



The poster features a green background with festive illustrations at the top: a red bauble, a white star, a green star, and a red bauble. The text 'libraries NI' is in white, with 'NI' in a stylized font. Below it, 'Christmas Events' is written in large white letters. A purple circle with the word 'Free' is in the top right. The main text describes free festive fun for families in libraries across Northern Ireland, mentioning activities like Christmas Storytimes, seasonal crafts, choir performances, and LEGO. At the bottom, there are five cartoon gingerbread men in various outfits. Social media icons for Facebook, Instagram, X, and YouTube are also present, along with the website 'www.librariesni.org.uk' and the text 'Booking recommended'.

libraries NI
Christmas Events
Free

Free Festive Fun for Families in Libraries This December

Christmas is a magical time of year, but it can also be an expensive one for families. This December, libraries across Northern Ireland are offering a warm, welcoming and completely free way to enjoy the festive season together.

With hundreds of events taking place — from Christmas Storytimes and seasonal crafts to choir performances, LEGO sessions and family fun days — libraries are inviting children and families to step into the magic of Christmas without spending a penny. Every activity is free, and each library provides a cosy, friendly space to relax, play, create and enjoy time together.

Families can drop in to enjoy festive fun, discover new books and make memories in a comfortable space that feels extra special at this time of year.

You can view the full programme of events [here](#) and find your nearest library [here](#).

Booking recommended

Connect with us
www.librariesni.org.uk

Festive Fun in Libraries Across Northern Ireland



[Free Christmas Events in Libraries NI this December](#)

If you have any information you would like to share across our Locality Planning Group members in Belfast please email:
LocalityPlanning@belfasttrust.hscni.net

ENTERPRISE CHRISTMAS MARKET

FRIDAY 12TH DECEMBER

FROM 10 AM TO 12 PM

Not all stalls
can accept
card payment.
Cash
appreciated.

CRAFTS,
GIFTS &
MORE!

Come along and support a
King's Trust young person hosted event!

King's Trust Centre, 6E Weavers Business Park, Belfast, BT12 5GH



CHRISTMAS CRAFT WORKSHOP

*Join us for a night of Christmas crafting,
mince pies, hot chocolate & Christmas movies*

DECEMBER 4
From 6pm - 8pm
£5 PER PERSON

GLOW NI OFFICE
CONWAY MILL





FILL A BUS OF GIFTS

Cumann Spóirt an Phobail are
supporting Whiterock Child and
Family Centre with their Christmas
appeal.

Get in touch with Mick for more info!





Bazaar Night

Thursday 4th December 2025
5pm-8pm

Venue: Camberwell Court

Interested in selling your Bric a Brac, handmade crafts etc - To book a table for this event please contact Sadie Reid at s.reid@newingtonha.co.uk It is £10 per table.

Activities include:
Santa's Grotto with pictures printed on site.

Arts & Crafts stalls

Wheel of Fortune

Surprise Raffle Draws



All proceeds going to Cash For Kids

Newington
Housing Association



COME JOIN US FOR A
FUN FILLED
HOT CHOCOLATE **CHRISTMAS** SANTAS GROTTO
EVENT
WEDNESDAY 17TH DEC
FROM 4PM
ST. JOSEPHS CHURCH
9 PRINCES DOCK ST, BELFAST
BT13AA
COME ALONG AND ENJOY CRISTMAS CRAFTS AND
FESTIVE CHEER – EVERYONE WELCOME!

Northern Ireland Executive
www.northernireland.gov.uk

T:buc
Changing for the better, together

Housing for all

Housing Executive



ASD Information Event

For Parents of Children Awaiting an ASD Assessment or
Post-Diagnosis Support

- ✱ Are you waiting for an autism assessment for your child?
- ✱ Do you need guidance and support after a diagnosis?
- ✱ Join us for an informative and supportive event!

👤 What to Expect:

- ✓ Expert advice & information
- ✓ Support networks & local resources
- ✓ Practical strategies for home & school
- ✓ Safe Space for questions & sharing experiences
- ★ All parents & caregivers welcome!

