housing for every stage of life to include student accommodation, affordable long-term rental, family homes, dwellings for one or two persons and accessible homes suitable for older people and people with disabilities.

### A new decade

Having no functioning Assembly or Executive in Northern Ireland for the past three years added considerably to the difficulties facing the social housing sector. On 9 January 2020 the **New Decade, New Approach** deal was published to restore a functioning Northern Ireland Executive. Among other priorities, it is hoped that by introducing legislation to reclassify housing associations, the Executive will enable housing associations to continue building new social housing and intermediate housing, including the Co-ownership Housing Scheme after March 2020. Housing will also be included as a specific priority in the Programme for Government. The Executive will also enhance investment and agree a target for new social and affordable home starts and tackle the maintenance backlog for Northern Ireland Housing Executive properties. The Executive also intends to extend existing welfare mitigation measures beyond March 2020, when they are currently due to expire.

These measures would certainly go some way to reducing the number of households in housing stress, however at the time of writing the proposed financial package has still to be agreed.

In the absence of a functioning devolved government, organisations in the sector continued to forge ahead. Housing Associations continue to provide more than just housing – regeneration and community investment are more important now than ever before alongside care services and skills and providing training.

This conference will bring together key stakeholders with an interest or role in housing in Northern Ireland and look at how we can fulfil the need for secure, affordable housing both now and in the future.

### A high level panel will examine key issues including:

- ✓ **Social housing policy** in Northern Ireland
- ✓ The impact of **welfare reform**
- ✓ Creating **sustainable communities**
- ✓ **Embracing Housing First** on the journey to ending homelessness
- ✓ **Fire safety** post Grenfell
- ✓ **Community investment** to transform lives
- ✓ Delivering **sustainable** social housing
- ✓ The shape of the **future social housing provider**
- ✓ **Better tenant engagement** to empower residents in social housing
- ✓ **Collaboration** for better results
- ✓ **Political panel:** The future of social housing in Northern Ireland
- ✓ Lessons from **elsewhere**

## Visiting experts



### Margaret Ann Brünjes

Margaret Ann Brünjes is Chief Executive of **Housing First Scotland**. Maggie has been in the housing and homelessness sector in Scotland for over 20 years, holding various data, policy and programme

management positions before taking up the chief officer role at Homeless Network Scotland in 2010. With a special interest in evidence-based and participatory approaches to policy and delivery, she co-founded Housing First Scotland in 2016 and the UK-wide Centre for Homelessness Impact in 2018. Maggie was a member of the Scottish Minister appointed Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Action Group in 2018.



### John Hannigan

John Hannigan is Chief Executive Officer of **Circle Voluntary Housing Association** in Ireland. He has worked in social housing for over 25 years. He took up his current position in September 2017. John

previously held the position of Managing Director of Sunbeam House Services since 2010. Prior to that, he worked as Finance Director with Respond Housing Association. John is currently the Vice Chair of The Housing Alliance, an alliance of six of the largest Housing Associations in Ireland.



### Matt Parsonage


Matt Parsonage is Head of Communities at **Clarion Futures**, the charitable foundation of Clarion Housing Group. Clarion Futures plans to invest £150 million over ten years to provide support, skills and


opportunities to more than 360,000 social housing residents across the UK. Matt has worked in the Social Housing Sector for the last 10 years. He gained a Masters in Urban Regeneration from the University of Westminster during his time working on a New Deal for Communities programme in London. His specialisms include neighbourhood regeneration, partnership development and community engagement – just three themes of which he currently puts theories into practice in his role as Head of Communities at Clarion Futures.


# Programme


0830 Registration and morning coffee


0900 Chairman's welcome and introduction:  
**Jamie Delargy**, Business Broadcaster

**Policy**  **Social housing policy in Northern Ireland**  
**Louise Warde-Hunter**, Deputy Secretary  
Department for Communities

**Transformation**  **Transforming services to create sustainable communities**  
**Jennifer Hawthorne**, Regional Manager for  
Belfast, Northern Ireland Housing Executive

**Community investment**  **Clarion Futures: Community investment to transform neighbourhoods and lives**  
**Matt Parsonage**, Head of Communities  
Clarion Futures, Clarion Housing Group


**Welfare reform**  **Protecting the most vulnerable: Measures to avert the welfare crisis**  
**Kevin Higgins**, Head of Policy, Advice NI and  
Welfare Reform Mitigations Working Group


**Housing First**  **Housing First in Scotland and the journey to ending homelessness**  
**Margaret Ann Brünjes**, Chief Executive  
Housing First Scotland


