

IRISH YOUTH FOUNDATION (UK) GRANT AWARDS 2020 FOR PROJECTS BASED IN GREAT BRITAIN

Birmingham Irish Association

www.birminghamirish.org.uk

£3,000 has been awarded for the Dementia Project – Youth Support: towards producing resources for children experiencing dementia in their families to help their understanding of the condition created by the children themselves. Existing resources are currently all written by adults for children. The older group of young people have started to work with the younger group to fully involve them in the creation of child-led resources for younger children including written, online and interactive material. There have been a number of cartoon characters created and also the idea for an interactive game which could be turned into an app. The young people are highly motivated in wanting to create something really unique that can help others just like them in a way that currently is not available. Since the covid-19 lockdown the project has continued virtually, maintaining contact with the children using video-conferencing technology and telephone.

Birmingham Irish Association was established in 1957 and aims to provide a range of support, advice and information to meet the welfare and cultural needs of the Irish community in Birmingham.

Brent Centre for Young People, London

www.brentcentre.org.uk

£4,000 has been awarded towards the Mental Health Support & Liaison Project: to continue to provide vital centre-based AET, Psychotherapy parent support and group work to at least 40 young Irish people. These are effective talking therapies, helping Irish young people to develop the capacity to think and to recognise their own thoughts and feelings about their situations, the first step on the path to recovery from entrenched mental and emotional difficulties. Practical support will be offered to the most vulnerable who have a range of other complex issues preventing recovery such as domestic violence, homelessness, debt, or not being in education, employment or training. For these young people intensive, tailored, culturally sensitive and practical support sessions will be provided for as long as necessary, supporting them to achieve self-set goals, such as entering education, training or employment, accessing benefits, finding housing or a safe way to manage their complex situations. Since the covid-19 lockdown BCYP has continued to provide online resources, advice and information to young people in need of support, and to clinicians and external agencies such as GPs.

The Brent Adolescent Centre provides a comprehensive service to young people 14-21 years of age in the following areas: Mental Health, Drugs & Alcohol (Advice and Treatment), Sexual Health and a Connexions Personal Adviser Service. These services are provided mainly to residents (including Irish) of the borough of Brent, and other London boroughs.

Ceann Creige Hurling and Camogie Club, Glasgow

£750 has been awarded for the Combining Irish sport & culture project: a 6 week programme for children all over Glasgow promoting hurling and Irish culture. In the months since the Covid-19 pandemic lockdown online quizzes, fun activities and challenges have been shared on social media to keep members engaged until outside training sessions can start.

Ceann Creige Hurling and Camogie Club is a newly-formed underage and senior hurling and camogie club based in the East End of Glasgow offering the opportunity for children aged 4 upwards and adults to actively get involved in hurling and be a part of a friendly club. The organisation's purpose is the provision of community participation in healthy recreational activities for the benefit of the inhabitants of Glasgow and surrounding areas by the provision of facilities for the playing of Gaelic games.

Conradh na Gaeilge Glaschú, Glasgow

www.cnag-glaschu.co.uk

£1,000 has been awarded for the Irish Culture Virtual Summer Scheme for Children & Weekly Cultúr Club: towards a Summer Camp for children involving them in Irish culture through music, songs, dance, drama & sports activities in the southside of Glasgow which has a large 1st-4th generation Irish community in an area of some deprivation with few facilities particularly for children. All activities are used to introduce/improve the children's Irish language skills. The Summer Camp, which has run for the last 6 years, provides a fun, positive & learning outlet for young children and a way for them to become more aware of Irish culture which is part of their heritage. In Scotland, particularly the West of Scotland, there have historically been some issues with expressions of Irish identity and Conradh na Gaeilge sees its role as presenting Irish culture and identity in a wholly positive way for all the community. In the current circumstances, the Summer camp and Cultúr Club will operate virtually.