📅 Date: Friday 5th December 2025

🕒 Time: 10am – 12 noon

📍 Location: Forthspring Inter-Community Group
373-375 Springfield Road, BT12 7DG

🎄 ✨ Forthspring Community Christmas Lunch! ✨ 🎄

Join us on Wednesday 17th December, 12–2pm for an afternoon of festive cheer, friendship, and community spirit at Forthspring! 🍷

We'll have a 3-course Christmas lunch, carol singing, and a few fun games to keep the holiday laughter going. 🎵 🎮

Everyone is welcome — neighbours, friends, families, and community partners alike. Let's come together to share good food, warm company, and a little Christmas magic. 🎁

If you have any dietary requirements, just let us know so we can make sure everyone's well-fed and happy! 🍴 ❤️

📍 Forthspring Inter Community Group, 373 Springfield Road

🕒 Wednesday 17th December | 12–2pm

Talking really helps suicide prevention campaign resources



The Public Health Agency's 'Talking really helps' mass media campaign is running from November 2025 to March 2026. The campaign aims to encourage anyone with feelings of anxiety or distress, or who is in crisis, to start the conversation about their real feelings. The campaign also promotes Lifeline, Northern Ireland's crisis response helpline.



PHA are asking for your support to amplify the Public Health Agency 'Talking Really Helps' suicide prevention mass media campaign, which will run from November 2025 to March 2026.

You can support the campaign, and raise awareness of Lifeline by using and sharing the digital resources across your organisation's social media platforms, AND by ordering FREE resource pack(s) containing campaign promotional items for distribution to your service users.

Digital resources are available from:

[Talking really helps suicide prevention campaign resources | HSC Public Health Agency](#)

SURVIVING
ECONOMIC
ABUSE



Belfast
City Council



Community and voluntary sector professionals
across Belfast - act now to secure **FREE** expert
training from Surviving Economic Abuse (SEA)



survivingeconomicabuse.org



@SEAreSource



@survivingeconomicabuse

Are you a professional supporting women across Belfast?

We are currently offering a limited number of **FREE training places** to community or voluntary professionals across Belfast.

16% of women in Northern Ireland experienced economic abuse in the past year, that's **almost one in six**.

Sometimes referred to as financial abuse, this form of domestic abuse involves the control of a partner or ex-partner's money and economic resources. Abusers use economic abuse to trap victim-survivors in dangerous situations.

Our 'Recognising and Responding to Economic Abuse' training course equips professionals with the knowledge and skills to effectively identify and respond to this form of control.

By the end of the course you will...

- Understand the impact, legal definition, and post-separation dynamics of economic abuse.
- Identify & respond to signs of economic abuse, survivor disclosures, and abuser tactics.
- Recognise the unique challenges faced by victim-survivors of economic abuse.
- Gain practical tools, resources and signposting information to help you support survivors.

Scan the QR code below to book your preferred date or register your interest in future sessions. You can also register via: survivingeconomicabuse.org/Belfast



Choose from multiple dates across 2025 and 2026:

December
10th

December
16th

January
15th

More dates
to follow...



MOOD MATTERS

PARENT AND BABY PROGRAMME

Mood Matters Parent and Baby is a mental health awareness workshop for expectant parents and parents of young children (under 3 years of age).

Learn how to look after your mental health, recognise signs of mental ill-health, cope with challenges around pregnancy, and know where to get help.

Upcoming Dates:

- Delivered online via Zoom
- Wednesday 10th Sept - 7pm to 9pm
- Thursday 6th Nov - 7pm to 9pm
- Monday 17th Nov - 7pm to 9pm (for premature parents!)
- Monday 15th Dec - 7pm to 9pm

Sign up online on our website:
www.aware-ni.org/MMPB

AWARE
 OVERCOMING DEPRESSION.
 CHANGING LIVES.

AWARE-NI.ORG                                                                

Registered with the Charity Commission for NI with NIC100561 Company No. NI1 30447
 This programme sits within Tier One of the PHA Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Suicide Prevention Training Framework.



LIVING LIFE TO THE FULL

A free five-week mental health course using Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) techniques brought to you by the depression charity for Northern Ireland, AWARE NI.

Where: AWARE NI, 40-44 Duncairn Gardens, Belfast, BT15 2GG

When: Every Friday beginning
 16th of January 2026 to 20th of February 2026
 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

To register please scan the QR Code:



This programme can make a big difference in your life!

AWARE
 OVERCOMING DEPRESSION.
 CHANGING LIVES.

