



## **AGE FRIENDLY NEWS & UPDATES**

### **Edition 60 – 12/07/24**

- 1.0 Positive Ageing Month Open call**
- 2.0 Carers NI Annual State of Caring Survey**
- 3.0 Monthly meeting for people diagnosis of dementia**
- 4.0 TV Licensing**
- 5.0 Jobstart scheme**
- 6.0 Vulnerability and Carbon Monoxide Allowance (VCMA) Annual Showcase**
- 7.0 Access Newsletter**

### **1.0 POSITIVE AGEING MONTH OPEN CALL**

As people live longer, we all need to consider how best to support the older generation in our community – but also how best to celebrate them. Each year, during the month of October, Positive Ageing Month is held, which offers opportunities for a range of events, activities and programmes to be held which celebrate the contribution older people make to their communities. The theme for this year's PAM is:

#### **'Celebrating roles older people play and can play in the Communities'**

Derry City & Strabane District Council, alongside the Western Health & Social Care Trust and the Public Health Agency are gearing up for Positive Ageing Month this October and are encouraging various groups and organisations to get involved as part of Positive Ageing Month. Please see attached an event template for completion for a one off event or recurring events that you are holding within your organisation/community setting that you would like to be included in the Positive Aging Month brochure. Closing date for returns is **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July** and please send completed form back via email to [agefriendly@derrystrabane.com](mailto:agefriendly@derrystrabane.com)

Please also include a high resolution photo or logo to accompany your information.

Please circulate to anyone that you think this may be of interest to.

## 2.0 Carers NI Annual State of Caring Survey

The Frailty Network would like to bring your attention to the Carers NI Annual State of Caring survey which is now live. It is the most extensive survey of the experiences of unpaid carers in Northern Ireland and provides vital data to drive change to improve the lives of unpaid carers. Please complete as appropriate and share across your networks.

Link to the survey is below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JLXH97H>

## 3.0 Universal Credit and Job Support

**libraries NI** | Department for Communities | An Roinn Pobal | Department for Communities  
www.communities-ni.gov.uk

Foyle Jobs & Benefits office presents

# Universal Credit & Job Support Session

(for ages 50-64 )

Universal Credit | CV and interview skills | Job search and job opportunities available |  
Support to apply for jobs on the day | Chat to the JobStart and Work Experience Programme team

**Derry Central Library**  
Tuesday 23 July  
10:30am-12:30pm

**JOBSTART 50+**



Department for  
**Communities**  
www.communities-ni.gov.uk

An Roinn  
**Pobal**

Department for  
**Commonities**

Foyle Jobs & Benefits office presents

# Universal Credit & Job Support Sessions

## Greater Shantallow Area Partnership (Unit 3-4 Northside Village Centre)

Tuesday 9 July 2024

10:30am-12:30pm

Tuesday 13 August 2024

10:30am-12:30pm

(Success North West will also attend)

## Creggan Library

Wednesday 4 September 2024

2.00pm-4.00pm

## Skeoge Community Hub

(Skeoge BT48 8GG)

Thursday 5 September 2024

10.00am-12.00pm

## Derry Central Library

Wednesday 4 September 2024

10.00am-12.00pm

## Galliagh Community Centre

(Fairview Road BT48 8NU)

Thursday 5 September 2024

2.00pm-4.00pm

## Universal Credit and Job Support session 50+

### The Central Library

Tuesday 23rd July from 10:30am-12:30pm

Aimed at those aged 50-64. Advice and support on: Universal Credit, CV and interview skills, Job search and job opportunities available

Representatives from the JobStart team and Work Experience Branch will also attend.

## Universal Credit and Job Support session

### The Central Library

Wednesday 4th September 10am-12pm

Open to all- advice and support on: Universal Credit, CV and interview skills, Job search and job opportunities available ahead of the Derry and Strabane Job Fair due to take place on 10th September

**Universal Credit and Job Support session**

**Creggan Library**

Wednesday 4th September 2pm-4pm

Open to all- advice and support on: Universal Credit, CV and interview skills, Job search and job opportunities available ahead of the Derry and Strabane Job Fair due to take place on 10th September

**Universal Credit and Job Support session**

**Skeoge Community Hub, Clon Dara, Skeoge**

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 10am-12pm

Open to all- advice and support on: Universal Credit, CV and interview skills, Job search and job opportunities available ahead of the Derry and Strabane Job Fair due to take place on 10th September