Conradh na Gaeilge Glaschú (The Gaelic League Glasgow)'s aim is to promote and maintain Irish language and culture in Glasgow's large Irish community living in Glasgow and surrounding areas in co-operation with other local Irish organisations.

Coventry Irish Society

www.coventryirishsociety.com

£2,000 has been awarded towards the Coventry Irish Society Youth Steering Group (16-25 years): a contribution towards setting up a Coventry Irish Society Youth Organisation which will be responsible for imagining, producing and managing a new programme of Irish cultural events in the city. The aim of the organisation will be to engage with young people of Irish heritage and develop new audiences from the Irish community and also the wider communities in the city, to sign post opportunities for participation in sports and arts in the city and to engage with and form networks with other youth organisations. In addition, to create an event that profiles and showcases the wealth of talent that exists in the city to regional, national and international visitors in 2021 when Coventry becomes UK City of Culture. Since the lockdown, contact with the young people has been maintained via video conferencing. Training and planning with venues, schools and community groups continues in order to be able to move forward once lockdown eases, while ways of combining a digital and real forum of young people and how to extend their reach through social platforms are actively considered.

Coventry Irish Society was established in 1993 to address the health and support needs of the most vulnerable Irish in Coventry and the surrounding areas. It specialises in reaching some hard to reach groups such as Irish Travellers and provides a broad range of health and welfare advice to the Irish community in general, including benefits, housing and befriending. Specialist advice includes Irish Passports, Irish Pensions and issues concerning Irish Survivors. The Society also has a main objective of promoting a positive sense of Irish identity and Heritage within the city through Irish Festivals, Cultural and Arts Events and by working with schools and the Irish community networks.

Feith an Cheoil School of Traditional Irish Music, Enfield, N London

www.feithancheoil.co.uk

£750 has been awarded towards the Towards the annual running costs of the programme developing the musicianship and talent of Feith an Cheoil's young members by participation in group performances, graded exams and community outreach projects. This year they will collaborate with community groups and organisations, including with the elders in the community, bridging the gap between generations

Feith an Cheoil School of Traditional Irish Music has been established since September 2006 and has students ranging from age 7-18 from local primary and secondary schools in the Enfield and surrounding areas of Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire.

Friends, Families & Travellers, Brighton, Sussex

www.gypsy-traveller.org

£3,000 has been awarded for Youth Irish Travellers Better Futures: towards the salary costs of a part-time dedicated support worker to deliver a culturally sensitive on-site homework and linked holiday activities programme for young Irish Travellers across Sussex. The project will offer a weekly homework club supported by a Traveller parent as assistant in the site community room, including peer to peer support for younger pupils; cultural validation through working together on projects reflecting their Irish identity; support for parents to read with younger children and visits to schools in school time to reduce fear; a fortnightly enrichment programme during holidays to build confidence and raise aspirations, and a place for young Irish Travellers to be young and learn and partake in traditional Irish activities. The project aims to improve:

access & retention vs current statistics year on year; self-confidence and attainment in school; aspirations for year 6 and below to move on to secondary education; year 6 reading skills critical for successful transition; community commitment to education and health & well-being leading to better life outcomes. Following the lockdown FFT have been maintaining engagement with and supporting development for their young people and families by telephone and through social media, also meeting new young people and families through the crisis.

Friends, Families & Travellers is a small, dynamic, community led charity, supporting and advocating on behalf of Gypsies, Roma & Travellers. Using assertive outreach and community role models, it aims to help Travellers identify their health, education and cultural needs and bridge them into the services that meet their needs. FFT also works with mainstream agencies and national policy makers to encourage fair legislation, inclusivity, community cohesion and accessible services.

