



19 February 2020

Chief Executive's Comments:

Launching Our New Volunteering Platform

[Volunteer Now Enterprises Ltd](#)

[Online Hate Crime](#)

[Investing in Volunteers Congratulations!](#)

[Broadcast Appeals on BBC NI](#)

[FREE Training for Arts Council NI Funded Groups](#)

[International Year of the Nurse & Midwife 2020](#)

[Get in the Drivers Seat & Volunteer!](#)

[Queen's Award for Voluntary Service Info Session](#)

[FREE Volunteer Management Review](#)

Would you like to volunteer?

Check out our website to see thousands of volunteering opportunities. New opportunities added daily!

Looking for volunteers?

Register your organisations volunteering opportunities FREE of charge.

Events

Discover events from across the sector, from one-off events to longer term.

Anything you want to add?

Think about what you might want to hear more about in VConnect or anything you want to see on our Training Calendar and [let us know](#).

Chief Executive's Comments:

Launching Our New Volunteering Platform

As Northern Ireland's regional volunteering organisation, we are continually looking for innovative ways to serve our partners and provide volunteers across Northern Ireland with the support they need to find relevant opportunities.

We are thrilled to officially launch the Be Collective platform and to unveil a fresh new volunteering portal which streamlines the volunteering process for organisations, volunteers and businesses. This new technology really will revolutionise how we connect volunteers with opportunities, providing support for communities as well as delivering quantifiable and demonstrable impact for organisations investing in their people.

This new platform, a first in Europe, cohesively connects volunteering, organisations, outcomes and social value through innovative social infrastructure and for the first time quantifies volunteering contribution by giving individuals and businesses a social 'record'.

For more information on registering your organisation or to access volunteering opportunities on the Be Collective platform, please visit www.volunteernow.co.uk or follow us on Facebook [@VolunteerNow](#) and Twitter [@VolunteerNow1](#).

Denise Hayward

Chief Executive

Volunteer Now Enterprises Ltd

Volunteer Management:

Managing & Motivating Volunteers - [Belfast](#)

Train the Trainers - [Belfast](#)

The 3 R's: Recruit, Retain, Reward - [Craigavon](#)

Developing a Volunteer Programme - [Belfast](#)

Safeguarding:

Keeping Adults Safe: Adult Safeguarding Champion & Appointed Person Refresher Training - [L'Derry](#)
OR [Enniskillen](#)

Keeping Children Safe: Designated Officer Training - [Omagh](#) OR [Enniskillen](#) OR [Larne](#)

Keeping Adults Safe: Adult Safeguarding Champion and Appointed Person Training - [Antrim](#)
OR [L'Derry](#) OR [Cookstown](#)

Keeping Children Safe: Training for Staff & Volunteers - [Larne](#)

FREE Online Safeguarding Courses

1. Keeping Adults Safe: See Something, Say Something
2. Adult Safeguarding Champion: Meeting the Requirements
3. Keeping Children & Adults Safe: An Introduction for Management Committee Members

Please [click here](#) to register for any of these online courses.

We have an expert team of staff who are committed to quality and effective customer relationships providing a service which is tailored just for you. We would love to hear from you about how we can help - you can email us on enterprise@volunteernow.co.uk, call 028 9023 2020 or tweet us [@VNEnterprise](#).

Online Hate Crime

An event will be hosted in association with the Police Service of Northern Ireland and Belfast Policing and Community Safety Partnership to look at the rising issue of online hate crime. Come along to find out what is a hate crime in the digital world, how online hate crime is being dealt with by criminal justice system and what support is available for victims.

This event will see an interactive question and answer session with a panel of leading professionals such as:

- PSNI ACC Mark Hamilton – National Police Chiefs Council Lead
- Judge Desmond Marrinan – Head of the Independent Review of Hate Crime Legislation in NI
- Chara Bakalis - Principal Lecturer in Law, Oxford Brookes University
- Paul Giannasi – National Police Hate Crime Advisor

- Q&A will be facilitated by Aisling Twomey – LGBT Advocacy Officer for The Rainbow Project

Date: Thursday 27 February 2020 at 6.00pm

Venue: The Great Hall, Belfast City Hall

Light refreshments will be served from 6.00pm

For catering purposes, it is requested that anyone attending should RSVP to Rosie Hamilton at hamiltonr@belfastcity.gov.uk or call 028 90 320202, Ext 3617 and advise of any special dietary requirements.

Investing in Volunteers Congratulations

Congratulations to the following organisations who successfully achieved the Investing in Volunteers Award!

Action Cancer, Belfast Hills Partnership, Brain Injury Matters, Lagan Valley Regional Park, Southern Health & Social Care Trust and Ulster Wildlife.

Want to know more about Investing in Volunteers? [Click here.](#)

Broadcast Appeals on BBC NI

Sharing stories, meeting needs, changing lives...

Applications are now being invited for upcoming Broadcast Appeal slots on local television and radio. These opportunities will be available from June 2020 onwards. Application forms and assessment criteria for Appeal slots can be downloaded [here](#).

Completed application forms should be submitted no later than **12noon on Friday 21 February 2020.**

FREE Training for Arts Councils NI Funded Groups

Volunteer Now Enterprises Ltd is offering FREE training to groups funded by Arts Council for NI in February and March 2020. More dates will follow for May and June. A free review of your Safeguarding Policy is also available; please contact nicole.gorman@volunteernow.co.uk for more information.