Questions & answers / Panel discussion


1100 Morning coffee / networking break

1120

**Future**  **The future social housing provider**  
**Professor Paddy Gray**, Chair  
Connswater Homes

**Sustainable housing**  **The challenge of delivering sustainable social housing**  
**Diana Fitzsimons**, Chair, Radius Housing

**Collaboration**  **The Housing Alliance: Collaboration for better results**  
**John Hannigan**, CEO, Circle Voluntary Housing  
Association, Ireland

**Fire safety**  **Fire safety post Grenfell**  
**Geoff Somerville**, Group Commander, Northern  
Ireland Fire and Rescue Service (invited)

Questions & answers / Panel discussion

## POLITICAL PANEL: The future of social housing in Northern Ireland

The conference will finish with a political panel with representation from all parties to discuss the future of social housing in Northern Ireland. Delegates will be able to put questions to the panel and hear their priorities and views.

1330

Chairman's summary and conference close followed by networking lunch



## Sponsorship and exhibition opportunities

There are a number of opportunities for interested organisations to become involved with this conference as sponsors or exhibitors. This is an excellent way for organisations to raise their profile with a key audience of senior decision-makers from across the housing sector in Northern Ireland. For further information on how your organisation can benefit, contact **Jillian Wallace** on 028 9261 9933.



I wish to:

☐ **Reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places at the Housing Conference**

Delegate fee £195 + VAT @ 20% = £234

☐ **NIFHA members discounted rate**

£175 + VAT @ 20% = £210

### Delegate details

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr): \_\_\_\_\_

Job title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment options

☐ I enclose a cheque for £ \_\_\_\_\_

Payable to 'bmf Business Services'

☐ Please invoice me

☐ Please debit my Visa / Mastercard

Card number

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Name of card holder \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry date \_\_\_\_\_

Security code \_\_\_\_\_

(Please provide card billing address if different from company address)

### Terms and conditions

\* For those unable to attend, a substitute participant may be sent at any time for no additional charge. Alternatively for cancellations received in writing, by fax or email, the following charges will apply:

- More than 14 days before the conference: 25% fee
- Less than 14 days before the conference: 100% fee
- Failure to attend: 100% fee.

You can unsubscribe from receiving information at any time, please let us know by emailing [info@agendani.com](mailto:info@agendani.com) or phoning 028 9261 9933.

## Who should attend?

The conference will be of interest to all stakeholders involved in aspects of housing, funding and management including senior managers in the public, private and third sectors in Northern Ireland. The conference will be of particular interest to:

- Professionals in housing policy and delivery;
- Government departments and agencies;
- Those providing benefits advice;
- Housing associations;
- Policy / public affairs advisors;
- The construction industry;
- Project funders;
- Legal advisors;
- Housing and planning consultants;
- The community / voluntary sector / NGOs;
- Local elected representatives.

## Networking opportunity

The conference is structured in a way to provide a high level of interaction between speakers and delegates.

There will be plentiful opportunities for questions as well as discussion in each of the sessions. In the breaks and margins of the event there will also be ample scope for business development.

## Benefits of attending

Delegates attending the conference will:

- ✓ Look at the future of housing policy in Northern Ireland
- ✓ Discuss the impact of welfare reform
- ✓ Analyse all the key issues
- ✓ Hear about innovative solutions being applied elsewhere

## How to register



Online

[www.agendani.com/events](http://www.agendani.com/events)



By telephone

028 9261 9933



By email

[registration@agendani.com](mailto:registration@agendani.com)

### Acknowledgement of registration

Confirmation of registration will be sent to all delegates. Joining instructions will be sent out following receipt of registration details. If you have not received your acknowledgement seven days prior to the start of the conference, please contact Ashley Green at [registration@agendani.com](mailto:registration@agendani.com) to confirm your booking.





