

# 'VIRTUAL RESPOND' COMES TO CFR IRELAND'S RESCUE!

Following the postponement of 'Respond 2020' in April and cancellation of the rescheduled event due to the Covid-19 pandemic, CFR Ireland has decided to host a 'Virtual Respond' on Saturday 24 October instead, which will be livestreamed on its Facebook Page.

In recent correspondence to the network of community first responders (CFRs) around the country, CFR Ireland said that a phenomenal amount of work had been done for what would have been the 7th Respond Conference.

"However, Covid-19 put a halt to our plans. The decision was made as we believe it would be unsafe to run such a large event and very difficult to maintain social distancing. We feel the combination of the large numbers and with the involvement of our National Ambulance Service, healthcare staff and volunteers that it would be unfair to ask anybody to undertake the unnecessary risk," it noted.

CFR Ireland – the umbrella organisation for community first responders – has decided to organise 'Virtual Respond' on Saturday 24 October, which will be livestreamed on its Facebook Page from 10am with presentations from the National Ambulance Service, Irish Heart Foundation, Irish



CFR Ireland wants to create a collage of CFR activities and will present them online, with a musical backdrop, to 'Virtual Respond 2020'. The committee is on the look-out for photos of CFR groups in action, Covid-19 related or pre-Covid-19 images. All group, training or comical images should be emailed to [pictures@cfr.ie](mailto:pictures@cfr.ie)



Coast Guard, and other contributions including some from CFRs.

The annual conference and exhibition had originally been due to take place on 25 April, before it was rescheduled for later in the year. And with the ongoing pandemic, the final decision was taken by CFR Ireland's Organising Committee to put it back to 6 March 2021.

For those CFRs who had booked their tickets for 'Respond 2020' CFR Ireland said it will transfer bookings directly to the new date, and will also ensure delegates get their selected workshops. So, except for the new date, nothing else has changed with the event.

Tickets for next year's live event go on sale in January 2021. For details email [info@cfr.ie](mailto:info@cfr.ie) visit CFR Ireland's website [www.cfr.ie](http://www.cfr.ie) or [www.facebook.com/cfireland](https://www.facebook.com/cfireland)

## TIME TO SUBMIT ENTRIES FOR GEOFF KING AWARD

The Geoff King Award, presented each year in memory of the late Dr King, Director of the Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council (PHECC) is in recognition of a person, a community, group or organisation whose contribution in the area of community first response is making or has made a real difference. A selected panel of judges, who are independent of CFR Ireland, will decide the overall award winner.

To enter this year's award provide the name, address, telephone number of your nominee and include 400 words why he/she should receive the accolade. Email completed applications to [kingaward@cfr.ie](mailto:kingaward@cfr.ie) on or before Friday 16 October.