There will be other organisations and/ or employers involved, these will be confirmed closer to the time

**Universal Credit and Job Support session**

**Galliagh Community Centre**

Thursday 5th September 2pm-4pm

Open to all- advice and support on: Universal Credit, CV and interview skills, Job search and job opportunities available ahead of the Derry and Strabane Job Fair due to take place on 10th September

## 4.0 TV Licensing



### Stakeholder Newsletter - June 2024

#### Welcome to the TV Licensing Stakeholder Newsletter.

We work with organisations, such as yours, across the UK - to ensure the public and your staff are supported with information about when a licence is needed, the concessions available, manageable ways to pay, additional support, and more.

At key moments throughout the year we send out a Newsletter containing need-to-know information for your sector.

For further information and support, you can contact the Communications team at [tvlstakeholders@bbc.co.uk](mailto:tvlstakeholders@bbc.co.uk)

This edition covers:

- Information about our Help Videos for you and your customers
- Information about the advisor helpline for those supporting vulnerable customers and those in financial difficulty
- Information about speaking to your local TV Licensing Communications & Community Relations team

### Latest News

Making TV Licensing accessible to all?

# Here to help



Supporting customers is vital to us and the TV Licensing YouTube channel is a great resource which you can use.

It's full of short and snappy videos, and you can find explanations on everything from When You Need a TV Licence to How to Protect Yourself from Scams and from How TV Licensing Uses Your Data to an introduction to the Simple Payment Plan.

If you are supporting customers whose first language isn't English, we have a range of different subtitled versions, including Spanish, Romanian, Urdu, Punjabi and Polish.

A Sign Language format of the videos are also available.

[View our YouTube channel](#)

[View our BSL Playlist](#)

Alongside the YouTube page, TV Licensing offers a range of other support such as:

**Accessibility Support:** TV Licensing will consider a range of adjustments for customers who may need them. This is particularly important given that each customer's circumstances are different. We are aware some customers may explicitly seek an adjustment (and identify what adjustment they may need) and we also train all frontline advisors to identify where an adjustment might be needed. This could include, for example, customers with mental health issues.

**Language Resources:** TV Licensing offers a number of language resources:

We have a translation service for callers to our helpline which facilitates a three-way conversation with the customer, a translator, and our contact centre.

Our website offers key information in 26 languages.

Leaflets in those languages are available for stakeholder and community groups to download or order [from our website](#).

**Alternative formats:** We recognise that some customers need to be communicated with in a different way. This may include providing communications in large print, Braille, video, audio format or Easy Read guides that provide key information in an easily explained way.

**Text Relay Assistance:** for deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired customers, we offer support by receiving telephone calls from Text Relay Assistants.

**Literature:** We offer a wide range of literature including on scams, the Simple Payment Plan and ways to pay - These are also available in large print.

[Find out more about TV Licensing accessibility](#)

## TV Licensing advisor helpline?



If you are working in an advisory role, TV Licensing aims to ensure you are up to date and have access to everything you might need to help support those who find it more difficult to stay correctly licenced.

We provide a range of support to help vulnerable customers, older people and those in financial difficulty, and have a dedicated helpline solely for the use of advisors of organisations such as charities and not-for-profits. Those advisors can speak directly to a specialist who can help them support their clients with additional requirements.

You can reach the **Advisor Helpline** on 0300 303 9688 or by emailing [stakeholdersupport@tvlicensing.co.uk](mailto:stakeholdersupport@tvlicensing.co.uk) to get support. Please do not share these details directly with your clients.

## Need further information - contact us?

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If you have a query about the TV Licence, we're here to help. Our Community Relations Team in Northern Ireland, is available to provide assistance and information.

If you are interested in getting further support or would like to organise a bespoke, free information session with the team in Northern Ireland for your organisation, please email [tvlicensing@cavendishconsulting.com](mailto:tvlicensing@cavendishconsulting.com)

We are always happy to help.

### Follow us on X (formerly Twitter)

Please follow our X (formerly Twitter) channels for the latest information and share our posts with your followers.