## **DRAFT AGENDA**

**Caring Councils: A local government response  
to poverty, addiction and improving mental health**

**27th March 2020  
Girdwood Community Hub  
Belfast**



*Following on from the Fermanagh and Omagh DC conference “The Struggle is Real” in February 2020, the NILGA Health, Social and Well-being Network would like to invite members and officers from all 11 councils - **particularly NILGA ‘full’ members** - to the ‘Caring Councils’ conference on 27th March 2020.*

**We will be exploring the links between poverty, poor mental health and addiction, and discussing how councils can have a positive impact in communities.**

**Speakers Include:**

**Helen Barnard** Joseph Rowntree Foundation (invited)

**Prof. Siobhan O’Neill** Professor of Mental Health Science, Ulster University (confirmed)

**Sam McCullough** Addiction NI (confirmed)

**Ed McClean**, Public Health Agency NI (invited)

**Kim Weir**, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council (confirmed)

**Ryan Black**, Belfast City Council (confirmed)

**Lisa McIlherron**, Inspire Well-being (confirmed)

**Jackie Patton**, Mid and East Antrim Borough Council (confirmed)

**Caring Councils: A local government response  
to poverty, addiction and improving mental health**

**27th March 2020**

**Girdwood Community Hub**

**Belfast**

## Draft Agenda

**Caring Councils: A local government response to poverty, addiction and improving mental health**  
**27<sup>th</sup> March 2020, Girdwood Hub, Belfast**

Time	Topic	Speaker
10.00—10.30	Registration, tea and coffee	
10.30 – 10.35	<b>Welcome to Belfast</b>	Belfast City Council—Lord Mayor (invited)
10.35 – 10.40	<b>Welcome from NILGA and outline of the day</b>	Cllr John Coyle, Chairperson - NILGA Health, Social & Environmental Well-being Network
	<b>Poverty and Health</b>	
10.40 – 11.10	<b>Poverty in Northern Ireland: A crisis situation?</b>	Helen Barnard Joseph Rowntree Foundation (invited)
11.10 – 11.20	<b>The Struggle is Real: from debate to action</b>	Kim Weir, Fermanagh & Omagh DC
11.20—11.40	<b>The Impact of Poverty on Health in NI: A Public Health Approach</b>	Ed McClean, Public Health Agency (invited)
11.40 – 12.00	<b>Poverty and Mental Ill-Health: Addressing the high levels of suicide in NI</b>	Prof Siobhan O'Neill, Ulster University
12.00 – 12.20	<b>The links between poverty and addiction - and how to break them</b>	Sam McCullough, Addiction NI
12.20—12.40	<b>Panel Debate/Q&amp;A</b>	
12.45 – 1.30	Lunch and networking	
	<b>Community and Council Response</b>	
1.30 – 1.50	<b>The 'Change Your Mind' campaign: Tackling stigma and discrimination around mental health</b>	Lisa McIlherron, Inspire Wellbeing
1.50 – 2.10	<b>What can a council do? <i>The Belfast City Council experience</i></b>	Ryan Black, Director of Neighbourhood Services, Belfast City Council
2.10 – 2.30	<b>What can a council do? <i>The Mid and East Antrim Borough Council experience</i></b>	Jackie Patton, Head of Community Planning, Mid & East Antrim BC
2.30—2.45	<b>What can a councillor do? - developing the local government response</b>	Round table discussion
2.45—3.00	<b>Feedback and Next Steps</b>	Karen Smyth

This event is **FREE** for NI Elected Members and Officers.

Places are limited hence early registration is recommended.

Email [events@nilga.org](mailto:events@nilga.org) by the 13th March 2020,  
quoting NILGA: Caring Councils 27.03.2020



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# **The Computer says No: How ‘Welfare’ Algorithms Punish the Poor.”**

by Imagine! Belfast Festival of Ideas & Politics

Date: Wednesday 25 March 2020

Time: 5.30pm

Location: Conor Lecture Theatre, Belfast Campus, Ulster University, York Street,  
Belfast, BT15 1ED

Rob Booth, the social affairs correspondent for the Guardian, will outline the Guardian’s global and domestic investigation into how the tech revolution is transforming welfare systems worldwide while penalizing the most vulnerable. He will discuss how Artificial Intelligence decision-making is being developed by UK government departments and public authorities with limited discussion of its use and the ramifications for transparency, redress and oversight.

The Guardian investigation involved publishing a series of articles looking at how government departments and public authorities in (among others) Britain, the United States, Australia and India, are radically reshaping the delivery of social security and other public services behind closed doors.

The presentation will be followed by a panel discussion and Q and A with local academics.

Jointly sponsored by the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission and Legal Innovation Centre, Ulster University.

Tea and coffee available from 17:00.

# Cross Border Tourism Conference 2020

Learn from the best



22nd April 2020  
Four Seasons Hotel  
Carlingford, Co. Louth  
8.30am - 2.00pm



A destination worth investigation

#cbtc2020

## Registration Form:

### Cross Border Tourism Conference 2020

Be part of Ireland's Ancient East Brand  
Growing your visitors - Learning from the best

**Date:** Wednesday, 22nd April 2020, 8.30am to 2.00pm

**Venue:** Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth

Please reserve ..... places.

