

MSc IN EXECUTIVE  
LEADERSHIP



school for  
social  
entrepreneurs

**“THE PROGRAMME  
HAS INSPIRED AND  
ENERGISED ME. I  
HAVE A NUMBER  
OF IDEAS THAT I  
WILL BE SHARING  
WITH MY  
ORGANISATION”**

**^ MAIREAD MONDS,  
FUNDRAISING MANAGER,  
CHILDLINE NI**





**“87.8 OF SSE IN IRELAND PARTICIPANTS SURVEYED FORMED NEW WAYS OF THINKING ABOUT THEIR ORGANISATIONS”**

▲ [Colin Stutt Consulting](#)

## THE COURSE

The MSc in Executive Leadership for the Community & Voluntary sector is a personal and professional journey to excellence in leading people and organisations.

It is more than an academic programme of study and knowledge acquisition. It is targeted at individuals with higher strategic development needs that are essential for the longer-term legitimacy and sustainability of the third sector. It ensures that practitioners in the sector are exposed to the advantages of leading edge business practices and procedures. The collective performance of people is the primary driver in today's competitive environment. High performance organisations recognise the importance of leadership. The correlation between organisational performance and leadership is undisputed.

## COURSE STRUCTURE & CONTENT

The MSc in Executive Leadership for the Community & Voluntary Sector is a 2 year, part time programme structured around 7 modules each lasting 3 days and one 5 day overseas best practice study visit.

**Who should attend:** This programme is targeted at individuals in a leadership role within their organisations. Typically participants will have significant budgetary and/or people management experience gained over the last 5 years in a senior managerial role. Applicants will normally hold an Honours degree or equivalent qualification.

Consideration will be given to those who can demonstrate a recognised track record in the practice of management.



**MAEVE  
McRORY**

**NØW Project:**

The NØW Project was formed by parents and carers concerned with the lack of opportunities for the estimated 1,000 people with learning disabilities based in N&W Belfast.

“The MSc in Executive Leadership has been innovatively designed to meet the needs of emerging Leaders in the Voluntary and Community Sector. I welcome the School’s “business approach” to the sector and the course, the learning sets, peer learning and Good Practice trip to Boston have been an invaluable experience.

These courses are the future for the sector and are exactly what is required to provide future Leaders with the skills and experience necessary to take the sector towards sustainability.”



**MANUS  
MAGUIRE**

**Cliftonville Community Forum:**

The Forum is a platform of voluntary sector groups operating in the area, it has developed a number of social economy projects and is undertaking the delivery of Neighbourhood Renewal in this part of the city.

“This training has helped me to move my project from its traditional community development work into a more commercial arena.

The set of new, key competencies related to marketing has been especially important in the development of a new social economy project on eco-building. The need for a customer centred approach in the delivery of this project has been vital to changing the culture of the Forum and its entry into the social economy.”



**COLIN  
TAYLOR**

“I feel that the MSc has given me skills, tools and insights that I would not have been able to develop through practice alone; the assignments have allowed me to unearth the theoretical in the realism of the everyday practice of management in a voluntary youth and community organisation. The knowledge and skills shared by fellow students and developed with university staff has been both professionally and personally challenging.”

**Organisations who have participated include:** Community Foundation for NI, Childline NI, Women’s Support Network, Lloyds TSB Foundation for NI, Cliftonville Community Forum, Arts & Business, VOYPIC, Ardmonagh Family & Community Association, YMCA, The Beat Initiative, NOW Project, Chinese Welfare Association

# PROGRAMME CONTENT

The Programme covers eight modules, details of which are outlined below:

## Module 1 Creating the Future

- Auditing and assessing organisational competence
- Change Leadership
- Assessing the current environment, forecasting and scenario planning

## Module 2 Leadership for the Future

- Exploring the IQ and EQ components of leadership
- Assessing individual leadership capability
- Creating and implementing a personal leadership agenda

## Module 3 Business Excellence

- Business process improvement
- Business excellence models and methodologies
- Supply chain management and customer focus

## Module 4 Best Practice Study Visit

- Leading edge management and leadership theory and practice
- Marketing and Customer Relationship Management
- Company visit to leading organisations
- International networking at the highest level

## Module 5 Financial Management

- Identifying and achieving financial objectives
- Analysing, appraising and interpreting financial reports
- Management accounting
- Performance management frameworks

## Module 6 Corporate Governance and Business Ethics

- The roles and responsibilities of the Board and the executive
- Legal structures and value based principles for good corporate governance
- Ethical approaches to conducting business

## Module 7 The Learning Organisation & Knowledge Management

- The learning organisation: theoretical models and practical frameworks
- Knowledge creation, management and transfer in organisations
- Creating competitive advantage through accelerated organisational learning

## Module 8 Research Methods

- Defining the business improvement research agenda
- Evaluating a range of research methodologies and problem solving techniques
- Conducting a literature review and executing an empirical research study

## Dissertation

- Applying the skills and knowledge acquired

## HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

The fees structure varies in different locations but in general students are helped to generate sufficient income. Grants and bursaries are available for a limited number of places.

## HOW TO APPLY?

If you would like to apply please telephone the School for Social Entrepreneurs in Ireland on: Tel: 028 90328 918 for an initial chat and application form. When we receive your completed application we will arrange an interview.



people  
powered



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