



## **Overview on Education and Training Practices for Adults**

### **Training Inventory — Healthcare Assistant — Ireland**

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**Author:**

Tom Martin & Associates/TMA  
Tom Martin

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## Introduction

Today, the world of work and professional careers are increasingly characterised by changes of occupation. In a dynamic labour market, employees have to adjust to labour demand and find and take on job opportunities in occupations which do not correspond to their initial education. To fill vacancies and dissolve skill shortages, employers have to rely on workers whose track record in terms of qualification and experience does not exactly match the required job profile.

However, successfully mastering an occupational change calls for investments in re-qualification and appropriate (re-)qualification measures. Consequently, there is a need for adult education programmes geared towards persons intending to work in a job not strictly corresponding to the occupation they have initially been trained for. Such courses have to meet requirements which are different from initial education and take into account the specific target group (e.g. with regard to training periods, time schedules, prices etc.). This holds in particular as far as persons are concerned who are strategically preparing an occupational change while being in employment.

Among the wide variety of the available vocational and adult education measures there exist several training instruments that better satisfy the exigencies of (re-)qualification in the context of an occupational change. The present inventory aims at pinpointing training courses assessed as adequate for people wishing to develop their competence base in order to being able to start a second career specifically in the field of **healthcare assistants**.

The presented initiatives do not necessarily constitute an exhaustive list of all training measures available for acquiring the relevant skills. They have been selected according to the following criteria:

- The training measure provides a broad and practically applicable qualification for the considered occupation, can be completed in a reasonable time period and can be attended alongside normal work obligations (e.g. evening or weekend classes).
- The measure is well accessible in terms of the training location, eligibility criteria (e.g. prior knowledge) and costs.

The following pages provide practical information on selected training measures, i.e. a short description of the contents covered and the teaching method applied, the duration and costs of the measure as well as the contact details of the training provider. In this way, it is intended to help individuals as well as employers when searching for appropriate qualification programmes in the context of occupational change.

## Care Support – St Johns Central College

### Description of the measure

Learners who successfully complete this module will recognise the personal care needs of clients, respond effectively to clients' individual needs, with their involvement and use of choice, acquire practical skills in the area of client personal care and maintain a safe, healthy and hygienic environment for clients.

### Target group

The course is provided in Cork City.

### Duration of the measure

The duration of the course is 24 weeks starting in September. It is provided on a part-time basis on Monday evenings. The formation of any class is dependant upon adequate enrolment.

### Certification

This course is a Level 5 FETAC accredited module.

### Costs for participants

The course fee is €450. Senior citizens (over 65 years) are entitled to a 50% reduction in fees.

### Contact details

Mr. Neil O'Shea, Director of Adult Education, St. John's Central College, Sawmill Street, Cork

Tel: (021) 425 5561

Mobile: (086) 819 6141

Email: [info@stjohnscollege.ie](mailto:info@stjohnscollege.ie)

Web: [www.stjohnscollege.ie](http://www.stjohnscollege.ie)

## Care Skills – St Johns Central College

### Description of the measure

Learners who successfully complete the Care Support module will understand the responsibilities and entitlements of a care worker, recognise the need for continuing development in care work, drawing on personal reflection and experience, promote good practice and respect for diversity in the care setting, understand the importance of working effectively as part of a team and communicate and deal with people in ways that are consistent with the role of a carer.

### Target group

The course is provided in Cork City.

### Duration of the measure

The duration of the course is 24 weeks starting in September. It is provided on a part-time basis on Wednesday evenings. The formation of any class is dependant upon adequate enrolment.

### Certification

This course is a Level 5 FETAC accredited module.

### Costs for participants

The course fee is €450. Senior citizens (over 65 years) are entitled to a 50% reduction in fees.

### Contact details

Mr. Neil O'Shea, Director of Adult Education, St. John's Central College, Sawmill Street, Cork

Tel: (021) 425 5561

Mobile: (086) 819 6141

Email: [info@stjohnscollege.ie](mailto:info@stjohnscollege.ie)

Web: [www.stjohnscollege.ie](http://www.stjohnscollege.ie)

## Care Skills for Health Care Assistants – College of Progressive Education

### Description of the measure

This course is designed to meet the needs of people working or planning to work in a care setting. This course aims to equip the carer with the skills and knowledge to care for clients in a safe and hygienic environment. For learners who wish to complete the FETAC Healthcare Support Certificate (major award DHSXX) this module is mandatory.