€20 plus VAT p.p. .... Non-member at €30 plus VAT p.p. ....

Company: .....

Contact: .....

Tel.: ..... Email: .....

Please tick payment method:

☐ I enclose a cheque for € .....

☐ Send Invoice € ..... Purchase Order Number .....

☐ Payment made by credit card.: .....

☐ Payment made by booking online

<https://www.dundalk.ie/event/cross-border-tourism-conference-2020>

Please return booking form and accompanying payment to:  
Dundalk Chamber of Commerce, Unit 4, Partnership Court, Park Street, Dundalk,  
Co. Louth.

For further information please contact Brenda McGeeney, Dundalk Chamber of  
Commerce: Tel: 042 9336343, email: [brenda@dundalk.ie](mailto:brenda@dundalk.ie), [www.dundalk.ie](http://www.dundalk.ie)

### Accommodation:

Should you wish to book accommodation for the event, you may avail of the special  
conference rate at the Four Seasons Hotel:

Single Room: €85 B & B

Double Room: €115 B & B (2 people sharing)

Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth

t: +353 (0)42 937 3530 - e: [info@fshc.ie](mailto:info@fshc.ie) - [www.4seasonshotelcarlingford.ie](http://www.4seasonshotelcarlingford.ie)



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## Conference Programme

**Conference Facilitator Chair:** Brendan McSherry - Heritage Office Louth County Council

**8.30am -9am** Registration & Tea/Coffee and Networking

**9am – 9:10am** **Welcome: Pat McCormick,**  
President Dundalk Chamber of Commerce

**9.10am – 9.40am** **“What slow food can do for me”**  
Hermione Winters- President Slow Food Ireland

**9.40am – 10.10am** **“ World of Tourism Talks: Deeper Connections with Podcasting”**  
Wayne Denner

**10.10am – 10.40am** **“Boyne Valley Food Trail”**  
Grainne McKeown

**10.40am – 11.00am** **“Questions and Answers”**

**11.00am – 11.20am** **Coffee Break and visit trade stands**

**11.20am – 11.50am** **“Ballyhoura and how to be different.”**  
John Fitzgerald – Chairman Ballyhoura Failte Development Group

**11.50am – 12.20am** **“Why Not!”**  
Cillian Murphy- Loop Head Tourism

**12.20am – 12.50am** **'2020 Vision: 10 things your visitors want this year'**  
Pól Ó Conghaile - Travel Editor with The Irish Independent

**12.50am – 1.15pm** **“Questions and Answers”**

**1.15pm – 2.00pm** **“Networking Lunch”**  
This session gives attendees the opportunity to meet the speakers on a one to one basis and visit all the trade exhibits at the event. Key stake holders include:  
DKIT School of Hospitality  
Southern Regional College  
Local Enterprise Office Louth  
Louth Leader Partnership  
Louth County Council Planning Office

**Conference ends at 2.00pm**



## Your Speakers



Cillian Murphy believes a sustainable tourism industry can only be created through prioritizing community involvement in destination development. Co-founder of Loop Head Tourism, a multi award winning Irish responsible tourism destination, he has spoken many times on this topic including at World Travel Market and The World Bank Group Tourism Forum in Washington. Holding an MSc in Responsible Tourism, he has developed a practical, place based, methodology which puts the host community at the very centre of the destination development process, empowering and building them to better understand the role tourism plays, what assets they have and are happy to sell, and to whom and when it is appropriate. Cillian has provided advice to many communities, local authorities and destination management organisations throughout Ireland and internationally, including Visit Lofoten, Central Counties Tourism, Canada, and is currently working with The National Trust Northern Ireland delivering the community engagement lens of the Giants Causeway Capacity Study.



Hermione Winters is the current President of Slow Food Ireland, having taken over from Darina Allen in March 2017. She has been a member of Slow Food since 1999. In 2000, she established The Garden Convivum, a local branch of Slow Food covering South Dublin/North Wicklow. As Slow Food Ireland is a volunteer organisation, Hermione works full-time as the Company Secretarial Manager in the Asset Management and Investment Funds Division of a leading Dublin law firm. In 2003, Hermione left law to set up her own business "Passion for Food", a retail outlet specialising in Irish artisan foods. She sold the business in 2008, returning to law. Hermione is still passionate about food dedicating all her spare time to promoting Slow Food and organising events, both national and local. She is currently working on a number of projects for Slow Food: the setting up of a Fresh Blood Pudding Presidia; the introduction in Ireland of the Slow Food Chefs' Alliance and, in conjunction with Trinity College, "Food Smart Dublin" a project to promote sustainable seafood consumption. Hermione loves cooking, enjoys foraging and is experimenting with hedgerow brewing.