Harborough District Children and Young People's Charity (HCYC), South Leicestershire

www.hcyc.org.uk

£1,000 has been awarded for the Travelling Forward Project: a contribution towards the cost of delivering on-site, weekly term-time after-school sessions for Traveller children and young people across the district in 2020-21. This involves the costs of a 1.5hr contact time session using their mobile project vehicle as a base. Activities are planned, prepared and delivered by the Travelling Forward Project Coordinator, plus two Play and Youth Work Assistants. In addition, specialist sports activity providers will provide additional activities outside the "bus". Sessions will include a range of fun, engaging and educational activities, delivered in a highly supportive environment, with staff available to talk through children and young people's worries and concerns in an informal way, using the activities as the focal point to initiate conversations about particular topics such as cyber safety, bullying and hate incidents. Each session will also include a range of healthy snack foods and drinks for children and young people.

Since the Covid emergency lock down, communications with families on the sites where sessions would normally be delivered have continued through the Project Coordinator via phone, text and social network messaging. Support has been provided with advice about the lock down and the restrictions, how to stay well, and how to access other support required, as well as practical help to do so, such as food bank supplies. In addition, bespoke, age appropriate activity packs for children and young people have been prepared, to be regularly dropped off at the individual doors of the trailers and homes on the sites where children and young people live. The packs contain all the resources that the children and young people would need, including safety scissors, pens and pencils etc. that they do not have access at home.

Harborough District Children and Young People's Charity was created in 2012 to fill gaps in provision for children and young people across rural Harborough District in South Leicestershire, especially those experiencing isolation and/or disadvantage. Services and projects are delivered to those aged 5 to 19 years (or up to 25 if they have additional developmental needs) in the context of their families and communities, supporting their social and emotional development as well as mental wellbeing, and enhancing their skills for life and vocations through a range of informal play, leisure and support sessions.

icap (Immigrant Counselling and Psychotherapy), London & Birmingham

www.icap.org.uk

£5,000 has been awarded towards Supporting Young Irish People: towards the provision of psychotherapy sessions for 20 young Irish people in need of psychological support under the age of 30 years old in London and Birmingham. Since the pandemic lockdown clinical centres in London and Birmingham have been closed but therapy services continue to operate via Zoom and telephone.

icap provides individuals and groups with culturally sensitive, weekly open-ended psychotherapy, particularly to the Irish community in Britain. Whilst the target group is Irish, immigrants from any ethnic background are also welcomed.

Irish Arts Foundation, Leeds

www.irisharts.org.uk

£1,000 has been awarded towards launching the new 'Éire Taithí na hÉireann' project, formerly known as 'Experience Ireland', during the academic year September 2020-July 2021. The project delivery will include an ongoing structured programme of Irish cultural workshops and activities in collaboration with a number of primary schools within inner city Leeds at Key Stage 2 (8-11) with a large third generation and/or mixed heritage or settled Irish Traveller intake. During the covid-19 lockdown, contact has been maintained online and by email with both the younger and older music students, sharing some of the best Irish traditional music and arts digital content and resources available while projects, events and community activities have been postponed until safe to resume.

Formerly Irish Music Project Leeds, Irish Arts Foundation is a community based youth and cultural development inner city project providing access to engagement in Traditional Irish music and cultural activities through classes, workshops, access to materials, resources, promotion and performance.

Irish Chaplaincy

www.irishchaplaincy.org.uk

£7,000 has been awarded for Irish Youth in Prison: funding towards the vitally important outreach and one-to-one support of vulnerable prisoners throughout England and Wales. The advice, information and encouragement offered by Irish Chaplaincy makes important and life-changing results possible. Their ongoing communication and visits can make life in prison more bearable and opens up positive medium and long term planning for resettlement when released.

Since the lockdown contact has been maintained with young prisoners and families by traditional communication methods of email, letter and telephone.

The Irish Chaplaincy is a leading social action charity established in 1957 addressing anti-Irish and anti-Traveller discrimination and the needs of vulnerable and socially isolated Irish people by offering free support through the following areas of work: Prisoners, Older Persons Outreach, Travellers Outreach and new immigrants.