General Aims:

- Develop confidence in the carers and in the value of their work
- Recognise the personal care needs of clients, allowing client choice and involvement
- Develop and acquire practical skills in giving or assisting with client's personal care
- Maintain a safe and hygienic environment for clients and carers.

Work Experience: Learners must complete a minimum of 6 weeks work experience in a care facility (240 hours FETAC requirement).

### Target group

Applicants must be over the 20 years of age.

Applicants should submit an up-to-date CV, photocopies of qualifications (if any) and a short written summary of career to date. Applicants may also be asked to come for an interview.

Special Requirements:

First Aid: Learners must obtain an Irish Heart Foundation Heartsaver CPR Certificate, or equivalent, as a FETAC requirement for the course.

Nursing homes/hospitals will require learners to have completed a moving & handling course before being accepted on work experience. (A list of providers is available on request). They will also require learners to be vaccinated against Hepatitis B.

The Care Skills for Health Care Assistants is provided in Dublin city centre and Blackrock, Co. Dublin.

### Duration of the measure

The duration of the course is 12 evenings plus 2 Saturday workshops. This course is offered twice a year, starting in September and March.



## **Certification**

Care Skills FETAC Level 5 Component Certificate (minor award D20163) and Certificate in Caring Skills (The College of Progressive Education).

## **Costs for participants**

The cost of the course is €630.

## **Contact details**

Progressive College, 27–29 Carysfort Avenue, Blackrock, Co Dublin.

Tel: 01 488 4300

Fax: 01 488 4380

Email: [info@progressivecollege.com](mailto:info@progressivecollege.com)

Web: [www.progressivecollege.com](http://www.progressivecollege.com)

## Palliative Care Support – College of Progressive Education

### Description of the measure

The Palliative Care Support course is recommended for people with an interest in caring for clients at this stage of the life cycle in a paid or voluntary capacity. This is one of the elective FETAC modules for the Healthcare Support Certificate (DHSXX).

The general aims of the course are to:

- Provide holistic care for clients at this stage of the life cycle;
- Develop and acquire effective communication skills with the client and the family members;
- Recognise and respect the individual's uniqueness at this stage of life;
- Recognise the importance of working as a team to ensure quality care for the individual client.

### Target group

No specific entry requirements. Minimum age at entry is 17 years.

Learners must also be capable of undertaking assessment work to Pass Leaving Certificate standard.

The Palliative Care Support course is provided in two locations: Dublin city centre and Blackrock, Co. Dublin.

### Duration of the measure

The duration of the course is 12 evenings plus 2 Saturday workshops. This course is offered twice a year, starting in September and March. It is also offered on a distance learning basis, starting four times a year: February, May, September and November.

### Certification

Successful participants are awarded Palliative Care Support, FETAC Level 5 Component Certificate (minor award D20170) and Certificate in Palliative Care Support (College of Progressive Education).

### Costs for participants

The cost of the course is €630.

### Contact details

Progressive College, 27–29 Carysfort Avenue, Blackrock, Co Dublin.

Tel: 01 488 4300

Fax: 01 488 4380

Email: [info@progressivecollege.com](mailto:info@progressivecollege.com)

Web: [www.progressivecollege.com](http://www.progressivecollege.com)

## Care of the Older Person – College of Progressive Education

### Description of the measure

The Care of the Older Person course is open to individuals with an interest in caring for older people, but it is of particular relevance to carers working with or planning to work with the elderly. This is an area of considerable growth in employment, whether in nursing homes, day care centres or in the client's own home.

Family members caring for elderly relatives will also benefit from this course.

For learners who wish to complete the FETAC Healthcare Support Certificate day release (major award DHSXX) this is one of the elective modules.

This is a practical course with lots of interaction and the opportunity to network with other people in like circumstances. There will be time for questions and opportunities to explore how to benefit from caring for the older person and how to minimise difficulties.

There are also opportunities to discuss the specific topics of interest to the group, but not included in the course syllabus.

The Care of the Older Person course is provided in a number of locations: Dublin city centre, Athlone, Mullingar, Tullamore, Portlaoise, Galway, Castlebar and Roscommon.