AWARE-NI.ORG                           

Registered with the Charity Commission for NI with NIC100561 Company No. NI1 30447
 This programme sits within Tier Two of the PHA Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Suicide Prevention Training Framework.

**If anyone is free next
Friday please book in
and donate some blood!**

**GIVE BLOOD
Save Lives**

Book now for your local community
blood donation session!

VENUE

The Spectrum Centre
Shankill

DATE & TIME

Friday 05 December
12:30 - 19:00

Northern Ireland needs 1200
blood donations per week.
That's 1 every 8 minutes.

 www.NIBTS.org

 Northern Ireland
Blood Transfusion Service



PARENTS GROUP
SOCIAL ACTION PROJECT



2025 BLOOD DRIVE.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
NI BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE



12:30PM - 7:00PM

FRIDAY 5TH DECEMBER

@ Spectrum Centre - Shankill Road

Help Save Lives

Pre-book your slot online now at the
following link:
bit.ly/RCBD25





Belfast
City Council

Cost of living

Cost of living support in Belfast

Belfast City Council has launched the third edition of our dedicated guide to support people in the city grappling with high and rising living costs. The guide signposts to the wide range of community-based support services in Belfast and includes information on benefits advice and grants available to people who need additional support. It is available to pick up at council buildings, community centres, leisure centres, libraries, chemists, foodbanks, social supermarkets and advice service providers across Belfast, so please get your copy and share it with your families, friends and communities.

[Cost of living support | Belfast City Council](#)

Find all the things you need for your charitable organisation

We know what it's like to run a charity – money and resources are precious, but so is your time. And you need to focus on the core services you deliver.

Our aim is to make it easy for charities of all sizes to get hold of the right sorts of things to help them achieve their goals.

Whether it's laptops for staff, gifts for the people you're helping, furniture for the office or even a place to meet, A Good Thing will connect you to local businesses that can offer you what you're in need of.

www.agoodthing.org.uk

hello@agoodthing.org.uk

 [agoodthing_uk](https://twitter.com/agoodthing_uk)

 [agoodthing.org.uk](https://www.facebook.com/agoodthing.org.uk)



How it works:

1. A business posts an offer
2. You make a request
3. Your request is accepted
4. You collect the item(s)

To get started, visit
www.agoodthing.org.uk

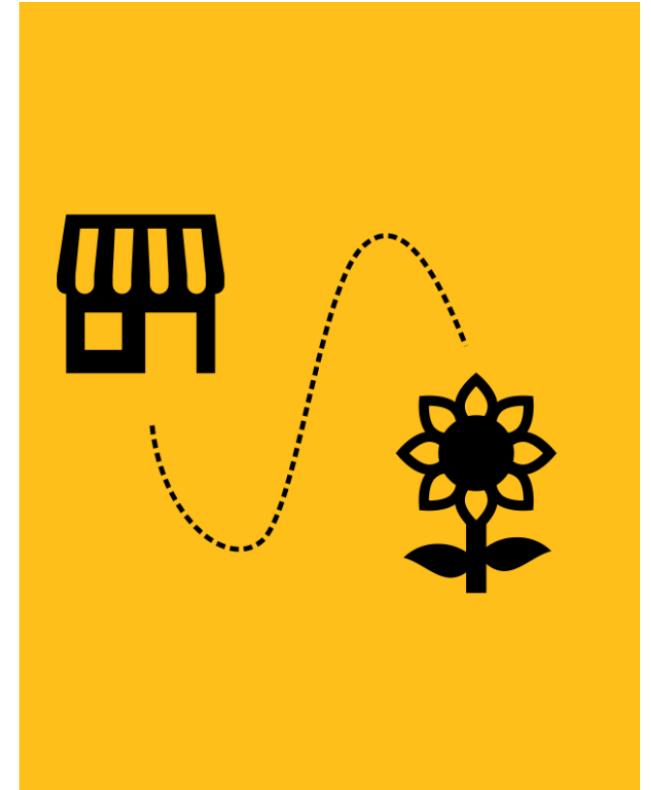
Do more for the causes you work for.

Get free items donated by local businesses to help make your ideas happen.



A G O O D T H I N G

www.agoodthing.org.uk



As you may be aware, the Department for Communities has been undertaking an extensive review of the People & Place Strategy over the past few years. The outworkings of this review will determine how Neighbourhood Renewal and the groups funded through this programme are positioned in any new arrangement.