Irish Community Care, North West of England

www.iccm.org.uk

£10,000 has been awarded for the Advice & Advocacy Support Service for Young People & Families: Funding to sustain ICCM's work with young Irish people, young Irish Travellers and their families in the North West to ensure that they have a decent place to live, access appropriate support services and their entitlements, maintain family links, stay safe and well, do not reoffend, have opportunities for personal growth and development, education, training and employment opportunities, encouraging community participation, cohesion and citizenship. Since the covid-19 lockdown ICC service delivery has continued remotely at full capacity. ICC has also led on the recently launched CARA Programme (based on the Leeds Irish Communities Model) providing additional practical and emotional support to isolated and vulnerable people throughout this stressful and unprecedented climate. Their collective aim is to ensure that their people are reassured, stay safe and well and, where appropriate, are connected to associated communities throughout Covid 19 and beyond.

Irish Community Care is a small dynamic needs-led agency aiming to identify and respond to the needs of Irish people, offering a range of professional and culturally sensitive services. ICCM offers a comprehensive service meeting the health, social care and cultural needs of young Irish people and Irish Travellers in the North West.

Irish Cultural Centre, Hammersmith, London

www.irishculturalcentre.co.uk

£7,000 has been awarded towards Children & Youth Music Education: a contribution towards the continuation of the ICC's cultural programmes for young people across a variety of projects. The ICC aims to continue the successful music scholarships, culture camps, showcases and family days and to broaden the offering for young people and families at the centre, as well as including a Storytelling festival for the local community. Since the Centre closed following the lockdown, ICC have launched a successful culture channel - ICC Digital - bringing weekly updates of songs, film, comedy, and art to a community kept in-doors. All of the classes moved online with tutors offering video sessions, recordings, and recommendations of what to watch.

The Irish Cultural Centre Hammersmith aims to provide a high quality Irish Arts and Education programme which is available to all Irish people and to everyone who wishes to share and participate in Irish arts, education and cultural activity.

Irish Music and Dance in London (IMDL)

www.returntocamden.org

£750 has been awarded for The Trad Gathering Youth Project: towards the programme costs of bringing together a large number of young traditional Irish musicians from across London and further afield to work on big collaborative projects and high profile performances. The Trad Gathering was initially run from 2008-2011 with great success and, after a 6-year break, 66 young musicians enrolled following a pilot performance at the Lord Mayor of London's St Patrick's celebration in 2017. New young musicians are joining to keep the project strong for 2020. Online techniques will keep musicians together in 2020 until live performances can resume.

Irish Music and Dance in London (IMDL) exists to promote traditional Irish arts in London, to serve and bring together the London Irish community through its high-quality events and local outreach activities. The organisation aims to promote the positive identity of the Irish in London by including traditional Irish arts on mainstream platforms and by acting as a consultant to other arts organisations and aspiring promoters of Irish arts around the country. This organisation draws on the skills and experience of the Director and the 50-plus team of volunteers who have successfully planned, promoted and delivered the internationally renowned Return to Camden Town Festival and fringe events for the past 18 years.

Leeds Gypsy and Traveller Exchange (Leeds GATE)

www.leedsgate.co.uk

£2,500 has been awarded to the GATE Boys Project: funding towards the costs of a Youth Worker. The project will identify Irish Traveller young men between ages 11-18 known to be at risk of criminal justice system or with other vulnerabilities such as mental or emotional health, family breakdown, and being NEET. They will be offer one-to-one personalised support, rooted and based in their cultural identity and delivered by a role model from their own community. Since the lockdown services, community development and youth work have been moved to remote and digital provision maintaining active contact with members both providing welfare support to those identified as vulnerable and providing advice, information and activities to a much wider group. Subsequently Leeds GATE has seen a 25% increase in demand for their services overall and an increase in the complexity and variety of requests for support. Established in 2003 Leeds GATE is a vibrant grassroots organisation led by Gypsy and Traveller people in partnership with others in and across West Yorkshire aiming to improve the quality of life for Gypsy and Traveller people.