### Target group

No specific entry requirements. Minimum age at entry is 17 years.

Learners must also be capable of undertaking assessment work to Pass Leaving Certificate standard.

Learners would benefit from having experience working with older people.

### Duration of the measure

The duration of the course is 12 evenings plus 2 Saturday workshops. This course is offered twice a year, starting in September and March. It is also offered on a distance learning basis, starting four times a year: February, May, September and November.

### Certification

Successful participants are awarded Care of the Older Person Module, FETAC Level 5 Component Certificate (minor award D20180) and Certificate in Care of the Older Person (The College of Progressive Education).

### Costs for participants

The cost of the course is €630.

### Contact details

Progressive College, 27–29 Carysfort Avenue, Blackrock, Co Dublin.

Tel: 01 488 4300

Fax: 01 488 4380

Email: [info@progressivecollege.com](mailto:info@progressivecollege.com)

Web: [www.progressivecollege.com](http://www.progressivecollege.com)

## Care of the Older Person – Galway Technical Institute

### Description of the measure

The Care of the Older Person course provided by Galway Technical Institute is designed to assist learners to:

- Recognise the importance of older people in society,
- Understand the concept of the ageing process,
- Be aware of the long-term implications of our ageing population,
- Enhance the quality of life of the older person.

Outline: The ageing process:

- Be able to define healthy ageing,
- Be aware of global and national demographic trends.
- Understand the social impact of ageing on older people;
- Discuss differing attitudes to ageing and older people.
- Understand our own role in promoting positive attitudes to ageing.
- Be aware of the role of statutory and voluntary agencies in promoting the well being of older people.
- Understand the concept and practice of preparation for retirement.
- Outline the needs of older people under physical, social, emotional, psychological, recreational, financial, environmental and spiritual.
- Be aware of older people with specific needs:
- Describe the issues related to an older person with mental illness, and the issues related with dementia.
- Recognise the symptoms of dementia, and an understanding of what it is.
- Outline current approaches towards developing quality in the provision of services for older people and their families.

### Target group

No specific entry requirements.

The Care of the Older Person course is provided in Galway.

### **Duration of the measure**

The duration of the course is 10 weeks from 7–9.00 p.m. on a Monday evening. The course is offered three times a year: September, January and Easter (a minimum of ten students is required for the course to be offered).

### **Certification**

Certificate of attendance from Galway Technical Institute.

### **Costs for participants**

The cost of the course is €110. Fee concessions are available for Old Age Pensioners, the disabled and the unemployed.

### **Contact details**

Galway Technical Institute, Father Griffin Road, Claddagh, Galway.

Tel: (091) 581 342

Fax: (091) 589 267

Email: [info@gti.ie](mailto:info@gti.ie)

Web: [www.gti.ie](http://www.gti.ie)

## Care of the Older Person – Letterkenny Institute of Technology

### Description of the measure

The Care of the Older Person course is provided by Letterkenny Institute of Technology aims to:

- Demonstrate good work practices in the provision of care for older people;
- Understand the concept of the ageing process;
- Be able to meet the needs of older people in a variety of care settings;
- Enhance the quality of life of the older person.

The subjects taught include:

- The ageing Process;
- Care Settings;
- Working with the Older Person;
- Caring for Older People with Specific Needs.

Work Experience:

Learners must complete at least 120 hours working in a nursing home/day-care/community centre during this course. Nursing homes/hospitals will require learners to have completed a manual handling course before being accepted on work experience.

### Target group

No specific qualifications required but potential learners would benefit from having experience working with older people. Learners must submit, with their application, a written summary outlining why they wish to undertake this course and their previous experience in the area of care.

The Care of the Older Person course is provided in Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.

### Duration of the measure

The duration of the course is 40 hours and is provided on 1 evening a week for 12 weeks and 2 Saturdays. The course is offered twice a year: September and March.



## **Certification**

Successful participants are awarded Care of the Older Person Module, FETAC Level 5 Component Certificate (minor award D20180) and Certificate in Care of the Older Person (The College of Progressive Education).

## **Costs for participants**

The cost of the course is €630.

## **Contact details**

Progressive College, 27–29 Carysfort Avenue, Blackrock, Co Dublin.