The Belfast Area Partnerships (BAP's) have had a community-led strategic and regeneration role across Belfast for the past 30 years. DFC have commissioned the BAP's to engage in a consultation exercise and we are proposing to hold a series of events to engage with the community sector, the outcome of which will be submitted to the Department for Communities. We will seek to explicitly highlight the challenges and opportunities across the 5 key thematic areas:

- **Workforce Support & Development**
- **Community Development, Empowerment & Capacity**
- **Community Organisations Governance Training & Development Support**
- **Organisations - best placed to develop collaborative working Government**
- **Anchor/Lead Organisations- Role and Purpose**

Forward South Partnership

Making a difference to South Belfast
through partnerships & projects.

Forward South Partnership is leading the research element considering the role and purpose of an area based **Anchor or Lead Organisation** in any new arrangement, and recommendations for a way forward are required as part of this commission. We are inviting you to join us at the South Belfast event on the **28th January in the Crescent Arts Centre from 9.30-2.00pm**. I have listed the dates for all of the Belfast consultations, and all 5 themes above will be considered on each of the dates below:

- Fri 28th Nov – 9.30am to 2pm – North Belfast consultation, Landsdowne Hotel
- Thurs 4th Dec – 9.30am to 2pm – West Belfast consultation, St Comgalls, Divis Street
- Thurs 22nd Jan – 9.30am to 2pm – Greater Shankill consultation, Spectrum Centre
- **Wednesday 28th Jan – 9.30am to 2pm – South Belfast consultation Crescent Arts Centre**
- Thurs 5th Feb – 9.30am to 2pm – East Belfast consultation, Templemore Baths

Lunch will be served at all events.

We consider this an important opportunity to influence how DfC and other public bodies channel investment into our areas, how they will recognise the role and contribution of the CVSE sector, as well as providing an opportunity to highlight how we can be better supported and prepared for the new arrangements which emerge.

Please confirm your attendance at our 28th January event in the Crescent Arts Centre to

fiona.molloy@forwardsouth.org



Please find link below showcasing video created by young people from Cookstown Youth Centre, aimed at raising awareness around the issue of Sextortion. This impactful piece is the combination of a 10-month programme that began with a focus on Ending Violence Against Woman and Girls evolved into a vital exploration of online safety following insightful discussions with PSNI officers who work in the field of online safety.

<https://vimeo.com/1095594505/8c5816a9fa>



[Online Safety Hub - Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland](https://vimeo.com/1095594505/8c5816a9fa)

Free downloadable resources from Child Bereavement UK



childbereavementuk.org/when-someone-special-dies-leaflets



Childhood vaccinations

This webinar session is aimed at community and voluntary staff working with children. The webinar aims to cover:

- the importance of childhood vaccination
- an overview of the childhood vaccination schedule in Northern Ireland
- information regarding the introduction of the changes to the childhood vaccination schedule commencing January 2026

- [Register your interest – Fill in form](#)

**WEDNESDAY 21ST
JANUARY 2025 1PM – 2PM**

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 374 367 293 014 29

Passcode: GN3Qz2J5

**TUESDAY 27TH JANUARY
2025 1PM – 2PM**

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 365 127 165 462 22

Passcode: Rm3UY3UP

**PARENTS
SAY**

Homework
times are
often
stressful.

My child is
often
angry.
What can I
do?

Supporting parents

of children 2-11, in South Belfast
**Windsor Women's Centre,
136-144 Broadway, BT12 6HY**
Five weeks programme

**Thursdays
10-11.15am**

Why is
my child
not
listening
to me?

Getting my
child to
school on
time is
difficult.

Five weeks

Programme

Start January 8th To

February - 5th 2026



We help you
find new ways
to support your
child's
happiness.

To sign up, contact:

Christine-07724701039

Leah-07740545129

BARNARD'S

You Are Not Alone - Free Parent Online Drop-In

Parenting an autistic child can feel amazing, confusing, and overwhelming, sometimes all in the same day. That's why we host our **no-cost monthly online drop-in sessions** for parents and carers.

Normally we run the monthly drop-ins on the 1st Tuesday of the month but in **DECEMBER we run 5 drop-in sessions from Monday 1st December - Friday 5th December.**

First Tuesday of every month
7pm - 8.30pm
Platform: Zoom



Erik Wagter - host of the drop-in

What these sessions are all about:

We've created a safe, non-judgemental space where parents can bring their questions, share worries and connect with others who 'get it'.