Courses available are:

- Keeping Children & Adults Safe: An Introduction (to register: nicole.gorman@volunteernow.co.uk)
- Keeping Children Safe: Designated Officer Training (to register: nicole.gorman@volunteernow.co.uk)
- Keeping Children Safe: Adult Safeguarding Champion Training (to register: nicole.gorman@volunteernow.co.uk)
- Guidance Sessions for Those Who Need to Licence (to register: ceet@eani.org.uk)

International Year of the Nurse & Midwife 2020

2020 is the first ever global Year of the Nurse & Midwife. And 2020 is also Florence Nightingale's bicentennial year, designated by World Health Organisation. Nurses and midwives make up the largest numbers of the NHS workforce. They are highly skilled, multi-faceted professionals from a host of backgrounds that represent our diverse communities. 2020 is our time to reflect on these skills, the commitment and expert clinical care they bring, and the impact they make on the lives of so many. This year is also an opportunity to say thank you to the professions; to showcase their diverse talents and expertise; and to promote nursing and midwifery as careers with a great deal to offer.

Volunteers are also highly skilled, multi-faceted, from a host of backgrounds and there are currently just over 2,000 volunteers across the Health & Social Care Trusts in Northern Ireland, undertaking approx 291,306 hours of volunteering!

Volunteer Now, Helpforce and the Health & Social Care Forum have produced a report which offers a broad picture of the impact that volunteering has across the Health & Social Care Trusts in Northern Ireland. The report - '**Volunteer Impact and Outcomes in Health & Social Care Trusts in Northern Ireland**' offers a broad picture of the impact that volunteering is having across the Trust services. There has been the view for some time that the involvement of volunteers across the Health & Social Care services should be reviewed in order to understand the difference which involving volunteers is currently making and to inform future volunteer development across the Trusts.

Download a copy of the Report [here](#). For further information, contact George Gillespie on george.gillespie@volunteernow.co.uk or 028 9023 2020.

Get in the Driver's Seat & Volunteer!

Volunteer Drivers are needed to provide a door-to-door service for frail older people, those with disabilities, mental illness and dementia to attend day centres and medical appointments. All we ask is that you can spare a couple of hours a week, have a valid driving licence, up to date MOT and insurance cover, and most importantly be friendly and reliable.

We will reimburse out of pocket expenses, provide ongoing support, invite you to regular get togethers and offer training opportunities.

For more information, contact Lauren Harrison on lauren.harrison@volunteernow.co.uk or 028 9023 2020.

Queen's Award for Voluntary Service Information Session

Opportunity to hear how you can recognise volunteers

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service is the highest civil Award given to local volunteer groups across the UK to recognise outstanding work done in their own communities. It is the MBE for volunteer groups. Any group doing volunteer work that provides a social, economic or environmental service to the local community can be nominated for the Award.

An information session to promote the Award and explain the nomination process has been organised by

Volunteer Now for potential nominators and interested groups. It will be an opportunity to meet those involved in promoting the Award and hear from someone who has been through the process.

Date: 22 April 2020

Time: 10.30am - 12.00pm

Venue: Youth Action, 14 College Square North, Belfast, BT1 6AS

Volunteering is at the heart of our communities, why not raise its profile and achieve recognition for the difference that volunteers make? Nominations are open for the Award from April - September each year.

RSVP by 20 April 2020 to nicole.gorman@volunteernow.co.uk.

FREE Volunteer Management Review

- Would you like a FREE volunteer management review to see how you are managing your volunteers?
- Are you an organisation with an annual income of under £100,000?
- Are you based in Belfast, Fermanagh, Newry & Mourne, Armagh, Dungannon, Downpatrick, North Down, Ards, Lisburn, Castlereagh, Newtownabbey, Antrim, Carrickfergus, Ballymena or Larne?
- Would you like to get one step closer to achieving the Investing in Volunteers Quality Standard?

Volunteer Now are currently offering a limited number of free volunteer management reviews to organisations in relation to their volunteer management practice. By using the Investing in Volunteers framework, a member of staff from Volunteer Now will benchmark your organisation against the standard and provide you with a development plan clearly outlining any areas for improvement/gaps in practice and signposting to where you could get help to address them.

You can use your review to plan your development and improve your volunteer management practice. It also means that, if you wish, you are one step closer to achieving the Investing in Volunteers award. If you choose to address your development plan within six months of a review, we will offer to assess you for the Award at a reduced rate!

If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Sandra Faulkner on 028 9023 2020 or sandra.faulkner@volunteernow.co.uk. If you would like a review but don't fit the criteria for a free check, please contact a member of the Enterprise team on 028 9023 2020 or enterprise@volunteernow.co.uk. For more information on Investing in Volunteers, please go to bit.ly/1USu0JA.

Membership

Membership of Volunteer Now is open to all organisations and individuals with an interest in volunteering. There is no fee. By becoming a member you add your voice to support volunteering. Sign up for FREE membership at www.volunteernow.co.uk/members.

Submit your Article

If you have volunteering related news, events, publications etc. to share,

email training@volunteernow.co.uk

VTraining

Volunteer Now also publish a free enewsletter called VTraining that includes all Volunteer Now training courses and workshops. To subscribe, please email training@volunteernow.co.uk

Privacy Policy

Volunteer Now/Volunteer Now Enterprises Ltd collects your personal information, holds it securely and only uses it for the purposes for which it is intended. For more information about how we use your data, please see our Privacy Policy at www.volunteernow.co.uk/privacy-policy.

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Supported by the Northern Ireland Executive through the Department for Communities.

Volunteer Now delivers services across Northern Ireland. We have offices in Belfast, Antrim, Enniskillen and Newry. Main Office: The Skainos Centre, 239 Newtownards Road, Belfast, BT4 1AF. T: 028 9023 2020 E: info@volunteernow.co.uk W: www.volunteernow.co.uk Charity Registration No. NIC101309. Company Limited by Guarantee No. NI602399. Registered in Northern Ireland.

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