Leeds Irish Health & Homes

www.lihh.org

£3,500 has been awarded towards the CARA (Intergenerational Project): Following the success of the Intergenerational project last year which aimed to strengthen closer links with Ireland for the younger generations by raising awareness and understanding of the Irish emigrant and diaspora experience, this funding is to continue this service and extend its reach to support the most disadvantaged young people of Irish heritage in the community.

LIHH received great responses from schools and want to broaden their reach and work with other organisations that younger people are actively involved in. They have started connections with Leeds Comalthas and the GAA clubs due to the Covid-19 crises which they would like to support through and develop on afterwards. They also aim to work with the Irish Dance schools and Universities. Since the Covid-19 pandemic crisis the community has come together to support each other. The younger generations have been overwhelmingly positive and supportive and the schools have been reaching out with supportive messages, writing and art work. New connections have been made with the local CCE children who have made music videos for use on social media. The local GAA clubs and over 15 Irish associations including Irish Dancing Schools, the Irish Centre, Irish Arts, CCE and others have formed the Leeds Irish Association. This association has now signed up over 90 volunteers who are on board to provide practical support and phone support to those in need. LIHH has supported the association with volunteer matching and have matched volunteers to people identified in need of support. LIHH hope that after this crisis the legacy will be keeping in contact with younger volunteers and building on newly formed relationships with organisations such as the GAA clubs.

Leeds Irish Health & Homes is a voluntary organisation providing a wide range of culturally sensitive support services to help vulnerable Irish people regain and retain their independence. Its primary purpose is to enable people to live as fulfilling a life as possible within the organisation's ethos of Care, Culture and Community.

Liverpool Irish Centre

www.liverpoolirishcentre.org

£5,000 has been awarded towards the salary of the Activities Co-ordinator to enable the Centre to provide cultural activities and events for young people, especially at weekends and in the evenings. In the current circumstances all activities have ceased. Social media is being used to maintain contact with young members and provide music and dancing videos for learning. A partnership has been established with project CARA, with ICC, Institute of Irish Studies, Liverpool Irish Festival and other organisations to offer services to the older community involving volunteers from the Centre's young adults and mainly the Gaelic football teams to deliver shopping and other requirements.

St Michael's Parish Centre was given to the Irish Community on Merseyside by the Liverpool Archdioceses in May 1999. In October 2001 the Parish Centre became St Michael's Irish Centre and a registered charity with its own constitution and management structure, since when it has been the centre of Irish social, cultural, sporting and recreational activities in the area. The Centre changed its name to Liverpool Irish Centre in 2017.

London Irish Centre

www.londonirishcentre.org

£7,000 has been awarded towards Advice & Outreach: funding for the continued provision of an advice service for young people to assist them with housing; crisis intervention; referrals to homeless outreach teams to access temporary accommodation; advice and assistance regarding UK benefits such as housing benefit and employment support allowance; referral into education, training and employment; advice and information about moving to London; referral to partner organisations able to offer specialist assistance where appropriate i.e. mental health, and assisting those who wish to return to Ireland in a safe and supported way.

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic all face to face services, major events and classes were cancelled and the Centre closed. All services moved online and to telephone. Resources were redeployed in response to the new emerging needs, with services targeted at people who were highly vulnerable, including the elderly and people with long-term health conditions such as the delivery of food parcels and hot lunches.

The London Irish Centre was established in 1956 to serve the welfare and cultural needs of the Irish community in London, especially the disadvantaged. Within the Centre, the Youth Resettlement Project provides vital safety and support for the growing numbers of young Irish people forced to leave Ireland for economic or other reasons offering advice, information, advocacy, referral, counselling and practical help.

Luton Irish Forum

www.lutonirishforum.org

£5,250 has been awarded for the Welfare Service: towards the costs of a welfare officer to help the under 30's to maximise income, improve accommodation, access health and social care services, secure Irish Passports and connect with local groups and associations. The Covid-19 pandemic has impacted on LIF's services with all face to face contact, including outreach, home visiting and representation being suspended as well as events and other social activities.

