

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release



£9,756 awarded to the Irish Football Network to revamp Richardson Park

The Irish Football Network (IFN) was established in 2021 to support the lost generation of young men who have been unsuccessful in pursuing an elite football career. As part of their work, the IFN will regenerate Richardson Park in Dunmurry and provide access to sport for the local community.

The Irish Football Network will use £9,756 to regenerate Richardson Park - they will clear up and re-seed the current pitches as part of their long term plan to establish a community hub and sport facility in the area.

The Whitemountain Programme was established by Whitemountain who are part of the Breedon Group, and are a leading Contracting and Materials Business operating throughout the UK and Ireland, specialising in Highway Maintenance, Civil Engineering, Airfield Construction, Quarry Materials, Bitumen Importation and Distribution, Waste Management and Green Energy.

Since its beginnings in 2008, the Whitemountain Programme has distributed over £8 million of funding to 260 fantastic community and biodiversity projects. This funding helps groups to achieve their plans for positive change in their community.

QUOTES

Access to sport is vital for health and wellbeing in our local communities. The Irish Football Network will create a new community sport facility and provide access to football for the local community. We are proud to support their work.

Shannon Downey, Communities Lead
Groundwork Northern Ireland

Irish Football Network are greatly indebted to the Whitemountain Programme. By receiving this funding, we will be able to transform the derelict pitch at Richardson Park Football Ground into a positive and vibrant sporting hub for the local community. These improvements will contribute to the reduction of antisocial behaviour at the facility and make it an epicentre for positive engagement. This transformation will mark the beginning of our long-term Community Hub project, and we will always remember that Whitemountain helped us to kick this off the ground.

Ryan Adams
Irish Football Network

The Whitemountain Programme is proud to support the Irish Football Network in regenerating Richardson Park through our funding programme. The IFN work in the local community, supporting men who want to continue to play football and this funding is an important step in ensuring they can continue to do so.

Russell Drew
Whitemountain

NOTES TO THE EDITOR

Groundwork Northern Ireland manages the Whitemountain Programme on behalf of Whitemountain. Groundwork NI is a charity that empowers local communities grown from the ground up, that are sustainable, happy and healthy places to live, work and play. One of our services is to help other organisations to distribute grant funding, ensuring money gets to where it is most needed. Throughout the years, we have distributed over £10 million in grants to community projects.

Irish Football Network is a newly established network that supports young men who were unable to pursue a career in elite football. The IFN also manage Richardson park, a local football facility for the community.

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HOW TO APPLY

If you have a great community or biodiversity focused project which lies within the 15 mile radius of Mullaghglass landfill site near Lisburn (and within 10 miles of a licensed landfill site), then why not apply? Applications to the Whitemountain Programme are open. To find out more visit our website www.groundwork.org.uk/whitemountain or contact us at whitemountainprogramme@groundworkni.co.uk

OTHER PROJECTS FUNDED RECENTLY

Grants of up to £50,000 are available for projects making a positive impact at ground level, either developing facilities for community use or encouraging biodiversity and environmental improvements.

The funding is available under two strands:

- Whitemountain Programme Small Grants (up to £5K)
- Whitemountain Programme Main Grants (£5K - £25K)

Below you can find some of the more recently funded projects:

Small Grants - 2021

Benview Community Centre	£6,120
CIYMS Cricket Club	£9,756
Irish Football Network	£7,395

Main Grants - 2021

Cliftonville FC	£50,000
Include Youth	£49,935
L'Arche	£50,000
New Life City Church	£48,796

TOTAL	£222,002
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