Pól Ó Conghaile is Travel Editor with The Irish Independent and a regular contributor to National Geographic Traveller. He has been voted Travel Writer of the Year in both Ireland and the UK, has been published all over the world, and as a travel expert features regularly on national TV & radio. Pól is the author of Secret Dublin: An Unusual Guide (Jonglez) and a speaker at travel, media and food events, including the National Geographic Traveller masterclasses. He is a father of two, husband of one, and continues to travel widely throughout the island... and beyond. Follow him on Twitter at @poloconghaile.



Wayne Denner author of 'The Student's Guide to an Epic Online Reputation...and parents too,' Coach, Educator, Speaker and Trainer, set up Ireland's first Social Network platform in the early noughties before Facebook, Twitter, Myspace and Bebo!. After 23 years in this space Wayne is now internationally regarded as a thought leader and influencer on online safety and reputation, online behaviour, community engagement and emerging trends in social media in today's rapidly changing online environment. Wayne inspires and motivates young people and adults to protect their well being online, take control and maximise their individual talent in today's digital world. Wayne tells his story and provides sound advice on protecting personal, professional and organisational reputation online and using social networks, the internet and smartphones to your advantage



John Fitzgerald has over 20 years experience as Event Management Consultant and Project Manager. Previously spent over 14 years as Facilities, Engineering and Project Manager for major US Multinational IT Business. Has led Teams as PM on numerous major Construction Projects and Event Concepts and now specifically designs and Builds unique Event Designs and Experiences for Corporate and Private clients. John has also created the Kennedy Rooms Venue concept in Bruff Co Limerick as a multi room event space and specialised venue, converting an old disused Convent into a unique location for all aspects of Events and the Film Industry. John works with Rebecca on creating themed and high end Events at the Kennedy Rooms and numerous Hotels and locations around Ireland. John is Chairman of Ballyhoura Failte and is working to continue the Development of the Ballyhoura Tourism concept



Northern Ireland  
Local Government Partnership  
*On Traveller Issues*

Ref: 03Conf

Councillor Robert Irvine  
The Cornmill  
24 Farnamullan Road  
Mullybritt, Lisbellaw  
BT94 5BL

**Tel: 028 6638 7780**

**Mob: 078346 56788**

**Email: robert.irvine@fermanaghmagh.com**

21<sup>st</sup> January 2020

Mr. Anthony Tohill,  
Mid Ulster District Council,  
Ballyronan Road,  
MAGHERAFELT  
BT45 6EN

Dear Anthony,

The Partnership is holding a half day conference, on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May in Corick House Hotel & Spa, 20 Corick Road, Clogher BT76 OBZ. The theme is 'Pioneering a brighter future together with the Travelling Community'.

We will be issuing invitations to all councils and other relevant bodies in late February/early March. Prior to the conference we intend holding a brief session the evening before, commencing around 5/5.30 pm. followed by a networking dinner and an overnight stay for those nominated representatives and officers from your council.

As with the conference there is no cost for this, the only cost to individual councils will be associated travelling expenses.

The nominees from your council are:

1. Councillor Donal McPeake
2. Dr. Chris Boomer (officer)

We would ask that you confirm, as soon as possible, the names of those attending so that the necessary arrangements can be put in place with the hotel. We do not wish to have substitutes should one or more of the nominees be unavailable.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Robert Irvine  
Secretary & Treasurer

## Appendix Approval Sought –FEBRUARY COUNCIL

### Retrospective Approval

Conference & Seminar	Date	No. of Attendees	Location	Attendance Fee (Yes/ No)
BCNI Fire Safety Conference	6/2/20	2	Armagh	Yes
The Future of Local Government – NILGA Conference	20/2/20	1	Belfast	Yes
NI IOT & Industry 4.0 Expo Conference & Exhibition	27/2/20	1	Belfast	No

### Approval

Conference & Seminar	Date	No. of Attendees	Location	Attendance Fee (Yes/ No)
VAT Conference	4/3/20	1	London	Yes
Climate Change – Our Challenge Conference	12/3/20	2	Killeavy, Co Down	No
Lough Neagh Conference	10/3/20	1	Lough Neagh	No