Tel: 01 488 4300

Fax: 01 488 4380

Email: [info@progressivecollege.com](mailto:info@progressivecollege.com)

Web: [www.progressivecollege.com](http://www.progressivecollege.com)

## Care of the Older Person – Longford Vocational Education Committee

### Description of the measure

The Care of the Older Person course is provided by the Adult Education Unit of Longford Vocational Education Committee (VEC). This module is designed to equip learners with the knowledge and skills to provide care for older people in a variety of settings. The course is delivered in a classroom setting and provides tuition in four areas: Ageing Process, Working with the Older Person, Caring for the Older Person with Specific Needs and Care Setting.

Participants who successfully complete this course will:

- Demonstrate good work practices in the provision of individual holistic care for older people.
- Understand the concept of the ageing process.
- Be able to meet the full range of needs of older people in a variety of care settings.
- Enhance the quality of life of the older person.

### Target group

No specific qualifications are required.

The Care of the Older Person course is provided in Longford.

### Duration of the measure

The duration of the course which is one evening a week for 12 weeks. Longford Vocational Education Committee is hoping to offer this course three times in each academic year: September, January and April.

### Certification

The course is FETAC Level 5 accredited.

### Costs for participants

The cost of the course is not specified. The cost is free to those who qualify for the Back to Education Initiative (BTEI) by having either a Medical Card or who are in receipt of Social Welfare or who do not have a Leaving Certificate or equivalent.

### Contact details

Ms. Mary Farrell, Adult Education Officer, Longford VEC, Battery Road, Longford.

Tel: 043 454 74

Email: [aeo@longfordvec.ie](mailto:aeo@longfordvec.ie)

Web: [www.longfordvec.ie](http://www.longfordvec.ie)

## Care Skills - Clondalkin Adult Education Service

### Description of the measure

Learners who successfully complete the Care Skills module will recognise the personal care needs of clients, respond effectively to clients' individual needs, with their involvement and use of choice, acquire practical skills in the area of client personal care and maintain a safe, healthy and hygienic environment for clients.

### Target group

The course is open to all participants and is provided in Clondalkin, Dublin 22.

### Duration of the measure

The course is provided over 16 weeks on a Tuesday evening. The course is offered twice a year: September and January (a minimum of eight students is required for the course to be offered).

### Certification

Successful participants gain a FETAC Component Certificate (Level 5 NFQ) from FETAC.

### Costs for participants

The cost of the course is €250; the cost for older (aged 65 and above) citizens is €50.

### Contact details

Clondalkin Adult Education Service, VEC Building, Monastery Road, Clondalkin, Dublin 22.

Tel: 01 467 0225/467 0043

## Carers Course - Belvedere College of Further Education

### Description of the measure

The Care Skills course teaches the very basic skills required for working as a carer in the home or care assistant in a healthcare environment.

At the end of this course the participant should be able to:

- Implement the very basic practical skills involved in care giving: washing, dressing, eating, drinking, toileting and mobility.
- Demonstrate effective interpersonal skills and assist clients in their care to maintain independence
- Implement basic hygiene, infection control, safe disposal of soiled linen, etc.
- Report and record incidents and maintain relevant documentation.

### Target group

This course is suitable for anybody currently employed or seeking employment in care provision (e.g. elderly, disabled, etc.). It enables the participant to recognise the personal care needs of the client and respond effectively to these needs. The participant will acquire the practical skills in the area of client personal care and maintain a safe, healthy and hygienic environment for the client.

The course is provided in Mullingar, Co. Westmeath.

### Duration of the measure

The Carer's Course is provided over 8 weeks on a Wednesday evening. The course is offered twice a year, September and February/March (a minimum of 10 students is required for the course to be offered).

### Certification

FETAC Component Certificate (Level 5 NFQ) from FETAC.

### Costs for participants

The cost of the course is €360. Funding from FÁS may be available and, if so, the cost of the course is €90.

**Contact details**

The Belvedere Institute of Education, 52 Oliver Plunkett Street, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath.

