

Minister Announces Funding for Irish Organisations in Britain

Press Release

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Micheál Martin, T.D., has announced that grants totalling £7,643,084 are being provided to over 135 organisations in Britain in 2009 under the Emigrant Support Programme.

Speaking at an Irish community reception at the Embassy of Ireland in London, the Minister said:

“I am pleased to announce that Government funding this year to the Irish community in Britain has been maintained at a very significant level. In 2009, we have approved a total of £7.64million to over 135 organisations throughout Britain. This brings Irish Government support for our community in Britain over the past six years to some £40million. The fact that we made this level of funding available in 2009 in the context of an extremely difficult budgetary situation is a clear indication of the Government’s ongoing firm and enduring commitment to the Irish in Britain.”

Minister Martin pointed out that:

“The vast majority of this funding in 2009, as in previous years, has been directed at the most vulnerable members of the Irish community, particularly the elderly. While the funding provided over recent years has had a very positive impact on the ground, I am determined to ensure that those Irish in Britain who continue to live with significant levels of poverty, isolation, loneliness and addiction remain the focus of our work”.

Since 1984, the Government has given financial support to voluntary agencies providing advice and welfare services to vulnerable Irish emigrants in Britain. Over €57 million has been allocated to Irish community groups since then, with over €50.5 million being provided over the past six years.

The main focus of the funding remains on frontline welfare service providers that support the elderly, the homeless and people affected by illness or substance abuse problems, as well as services for the Traveller community. However, the eligibility criteria have been expanded to allow consideration of cultural, heritage, leisure and other activities which help to foster community contact and support.

The full list of organisations who have been awarded funding in 2009 is attached.

Table 1 Emigrant Support Programme 2009 Overall Total

Funding Category	Amount
Welfare and Heritage	£6,972,980
Capital	£670,104
Total:	£7,643,084

Table 2 Emigrant Support Programme Capital Grants - Britain 2009

Organisation	Capital Funding
Bolton Irish Community Association	£12,517
Brian Ború IDL Club	£2,075
Conradh na Gaeilge Glaschú	£921
Corby Irish Centre	£40,000
Cricklewood Homeless Concern	£10,000
Derby Irish Association	£17,373
Eastleigh and District Irish Society	£33,476
Dewsbury Celtic RLFC	£50,000
Dewsbury Irish National League RLFC	£3,739
Edinburgh Cyrenians	£10,542
Halifax Irish Centre	£17,000
Haringey Irish Cultural and Community Centre	£11,991
Irish Centre Housing Ltd	£65,000
Irish Community Care Merseyside	£26,000
Irish Cultural Centre, Hammersmith	£10,000
Leeds Irish Centre	£29,000
London Irish Centre	£20,000
Luton Irish Forum	£150,000
Milton Keynes Irish Centre	£14,150
New Horizon Youth Centre Ltd	£20,000
Reading and District Irish Society	£50,000
St. Michael's Irish Centre	£19,320
Tyneside Irish Centre	£20,000
Watford and District Irish Association	£12,000
Warrington Irish Club	£25,000
TOTAL	£670,104

Table 3 Emigrant Support Programme Welfare and Community Grants 2009

Organisation	Funding
Acton Homeless Concern	£45,333
Age Concern Hillingdon	£6,862
Aisling Project	£97,010
Bell Farm Christian Centre	£9,934
Benefits Advice Shop	£5,000
Birmingham Irish Community Forum	£126,565
Blackfriars Advice Centre	£20,000
Bolton Irish Community Association	£5,780
Brent Adolescent Centre	£27,750
Brent Irish Advisory Service (BIAS)	£172,970
Brian Boru Club	£25,085
Bristol Playbus	£16,133
Causeway Irish Housing Association	£23,361
Celtic & Irish Cultural Society	£17,350
Central & Cecil	£56,318
Central Eltham Youth Project	£24,000
Comhaltas Ceoltoirí Eireann	£157,501
Conradh na Gaeilge, Glaschú	£34,457
Corby Irish Centre	£4,000
Council of Irish County Associations	£10,000
Coventry Irish Society	£115,157
Cricklewood Homeless Concern	£190,121
Derby Irish Association	£10,000
Edinburgh Cyrenians	£6,130
Eireanns Ways	£3,600
Emerald Circle Club	£3,000
Emerald Senior Citizens Group	£7,000
Equinox	£27,426
Federation of Irish Societies	£581,000
Forest Bus	£5,120
Friends, Families and Travellers	£15,096
Full Irish Festival and Funday	£4,550
GAA	£250,000
Gael Music	£7,500
Garngad Irish Heritage Group	£7,000
GEAR	£20,000
Greenwich Irish Pensioners Association	£5,700
Halifax and District Irish Society	£17,200
Halifax Irish Centre	£1,500
Haringey Cultural and Community Centre	£140,135
Haringey Irish Pensioners	£3,500
Harps Community Project, Glasgow	£36,000
Haslingden IDL Club	£4,920
Huddersfield Irish Centre	£6,530
Huddersfield St. Patrick's Day Parade	£5,000