Topics often included:

- Understanding and responding to challenging behaviour
- Making sense of autism on a deeper level
- The ups and downs of family relationships and dynamics
- Working with schools and professionals
- Meeting like-minded parents and realising you are not alone



What parents say:

*'Thank you so much for the group this evening. I can't tell you how grateful I feel, and I really do feel less alone and more validated. **My hope is back**'*

Who runs the sessions?

I'm Erik Wagter, co-founder of Autism Family Support Service. Alongside being a social worker, trainer and Solution Focused family coach, I also bring over two decades of personal lived family experience of autism. Sometimes my wife Sally will join in as well.

If you would like to join please send an email to sallywagter@gmail.com and we will send you the Zoom link.

Jobs and Training Opportunities



JOB | PART TIME

Family Support Officer **Here NI**

Monday / 08 December 2025 12:00pm

Salary: £25,119 pro-rata

Hours per week: 21.00

The Family Support Officer will provide early intervention and practical support to LGBTQIA+ parents, carers, and their children aged 0–12, promoting positive wellbeing, family connection, and inclusion. This post is funded for one year, subject to funding. Interviews will be held on the 12th of December 2025.

[Family Support Officer | CommunityNI](#)

Jobs and Training Opportunities

DECEMBER 2025 - JANUARY 2026

KING'S TRUST COURSES

All our courses are free to attend and don't impact benefits
We also reimburse transport costs and cover childcare (subject to application)

DROP IN

Drop in to chat to our friendly staff and find out about our programmes. Get money back for your travel in by bus or train.

King's Trust Belfast Centre

Unit 6E Weavers Court, Belfast, BT12 5GH
10 December, 1pm - 2pm
Free parking is available, or we are easily walkable from Grand Central Station.

Ballymena Library

5 December, 10am - 12pm

Portglenone Library

2 December, 2pm - 3:30pm

Carnlough Library

11 December, 11:30am - 1pm

Kells and Conor Library

9 December, 11am - 12:30pm

Whitehead Library

3 December, 1:30pm - 3:30pm

Cloughfern Library

4 December, 2:30pm - 4:30pm

Greystone Library

18 December, 3:15pm - 4:15pm

EXPLORE+

Age: 16-24

Dates: Coming in 2026!

Location: Belfast

A six-month personal development programme. Take part in a range of activities on areas such as employability skills, good relations, citizenship, and positive progression.

GET STARTED

Get Started with Cookery

Age: 16-30 Taster: 13 January

Dates: 26 - 30 January

Location: North West Regional College, Derry/Londonderry

On this exciting course you'll learn from industry experts, get invaluable experience, and learn how to make traditional pasta, vegetarian and curry dishes. You'll also be able to work towards a qualification in Food Hygiene.

Get Started with Make Up

Age: 16-30 Taster: 25 November

Dates: 1 - 5 December

Location: Belfast

Gain practical experience in a range of Make Up techniques, including skin care, concealing, eyes, brows, lips and special effects make up.

Have the opportunity to gain a Beauty Guilds Qualification.

Get Started with the Police Service of Northern Ireland

Age: 18-30 Taster: 12 January

Dates: 26 - 30 January

Location: Various

Learn about different roles within the Police Service and find out about the process of applying.



GET READY

Get Ready for Careers in Health & Social Care

Age: 16-30 Taster: 13 January

Dates: 19 - 30 January

Location: Belfast

Gain relevant experience through practical activities designed to give you insight into a wide variety of careers in Health & Social Care. Work towards an OCN Level 2 Award in Employability and Health & Social Care and an RQF qualification in First Aid at Work.

Get Ready for a Career in Digital with W5 Life

Age: 16-30 Taster: 20 January

Dates: 26 January - 5 February

Location: W5 Life, Belfast

Develop Digital skills and learn about opportunities in STEM. Build communication, problem solving and critical-thinking skills. Work towards an OCD Level 2 Digital Skills for Life & Work qualification.

GET STARTED

Get Started with Photography

Age: 16-30 Taster: 13 January

Dates: 19 - 23 January

Location: Belfast

Learn to use a professional camera and take photos of various subjects. Learn about framing, light, focus, exposure, and editing. Get tips and tricks from a professional photographer and learn about pathways into a career.