Tel: (044) 932 9777

Fax: (044) 939 4077

Email: [info@BelvedereInstitute.com](mailto:info@BelvedereInstitute.com)

Web: [www.belvedereinstitute.com](http://www.belvedereinstitute.com)

## Healthcare Support – Cork College of Commerce

### Description of the measure

The Healthcare Support programme is designed to enhance the skills & knowledge of those wishing to work in the Healthcare area, in particular Nursing Homes or in the hospital services as healthcare assistants, carers or persons interested in working with people with special needs.

Course Content - Year 1:

- Care Skills: D20163
- Care Support: D20164
- Care of Older Person: D20180
- Work Experience: W20008

Course Content - Year 2:

The following Modules may be offered in September 2008, subject to sufficient numbers.

- Safety & Health: D20165
- Communications: D20001
- Intellectual Disability Studies: D20169
- Occupational First Aid: D20174

### Target group

The Healthcare Support course is provided in Cork City. This course is offered at all students aged 18 and above.

### Duration of the measure

The duration of the course is 1 year and is provided on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. This course started in September 2007. The Healthcare Support course is offered twice a year in September and January.

### Certification

Successful participants are awarded a FETAC Level 5 Certificate from FETAC.

### Costs for participants

The cost of the Healthcare Support course is €545 (including examination fee).

**Contact details**

Cork College of Commerce, Morrison's Island, Cork.

Tel: 021 422 2100

Fax: 021 427 5075

Email: [adulted@ccoc.ie](mailto:adulted@ccoc.ie)

Web: [www.corkcollegeofcommerce.ie](http://www.corkcollegeofcommerce.ie)



## Health Care Support – Marino College

### Description of the measure

This course is designed to prepare students for a career working as a Health Care Assistant in a range of settings such as general hospitals, nursing homes and home help support staff. It is also an introduction to subjects likely to be studied for nursing and can be used for the purpose of preparing for access to Nurse Education Programmes.

The course content includes: Care support, Care skills, Health and safety at work, Occupational First Aid, Introduction to Nursing, Human growth and development, Social studies, Communications and Work experience.

### Target group

A Leaving Certificate standard including Leaving Certificate Applied is acceptable. Applications from Mature Students are welcome and places are only allocated where an interview has been completed. English Language Proficiency Assessment procedures are implemented where necessary.

This course is available from Marino College, Connolly House, 171 North Strand Road, Dublin 1.

### Duration of the measure

This course is provided on a part-time basis over one year.

### Certification

Successful participants are awarded the FETAC Level 5 Award DHSXX.

### Costs for participants

There are no fees for tuition. However it is important that applicants should budget to cover the cost of the various student services such as examination fees, insurance and registration charges.

### Contact details

Marino College, Connolly House, 171 North Strand Road, Dublin 1.

Tel: (01) 855 7116

Fax: (01) 855 4064

Email: [Marinofe@eircom.net](mailto:Marinofe@eircom.net)

Web: [www.marinocollege.ie](http://www.marinocollege.ie)

## Care Provision and Practice – Kylemore College

### Description of the measure

The Care Provision and Practice course offered by Kylemore College aims to develop in the learner a range of personal & interpersonal qualities necessary for work in a range of care environments.

Participants who successfully complete this course will:

- Understand the needs of groups requiring care.
- Understand the roles and responsibilities of the care worker.
- Develop personal and interpersonal qualities essential to the care of client groups.
- Acquire practical skills for work in a caring environment.
- Be aware of statutory and voluntary care provision.
- Evaluate their work in care settings and make plans for future self-development.

The specific learning areas are grouped into 3 units:

Unit 1: Care Provision

Unit 2: The Care Worker

Unit 3: Care Practice

### Target group

Admission to courses is confined to those over 16 years.

The course is offered in Ballyfermot, Dublin 10.

### Duration of the measure

The course is provided over 12 weeks on a Thursday evening. It is offered twice a year, September and January (depending on demand).

### Certification

Successful candidates will receive a FETAC Component Certificate award in Care Provision & Practice - Level 5.

### Costs for participants

The cost of the course is €145.

### Contact details

Kylemore College, Kylemore Road, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10.