Luton Irish Forum was established 21 years ago to meet the needs of the local Irish community, providing welfare assistance, health promotion, social and cultural activities.

Manchester Irish Education Group

£2,000 has been awarded towards the Children's Irish Music Festival in partnership with Manchester Music Service: to provide workshops in Irish song, music and dance for children from schools in all ten Greater Manchester boroughs in the weeks leading up to the 4-day festival prior to St Patrick's Day. Schools will be invited to participate in the 4 days of Irish music, song and dance. Music Service staff will work with schools in the weeks before the festival to teach Irish tunes and songs. On the day itself the children have workshops on tin whistles, bodhran, fiddle, guitar, song and dance. A concert in the afternoon provides the children with the opportunity to showcase their skills to their teachers, parents and peers. While Manchester Town Hall is out of commission for the next 5 years due to major renovation, the event will take place in 2 venues, one in the north of the city at the Irish World Heritage Centre, and the other in the south at the Wythenshawe Forum.

The Manchester Irish Education Group was founded in 1986. Its aim is to promote a positive image of Ireland and the Irish in schools, community, colleges and universities in the belief that the large Irish community should have access to its cultural background and that this should be shared with others. Over and above this, the group tries to give support to people of any age who want to explore and reaffirm their Irish identity.

New Horizon Youth Centre, London

www.nhyouthcentre.org.uk

£10,000 has been awarded for the Irish Youth Project: towards the successful ongoing work with young men and women of Irish descent and Irish-Mixed heritage within the day centre, during street outreach sessions and while they are in custody. The service provides access to accommodation support with benefits, counselling and primary health care, one-to-one key working and a non-judgmental and empowering service which works with each individual to support them to move on with their lives. It will also focus on Irish men and women who are involved, or in danger of becoming involved in, dangerous street based activities, have gang affiliations, are in prison and/or have multiple and complex needs.

The day Centre was closed following the Covid-19 emergency and contact maintained remotely with all young people to ensure they were safe and supported. NHYC has been working in partnership with a number of homelessness organisations to co-ordinate efforts to help all their young people access available bedspaces to avoid the risk of living in close quarters in night shelters.

New Horizon Youth Centre provides a 7 day a week service including advice and tenancy sustainment as well as facilities such as food, laundry, showers and clothes store to young homeless people from 16-21 years old. The street outreach team complements the day centre services and operates in the boroughs of Camden and Islington. Projects provided in-house include drugs education, literacy & numeracy training, basic skills training, counselling, peer education and training programmes that focus on young people between 16-21 as well as sex workers 16-35.

Solace Women's Aid, London

www.solacewomensaid.org

£9,000 has been awarded for the Irish/Irish Travellers Domestic Violence Project: towards the provision of one-to-one support to 15 young (under 30) Irish/Irish Traveller women and children affected by DVSA, through: casework, outreach activities, advice and facilitating access to statutory and community services. Group work will raise awareness of the impact of DVSA on women and children's health and safety, building resilience, empowerment and independence case work. The project will target vulnerable women and children Irish/ Irish Traveller survivors of DVSA living in London, responding to emergency and long-term needs, including: safe accommodation, safety planning, accessing education, resettlement and recovery. SWA will work with The Traveller Movement to develop survivors' confidence and skills with the support of trained peer advocates in the Irish/Irish Traveller community and training for practitioners/ professionals (police, health, DVSA specialists, safeguarding, social care, children's services, and voluntary sector). The impact of the lockdown has been severe for women causing a massive increase in calls to SWA's advice helpline in the run up from women panicking about being trapped 24/7 with an abusive partner and the strain it would put upon them and their children. The coronavirus pandemic has increased the barriers for women wanting to leave abusive relationships to get help and access safe accommodation. Many calls to SWA's Advice Helpline have been from women who have fled, now homeless and facing severe hardship in terms of access of safe housing, food and essential items for themselves and children, as well as being at risk of further harm from their abuser. SWA have ensured they can continue to deliver their lifesaving work operating a remote service communicating with women by their chosen safe method of contact and keeping closely in touch.