- [@TVLicensingNews](https://twitter.com/TVLicensingNews)
- [@TVLicensing](https://twitter.com/TVLicensing)

We use our social media channels to highlight the organisations we work with and how we support the public. Please contact us if you require TV Licensing social media content for your channels or you would like to work with us.

[Contact us](#)





## Need further information? Contact us

If you are interested in learning more about the support available from TV Licensing, contact the Communications team at [tvlicensing@cavendishconsulting.com](mailto:tvlicensing@cavendishconsulting.com)

Visit the TV Licensing website at [tvlicensing.co.uk](http://tvlicensing.co.uk)



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Cavendish Consulting holds your details for the purpose of keeping you informed about TV Licensing matters on behalf of the BBC. Please let us know if the information we have is incorrect. If you no longer wish to be contacted about TV Licensing issues please update your subscription preferences by clicking the link provided.

[Click here to unsubscribe](#)

## 5.0 JOBSTART SCHEME

The JobStart scheme provides funding from the Department for Communities to allow employers to create new job opportunities to help people aged 16-24 and 50-64 at risk of long-term unemployment to enter the job market.

### JobStart 50+

The JobStart scheme has been extended to include people aged 50-64 who wish to enter or re-enter the workplace.

### What do employers need to know about JobStart?

Employers in Northern Ireland can receive 100% government funding to create 6-month job opportunities for 16-24 and 50-64 year-olds without employment, education or training.

The closing dates for employer applications are:

- **Sunday 21 July 2024 for opportunities for 50-64 year olds**

Participants will be supported through their job opportunities by Work Coaches in the Department for Communities and the JobStart Team for those not in receipt of benefits.

## **Employer criteria to participate in JobStart**

- Employers must be based in Northern Ireland.
- Employers of all sizes can participate in the scheme.
- Employers in all sectors can participate (including the voluntary and community sector).
- Employers can offer one job or multiple jobs to participate in JobStart (depending on the number of staff currently in permanent employment).
- JobStart opportunities must not replace existing or planned vacancies or cause existing employees, apprentices or contractors to lose or reduce their employment.
- Jobs offered must provide a 6-month job opportunity.
- Job opportunities must offer at least 25 hours of employment per week.
- Jobs offered must pay at least the National Minimum Wage (for the participant's age group) through PAYE.

Please note: the Department for Communities will perform due diligence and financial checks on all employers. JobStart funding is available for employers.

### **For each job opportunity funding will cover:**

- 100% of the relevant National Minimum Wage for 25 hours of work per week\*
- the associated employer National Insurance contributions
- employer minimum automatic enrolment contributions

\*Employers can offer additional hours but will have to fund the additional hours themselves

Please note: Employers will need to provide monthly payslips for each JobStart participant. Following approval of an individualised training plan, employers can avail of funding for each job opportunity to cover any support and training the participant may need. **A support grant of £1,000 is available for 6-month opportunities.**

## **How employers can participate in JobStart**

Employers can apply for JobStart by completing an online application form.

<https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/JobStart>

- Employers should allow 4 to 6 weeks for their application to be considered.
- Once an application has been approved, the Department will arrange for the opportunity to be advertised on JobApplyNI.com.
- Employers will follow their own recruitment process to select the best eligible candidate for the JobStart opportunity.

## **How people can participate in JobStart**

Any person aged 16-24 or 50-64 years old in receipt of Universal Credit, Job Seekers Allowance, Income Support or Employment and Support Allowance can participate in the JobStart scheme if they are assessed as being work ready by a Work Coach from the Department for Communities.

Where a person is not currently claiming an eligible benefit, they should contact the JobStart & Work Experience Programme Branch in the Department for Communities on Tel 028 9072 6788 to check their eligibility and obtain information on how to apply for a JobStart scheme opportunity.

### **How employers can promote their participation in JobStart**

Employers are free to promote their involvement in the scheme including through social media and on company websites.

#### **Additional information**

- Participants taking part in a JobStart opportunity will have the same statutory entitlements as other employees in the company in which they are employed.
- Employers will be required to put in place the statutory employer duties for the health, safety & welfare of participants, and pay National Insurance & Pension contributions.
- Employers must include support for participants to develop their occupational and employability skills to help them to reach their full potential.
- Employers will commit to providing the Department for Communities with timely, up-to-date and accurate information, as required.
- At the end of the job opportunity period, employers can consider retaining the participant(s).
- Alternatively, the participant will finish the job opportunity, having gained occupational and employability skills to help them find alternative employment or to progress into further education or training opportunities.
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#### **The Work Experience Programme**

The Department for Communities also works with employers to offer short work experience placements ranging from 2-8 weeks for 16-65-year-olds or a fixed term placement of 13 weeks for 16-24-year-olds through the **Work Experience Programme**.

