



PRESS RELEASE

INTEGRATION FUNDING SCHEME LAUNCHED BY FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL.

Fingal County Council is pleased to announce a new funding scheme for projects and communities promoting intercultural integration in the County.

The Scheme, which is funded by the Office of the Minister for Integration, may provide grants from €1,000 to €10,000 to groups and projects working towards enhancing the participation and integration of Fingal's ethnic community. Interested groups must submit complete applications for Integration Funding by 26th March 2010.

Projects should be based in the Fingal area and should have cultural or educational focus, and aim to raise awareness of diversity, history, culture or society. Local voluntary groups and ethnic minority organisations which are engaged in promoting events and activities aimed at integrating legally resident immigrants into the community are welcome to apply.

Applicant groups must be in existence for more than one year or have a working relationship with the Council's Community Division. Successful applicants may receive funding of up to 50% made available in advance where a group can provide a work plan clearly outlining proposals. Projects dealing with sporting activities are not eligible for funding under this Scheme.

The Scheme is being supported by the Fingal Ethnic Network, Fingal LEADER Partnership, Blanchardstown Area Partnership and the New Communities Partnership. Particular support will be given to any projects that promote the findings of the survey "Towards an Integrated Community" launched by the Fingal Ethnic Network 2008.

An advisory group will evaluate all applications and the decision of this group is final. Applicants will be informed by letter of the amount of funding awarded and all funding must be drawn down by 31st October 2010.

For information on the Integration Funding Scheme, please contact Louise Edmonds at 01-8704488 or louise.edmonds@fingalcoco.ie, or see www.fingalcoco.ie for full details.

For further information, please contact Ann Murphy, Assistant Communications Officer, Fingal County Council, at 01-8704453 or ann.murphy@fingalcoco.ie

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