Association	
Immigrant Counselling and Psychotherapy (ICAP)	£186,998
Ireland Network - Great Britain (IN-GB)	£5,000
Irish Arts Foundation	£85,775
Irish Centre Housing	£37,000
Irish Chaplaincy in Britain	£195,793
Irish Charitable Trust	£165,150
Irish Community Care Manchester	£169,575
Irish Community Care Merseyside	£241,606
Irish Cultural Centre, Hammersmith	£209,700
Irish Diaspora Foundation	£56,401
Irish Elderly Advice Network	£87,801
Irish Heritage	£10,000
Irish in Greenwich	£193,042
Irish Network Stevenage	£25,714
Irish Oral History Archive	£71,604
Irish Pensioners Choir	£3,630
Irish Repertory Theatre and Film Company	£5,350
Irish Traveller Movement in Britain (ITMB)	£119,864
Irish Tuesday Club, Liverpool	£4,420
Irish Welfare & Information Centre	£207,034
Irish World Heritage Centre	£36,938
Kilburn Irish Pensioners	£6,000
Lancashire Federation of IDL Clubs	£750
Leeds Gypsy & Traveller Exchange	£46,546
Leeds Irish Health & Homes	£150,873
Leeds St. Patrick's Day Parade & Celebrations	£10,500
Leicester & Leicestershire Irish Forum	£39,870
Lewisham Irish Community Centre	£52,000
Lewisham Irish Pensioners Group	£8,900
Liverpool Irish Festival	£4,250
London Gypsy and Traveller Unit	£100,269
London Irish Amateur Rugby Club	£9,200
London Irish Centre	£476,835
London Irish Music School	£6,500
London Irish Women's Centre	£75,840
Luton Irish Forum	£102,240
Manchester Irish language Group	£750
Mansfield & Dukeries Irish Association	£4,000
Marian Senior Citizens Club	£3,100
Maya Centre	£20,000
Milton Keynes Irish Centre	£18,845
Momentum Care Irish Elders Centre (Rehab)	£95,270
Monica's Place	£30,000
New Horizon Youth Centre	£38,158
NOAH Enterprise	£117,056
North London Action for the Homeless	£5,862

North Wales Irish Society	£6,000
Northampton Irish Support Group	£60,589
Nottingham Irish Studies Group	£1,000
Nottingham St. Patrick's Day Parade	£9,500
Our Lady Help of Christian's Welfare	£55,815
Over 60's Pensioners Club	£2,000
Oxford Irish Society	£2,280
Portsmouth Irish Society	£1,460
Queen's Park Senior Citizen Group	£4,000
Rotherham Irish Society	£2,750
Safe Start Foundation	£117,000
Sandwell Irish Community Association	£14,000
Sandwell Irish Society	£33,000
Sheffield Irish Association	£7,400
SIFA Fireside	£40,000
Solace Women's Aid (Camden Women's Aid)	£42,500
Southwark Irish Festival	£9,000
Southwark Irish Pensioners	£170,274
Southwark Irish Youth	£7,000
Southwark Travellers Action Group	£75,000
St. Catherine's Mercy Centre	£5,371
St. Michael's Irish Centre	£64,648
St. Mungo's Community Housing Association Ltd.	£31,500
St. Patrick's Day Festival - Coatbridge	£7,000
St. Patrick's Senior Tuesday Club	£4,500
St. Theresa's House	£25,233
Streetwork UK	£30,000
Tara Irish Pensioners	£1,899
The Connection at St. Martin's	£20,000
The Emerald Centre	£45,028
The Golden Shamrock Club	£10,180
The Hibernian Society	£38,000
The Irish Club Warrington	£7,250
The Passage	£37,000
The Simon Community	£15,000
Tyneside Irish Centre	£37,700
Tyneside Irish Cultural Society	£21,500
Watford Irish Association	£10,000
TOTAL (£)	£6,972,980