Solace Women's Aid provides services across London which addresses the support needs of women and children affected by domestic and sexual violence. It provides specialist services in the community and in refuges, to women, children and young people (including dedicated support to Irish and Irish Traveller families). Their services are holistic and empowering so that service users can live independent lives free from abuse. SWA was founded in June 2007 as a result of a merger between Camden, Enfield and Islington Women's Aid. In 2012 SWA merged with DVSS (Barnet) and Lambeth Women's Aid to form a charity dedicated to supporting survivors of domestic and sexual violence with over 100 collective years' experience in this area of work. SWA manage multiple refuges sites across the capital and a number of pan-London services with dedicated teams in Islington, Southwark, Haringey, Camden, Barnet, Waltham Forest, Lambeth and Enfield.

Southwark Travellers Action Group (STAG), London

www.southwarktravellersaction.org.uk

£750 has been awarded towards STAG Young People's Group: the project aims to address educational disadvantage for young Irish Travellers by ensuring they have access to individual home tutoring support, both while schools are closed and when they return. The project will also help them to celebrate their culture by supporting them to contribute to, and develop, STAG's social media and online presence.

Stag's aims are to provide support to the Gypsy and Traveller communities to maximise their well-being by focusing on addressing inequalities in the key areas of education, employment, accommodation and health, with the means of doing so decided by Gypsies and Travellers themselves, and to address the marginalisation of the community by celebrating the unique culture and history of Gypsies and Travellers.

The Traveller Movement

www.travellermovement.org.uk

£4,500 has been awarded towards Education and Advocacy Support for Travellers: To develop a bespoke online 'Education Advocacy Toolkit' primarily aimed at community members and their family to give them quick and easy sources of advice, information and resources. The toolkit can also be used as a good source of advice and information by schools and education professionals and other NGOs to build a better knowledge base, capacity and community rapport. The toolkit will be a mixture of interactive online resources, incorporating text, videos and podcasts. It will provide information and advice, free resources for download, such as factsheets on numerous areas, a how to section, template letters, case studies and 'easy read' guides for people with limited literacy. The coronavirus pandemic meant TM's services had to move online and outsource help to continue providing support. Many Gypsy, Roma and Traveller pupils were left without educational support and resources during the lockdown. TM were inundated with requests for support, including: tuition; educational resources; access to tutors; access to laptops, data; and advice about school exclusion. TM has set up a tutoring project with Kings College London's Widening Participation team linking tutors with GRT pupils needing support. The Traveller Movement is a leading Traveller policy and voice national charity based in London. It is committed to the fulfilment of human rights for all Traveller communities. The charity comprises Travelling people and members of the settled community working together in partnership to address the needs of these communities as minority ethnic groups who experience disproportionate levels of discrimination, exclusion and marginalisation.

Tyneside Irish Cultural Society

www.tynesideirish.com

£1,000 has been awarded for funding towards Storytelling Project and Youth Music Class: The Storytelling project as in previous years aims to visit ten primary schools in the Tyneside area during the week long Tyneside Irish Festival. This project works with young people enabling them to make direct links with their Irish heritage and open their eyes to the wealth of stories, songs and activities which can help to link them to, and raise their awareness of their cultural identity. The schools are carefully selected to include those with significant Irish connections and with a high proportion of disadvantaged pupils. Youth Music Class/Workshop (11-18) aims to run September 2020 to April 2021 and, following demand, TICS wish to set up and run a youth music course on Tuesdays for 12 weeks per term.

Tyneside Irish Cultural Society's aim is to promote & maintain Irish culture on Tyneside and across the wider North East region, forging links between the Tyneside Irish populations, ethnic minorities and the local population through its annual festival reflecting the wide and diverse nature of Ireland's cultural heritage.