Tel: (01) 626 5901

Fax: (01) 623 4780

Email: [info@kylemore.cdvec.ie](mailto:info@kylemore.cdvec.ie)

Web: [www.kylemorecollege.ie](http://www.kylemorecollege.ie) and [www.kylemorecollegeadulted.ie](http://www.kylemorecollegeadulted.ie)

## Care of the Older Adult – Kylemore College

### Description of the measure

The Care of the Older Adult course offered by Kylemore College is designed to equip learners with the knowledge and skills to provide care for older persons in a variety of settings. The course is ideal for relatives or friends who care for an older adult or for those wishing to start a career in this area. It will explore some of the key issues of care providing, the ageing process, and how it relates to our own lives and the lives of colleagues, family & companions.

Participants who successfully complete this course will:

- Demonstrate good work practices in the provision of individual holistic care for older people.
- Understand the concept of the ageing process.
- Be able to meet the full range of needs of older people in a variety of care settings.
- Enhance the quality of life of the older person.

The specific learning areas are grouped into 4 units:

Unit 1: Ageing Process

Unit 2: Working with the Older Person

Unit 3: Caring for the Older Person with Specific Needs

Unit 4: Care Settings

### Target group

Admission to courses is confined to those over 16 years.

The course is offered in Ballyfermot, Dublin 10.

### Duration of the measure

The course is provided over 12 weeks on a Wednesday evening. Depending on demand, it is offered twice a year starting in September and January.

### Certification

Successful candidates will receive FETAC Component Certificate award in Care of the Older Person - Level 5.

### **Costs for participants**

The cost of the course is €145.

### **Contact details**

Kylemore College, Kylemore Road, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10.

Tel: (01) 626 5901

Fax: (01) 623 4780

Email: [info@kylemore.cdvec.ie](mailto:info@kylemore.cdvec.ie)

Web: [www.kylemorecollege.ie](http://www.kylemorecollege.ie) and [www.kylemorecollegeadulted.ie](http://www.kylemorecollegeadulted.ie)

## Care of the Older Adult – Central College Limerick

### Description of the measure

The Care of the Older Adult course covers the following 4 units:

Unit 1: Ageing Process

Unit 2: Working with the Older Person

Unit 3: Caring for the Older Person with Specific Needs

Unit 4: Care Settings

The course provides a mixture of both theory and practical skills to those wishing to work in the healthcare sector.

### Target group

The course is offered in Limerick City to people aged 16 and above.

### Duration of the measure

The course is provided over 15 weeks on a Wednesday evening twice a year, in September and January.

### Certification

Successful candidates will receive FETAC Component Certificate award in Care of the Older Person - Level 5.

### Costs for participants

The cost of the course is €400.

### Contact details

Central College Limerick, Presentation Campus, Sexton Street, Limerick.

Tel: 061 416556

Fax: 061 311270

Email: [centralcollegelimerick@eircom.net](mailto:centralcollegelimerick@eircom.net)

Web: [www.centralcollegelimerick.com](http://www.centralcollegelimerick.com)

## Care of the Elderly – City of Limerick Vocational Education Committee

### 1.1 Description of the measure

The Care of the Elderly module provided by City of Limerick Vocational Education Committee is designed to assist learners to:

- Recognise the importance of older people in society,
- Understand the concept of the ageing process,
- Be aware of the long-term implications of our ageing population,
- Enhance the quality of life of the older person.

The course is a FETAC Level 5 award.

### Target group

The Care of the Elderly course is available to all adults in the Limerick City area. Particular focus is placed on assisting people who either have a Medical Card or who are in receipt of Social Welfare or who do not have a Leaving Certificate or equivalent. People in these categories can avail of the Back to Education Initiative which permits them to do the course free of charge.

The Care of the Elderly course is delivered in Limerick City.

### Duration of the measure

The course is offered over 12 weeks on a Thursday evening from 6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. The course is repeated a number of times a year.

### Certification

Successful candidates will receive FETAC Component Certificate award in Care of the Older Person - Level 5.

### Costs for participants

The cost of the course is approximately €250. The cost is free to those who qualify for the Back to Education Initiative (BTEI) by having either a Medical Card or who are in receipt of Social Welfare or who do not have a Leaving Certificate or equivalent.

**Contact details**

Ms Mary Hamilton, Adult Education Officer, City of Limerick Vocational Education Committee, MTI Building, O'Connell Street, Limerick

Tel: (061) 315 318

Fax: (061) 316 387

Email: [maryhamilton@clvec.ie](mailto:maryhamilton@clvec.ie)