Get Started with Music

Age: 16-30 Taster: 20 January

Dates: 26 - 30 January

Location: Drake Music, Belfast

Learn about the Music industry and build new skills. This programme is suitable for all levels, whether you're a seasoned performer or just starting out.

Meet new people, network, and get tips, techniques and professional advice from an experienced music producer.

Get Started with Brows and Lashes

Age: 16-30 Taster: 27 January

Dates: 2 - 6 February

Location: Belfast

Gain practical experience in a range of techniques, including lash lifting and tinting, lash extensions, and brow lamination and definition.

Get tips and techniques from a professional brows and lashes artist. Have the opportunity to obtain a Beauty Guilds qualification.

ENTERPRISE

Age: 18-30

Dates: Available year round

Location: Online

Take part in expert-led workshops on finance, marketing, business planning, sales, and more. Get support to build a business plan and grants to launch your business.

USEFUL INFO

All our courses:

- are free to attend
- don't impact benefits

We also:

- reimburse transport costs
- cover childcare costs (subject to application)

CONTACT US

outreachni@kingstrust.org.uk

0800 842 842

kingstrust.org.uk

Jobs and Training Opportunities

Empower & Elevate

The Kings Trust in collaboration with Wellbeing For Us

Signing Off

A safe space to grow & learn

Our Empower & Elevate workshop is designed to help those build confidence and take a first step towards personal growth. It will guide you through important wellbeing tools for managing stress, healthy relationships, setting boundaries and building self-esteem.

Eligibility

- Age 16-30.
- Not in work or employed.
- Not in education or training.
- If on benefits must have job search requirements turned off.
- Help with childcare costs.
- Public Transport costs reimbursed.
- Location: Kings Trust Belfast Office or at your own organisation or online.

If you have a group of young people that meet the eligibility, who you think would benefit from wellbeing support by an experienced Mental Health Practitioner, please contact us below to set this up.

Monthly Newsletter

Email: outreachni@kingstrust.org.uk
Call: 0800 842 842

DSN 6378 © The King's Trust 2024 - all rights reserved. The King's Trust is a registered charity incorporated by Royal Charter in England. Registered number RC000772. Registered office: The King's Trust The King's Trust South London Centre 8 Glade Path London SE1 8EG. Registered charity number in England and Wales: 1079675 and Scotland: SC041198.

Northern Ireland

SIGN UP, LEARN, GET INTO SECURITY WITH EVENTSEC

Everyone starts somewhere.
Get the skills, experience and opportunities to help you land a job.

Find out more via webchat at:
kingstrust.org.uk

ON THIS COURSE YOU'LL:

- Receive SIA training, first aid & more
- Gain employability skills training & interview with Eventsec
- Have training support to help you succeed
- Begin your career in security

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:
Taster day: 9 Feb 2026
Course dates: 16 February - 6 March 2026
Express Interest by: 4 February 2026
Location: Belfast
Eligibility criteria: aged 18-30, available full time for three week training, IDs required



Jobs and Training Opportunities



City for
business

**Belfast's
Growth Path**

Community enterprise programme

Join our community enterprise programme designed to support and inspire people from all backgrounds to explore green business ideas for self-employment and entrepreneurship.

This programme will give you access to the right tools and provide you with the confidence and support to start or grow your business.

Be inspired through stories from local entrepreneurs and discover how big ideas for planet and purpose can start right here in the community.

FREE

 **Belfast City Council**  belfastcity.gov.uk/growyourbusiness



City for
business

**Belfast's
Growth Path**

Community enterprise programme

FREE

Friendly and free, everyone is welcome especially those who are curious, but may feel unsure about getting started.

What's on Offer:

- Friendly workshops and mentoring
- Practical advice from local entrepreneurs
- Site visits to local businesses
- Triage sessions to explore ideas.
- Ongoing support for success through Go Succeed, business networks and stepping stones toward self-employment.

Whether you are just starting out or growing something new, get the help you need to turn your vision into reality.

Take the first step towards your entrepreneurial journey and contact Dearbhaile Heaney on:

 heaneyd@belfastcity.gov.uk

 **Belfast City Council**  belfastcity.gov.uk/growyourbusiness