#### **Further Information**

For further information contact the Department for Communities JobStart & Work Experience Programme Branch

E-mail: [\*\*jobstart.scheme@communities-ni.gov.uk\*\*](mailto:jobstart.scheme@communities-ni.gov.uk)

Telephone: 028 90726788

Employers can receive 100% government funding to create 6-month job opportunities for 16-24 and 50-64 year-olds without employment, education or training.

[JobStart Scheme - employer guidance | Department for Communities \(communities-ni.gov.uk\)](#)  
[JobStart Scheme | nidirect](#)  
[JobStart | nibusinessinfo.co.uk](#)

## **6.0 Vulnerability and Carbon Monoxide Allowance (VCMA) Annual Showcase**

***Thursday 18 July 2024, 9.30am-3.30pm (approx. timings)***

As part of the Vulnerability and Carbon Monoxide Allowance (VCMA) delivery to support customers in vulnerable situations, the Gas Distribution Networks (GDNs) host an Annual VCMA Showcase event.

This online event provides the opportunity to gain insights into projects that they have funded during the past year, hear about their successes, challenges, and learnings, as well as looking ahead to the future.

The free event will take place online on **Thursday 18 July 2024**, 9.30am-3.30pm (approx. timings).

More details, including the agenda, will be sent out in the coming weeks. If you would like to reserve your place at this year's event before receiving any additional details, you can [register now via Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/911254987197/?aff=oddtcreator>](#)

Please note by registering, your details will be shared with a third party (EQ Communications and the GDNs). If you have any questions please contact [contact@vcmashowcase.co.uk](mailto:contact@vcmashowcase.co.uk).

The GDNs will be publishing their company specific and collaborative annual VCMA reports by the 1 July, giving stakeholders a chance to read and digest them before the showcase event.

**[Register Now](#)**

## 7.0 Access Newsletter – Millennium Forum



The newsletter is set against a background of a theater audience. At the top, a yellow banner contains the title 'Access Newsletter – July 2024' and the Millennium Forum logo. Below this is a promotional poster for the Aladdin pantomime, featuring the title in large, golden, 3D letters above a magic lamp. The poster includes the show sponsor 'The Richmond Centre', the production company 'Millennium Forum Productions', and the dates 'Friday 29 November – Tuesday 31 December 2024'. It also mentions 'Specialist: Copal Gallen as Widow Twankey' and 'TICKETS NOW ON SALE'.

### ACCESSIBLE PERFORMANCES OF ALADDIN - IT'S PANTO TIME AGAIN!!

Our accessible performances of panto are now on sale through our box office and on our website

#### Signed Performance - Wednesday 4 December @ 7pm

This show will have both an ISL & BSL interpretator situated at each side of the stage. When booking please advise a member of staff which side you would prefer to be seated to ensure the best viewing of our interpretator.

#### Relaxed & Dementia Friendly - Saturday 7 December @ 2pm

Relaxed and Dementia friendly performances are designed to create an enjoyable and relaxed atmosphere for young people who suffer from learning disabilities and people with dementia and their families at the theatre.

#### Audio Described Performance - Sunday 22 Dec @ 1.30pm

Our Audio Described panto performance returns for it's 2nd year. Audio Described shows are for people who are blind or partially sighted. The action of the play is described through a headset by trained people so that you can follow what is happening at the same time as the rest of the audience.

#### MAKATON

We are delighted that after the success last year of "Daisy" at Jack & The Beanstalk we will be signing a song at this year's panto



Special Effects  
(Signs on Doors)



Hearing Loop



Infra-Red Hearing Loop  
(Available from shop)



Noise Reducing Headphones



Booster Seats  
(Available from shop)



Changing Place Facility



Courtesy  
Wheelchair  
(Available from  
Front Door)



Quiet Room with a  
sensory area

Access in Partnership with



The Millennium Forum is a registered charity XR16635