

Minister O'Brien announces €500,000 worth of grants for community climate engagement

St Peters' Parents Association gets awarded grant to engage new audiences in Phibsborough on climate



St Peter's Parents Association in Phibsborough is receiving funding from the Climate Actions Work Engagement fund to support our work to bring people together and share information on climate action. The fund is focused on climate engagement, awareness and communications - helping communities to reach new audiences in their locality. It will also provide opportunities for community groups to promote their work and spread the message of community-led climate action.

Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications Darragh O'Brien, and Minister for the Circular Economy Alan Dillon today announced the awarding of €500,000 worth of grants nationally under the Climate Actions Work Engagement fund. The grants, ranging from €2,500 - €10,000, will be distributed to 96 community groups and organisations across 23 counties. It is estimated that 30,000 people will benefit from the activities generated through this fund with the support of over 2,000 volunteers.

The fund is administered by Community Foundation Ireland which as part of its mission of Equality For All in Thriving Communities has been empowering local groups, researchers

and advocates to take action on climate and nature since 2000. The foundation's work in this space is informed by its 25 years' experience of partnering with 5,000 voluntary, community and charitable groups as a philanthropic hub. A network which continues to grow.

Announcing the grantees, Minister O'Brien said:

"Our local communities are delivering great work on climate action, much of which often goes unseen. This funding will help groups in those communities raise awareness of that work and bring the climate action message to a wider audience. From workshops to events to content creation, this fund is really targeted at storytelling – helping people to tell their stories about climate action. I am very pleased to help these initiatives showcase the great work going on across Ireland."

Minister Dillon said:

"Climate change affects different communities in different ways. The impacts we feel in the West of Ireland are different to those in Dublin, or the Midlands. This fund helps to shine a light on specific local responses to climate change. From developing engaging social media content to supporting local environmental collectives, this funding will provide valuable assistance to promote the work of community groups, many of whom are working tirelessly on a voluntary basis. I commend their work and welcome this opportunity to showcase and celebrate it."

Congratulating St Peters' Parents Association, Denise Charlton, Chief Executive of Community Foundation Ireland said:

"Partnership is key to meeting the climate challenge. At Community Foundation we are proud to have contributed knowledge and insights from our network of local community groups to inform and deliver this Government initiative. A network which underpins all our work as a philanthropic hub. We look forward to seeing the impact of these imaginative projects."

The fund is a core component of the Climate Actions Work Programme. This programme has built on engagement with community groups through the [National Dialogue on Climate Action](#) over the last few years. The engagement showed that many community groups and organisations are supported through volunteers who often have to give up nights and days to undertake engagement and communications activities. The fund is intended to provide support to promote the incredible work already underway, and to encourage new participation. The fund supports groups to work with audiences who have not previously engaged in climate action at a local level or beyond.

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NOTES TO THE EDITOR

Climate Actions Work Programme

Climate Actions Work is a national programme of engagement on climate action. It enables people and communities across Ireland to be part of the conversation about climate change. The Climate Actions Work project includes:

- An expanded programme of engagement activities and events, building on the National Dialogue on Climate Action
- A training programme with accessible and best practice guidance on the development and implementation of climate engagement programmes for community organisations
- Funding and resources for community groups to support climate communications and engagement at a local level
- An interactive map of regional activities that are happening in different areas
- A national communications campaign to tell the story of community climate actions that are already making a difference.

Climate Actions Work Engagement Fund

The Climate Actions Work fund is specifically aimed at community groups and organisations to support them in

- Community Awareness: promoting and creating awareness of climate actions in the local area and encourage others to get involved
- Community Engagement: making connections with each other in their communities, engage with each other and better coordinate their climate action efforts;
- Community Activation: through better coordination develop new partnerships to support new and larger projects and programmes.

About St Peters' Parents Association

Working in partnership with the Board of Management, Principal, and teachers of the school, the Parents' Association Committee (PA) aims to build an effective partnership between home and school. We place sustainability and the circular economy at the heart of our work.

The Climate Actions Work Fund will help us to grow our successful swap shop events to include a Uniform and Clothes Repair workshop and expand our already successful Book Swap and Costume Swap events.



We will be using the fund for these projects:

- Uniform & Clothes Repair Workshops
- Uniform Shop and communications
- New Parents Association Welcome Pack
- Expand Halloween Thrift or Treat project
- Launch new swap shops and sustainability events

A full list of grantees can be found at [Climate Actions Work Engagement Fund - Community Foundation Ireland](#).



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<https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/6c579-minister-obrien-announces-500000-worth-of-grants-for-community-climate-engagement/>