**Rural Micro Capital Grants Scheme 2020**

**Open for applications from Monday 7th September 2020,**

**closes at 12.00 noon on Friday 2nd October 2020.**

This Scheme is funded under the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation Programme. ***Guidance and Online Application Forms will be available on our website (*** [***www.omaghforum.org***](http://www.omaghforum.org) ***) from 9.00 on Monday 7th September2020***

Micro Capital grants of between £200 and £1,500 are available to rural community-led voluntary organisations for projects tackling issues of local poverty and / or social isolation. The total project cost must not exceed £3,000.

Projects must clearly address an issue of rural poverty and/or social isolation and applicants must provide a minimum of 15% match funding.

**Applications this year will be online.**

**Key objectives**
The Rural Micro Capital Grant Scheme 2020 has been designed to:

Help rural community-led voluntary groups to address local issues of access poverty, financial poverty and social isolation.
Improve the lives of rural communities, and in particular the wellbeing of isolated individuals.

Projects must focus on one of the following three themes:

• Modernisation (of premises / assets)

• Information Communication Technology (ICT).

• Health and Wellbeing.

Omagh Forum for Rural Associations, in conjunction with South West Rural Community Development Service are hosting a number of “Zoom” information sessions during the application period. We would strongly advise all groups to take part in one of these so that your group has all the latest information on the programme and together we all can learn from previous experiences.

Information Sessions:

**Wednesday 9th September 2020 @ 3pm**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88249385799?pwd=aGkyZ1NZb3g3M3NwQ0J4UFU0d0Z1QT09>

Meeting ID: 882 4938 5799

Passcode: 376305

**Thursday 10th September 2020 @ 7.30pm**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87672053619?pwd=VDd0VmlMY3VlMlI0RHZZZzYzOTlGUT09>

Meeting ID: 876 7205 3619

Passcode: 967223

**Tuesday 15th September 2020 @ 10am**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88497945891?pwd=MjBYVVFsS1IrNXJXY3NvdGhPS3BkZz09>

Meeting ID: 884 9794 5891

Passcode: 760773

**Tuesday 22nd September 2020 @ 7.30pm**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87218509708?pwd=UnpCeGNSSzNpM1dJTlhIdlY0T0pMdz09>

Meeting ID: 872 1850 9708

Passcode: 974341