



Public Participation Network Cork County

E - Bulletin Newsletter 24/01/2025

Dear PPN Member,

Welcome to our first E-Bulletin of 2025 !

Our E-Bulletin is designed to keep you up to date with Cork County Public Participation News and to keep you connected to other communities, events, training, and information.

Whilst Cork County Public Participation Network has nearly 600 member groups, it has the potential to reach so many more - so forward this email to your committee members and volunteers!

I hope you find this helpful. Get in touch if there is anything you would like to include in future editions, we may even make you our next Group of the Week !

Watch a short video animation about Cork County PPN - Click the following [link](#).

Check Out our Website [Link](#)

And be sure to engage with us on the socials!

Facebook – [Cork County PPN](#)

Instagram – [@corkcountypn](#)

Happy Friday,

Morrin & Noelle



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Come along!

THE WHEEL ROADSHOW IN CORK

The Wheel are taking their supports and services on the road!

Through a series of regional events, they will showcase everything membership of The Wheel has to offer, share valuable resources and spotlight local voices.

Their first stop is Cork City, where they will hold an in-person event we are dubbing “The Wheel Roadshow” on Thursday, 03 April 2025 (10am – 3pm) in Nano Nagle Place.

This is your opportunity to:

- **Learn** from expert panels, tailored training sessions, and local case studies.
- **Connect** with other members of the community and meet The Wheel team in person.

Event Highlights

- **Panel Discussions:** Explore skills, leadership, and advocacy with local and national experts.
- **Hands-On Training:** Gain practical tools for funding, communications, and more.
- **Networking Opportunities:** Engage with peers, funders and other sector providers over a networking lunch.
- **Feedback Forums:** Share your needs and ideas to help us better support you.

Learn more about membership here: <https://www.wheel.ie/membership>

Click here to register - [The Wheel Roadshow in Cork | The Wheel](#)

- You can book places for yourself and/or colleagues by clicking the button below.
 - This event will take place in-person
 - Please email matthew@wheel.ie if you have any special requirements.



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#fundingfriday

**APPLY NOW FOR THE 2025
COLLABORATION AND INNOVATION
FUND**

The Collaboration and Innovation Fund is a great opportunity to fund projects and activities that support adults with unmet literacy, numeracy, digital and financial literacy needs.

How much funding is available?

In 2025, the total funding available in the Collaboration and Innovation Fund is €1 million.

The funding will be divided into two strands as follows:

€750,000 for local and national projects that provide innovative and collaborative ways to:

- support adults with unmet literacy, numeracy and digital literacy needs, and
- create a more literacy friendly and equal society.

€250,000 for local and national projects that support innovative and collaborative ways to:

- improve financial literacy skills for adults with unmet literacy, numeracy and digital literacy needs, and
- create a more literacy friendly approach to accessing financial services.

Why has the fund been divided?

Ireland's first National Financial Literacy Strategy will be published in 2025. To support this, the Consumer and Competition Protection Commission (CCPC) has given €250,000 for projects on financial literacy.



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How do I apply?

Read the [2025 Collaboration and Innovation Fund Guidelines](#).

You need to [complete an online application form](#).

The deadline for submitting your application is 5pm, Friday 7 February 2025.

[Apply Now for the 2025 Collaboration and Innovation Fund | The Wheel](#)

GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR SECTOR UPSKILLING - APPLY NOW!

The Wheel is delighted to announce that applications for funding are now open under the [Training Links programme](#). Training Networks are invited to apply for **grants ranging from €10,000.00 to €50,000.00**.

There is a total fund of **€575,000.00** available, and applications are welcome from **new, existing, previously funded networks who have completed their programme or previously unsuccessful networks**.

Applications remain open until **5pm on Friday, 7 Feb 2025**.

What is Training Links? Training Links is a funding programme that supports community and voluntary organisations to form Training Networks - groups of a minimum of ten organisations who come together to undertake training that they may not have the opportunity to do individually.

Who can apply? Applications are welcome from community and voluntary organisations based in the Republic of Ireland. To apply, organisations must come together and form a Training Network with a minimum of 10 members.



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What is a Training Network? A Training Network is a group of independently run and governed community and voluntary sector organisations who decide to come together as a group to undertake training that they may not be able to do individually. The term 'community and voluntary' in this instance includes registered charities, social enterprises, independently run nonprofit organisations who are not charities, and incorporated entities.

What type of training is supported under Training Links? There are a range of priority training areas covered under Training Links:

- Digital transformation
- Enhance leadership
- Green transition
- Develop new business models
- Achieve high-quality, innovative and responsive workplaces and services
- Address current sector priorities.

Find out everything you need to know about Training Links [here](#) or get in touch with us at traininglinks2025@wheel.ie.

NO IDEA WHERE YOU'RE GOING WITH EU FUNDING ?

See the link below to access the European Commission's EU Funding & Tenders Portal Online Manual. Here you can read up on everything from Finding a Funding Call, Submitting a Proposal, Eligibility Checks, Finding a Project Partner and so on !

Definitely one to bookmark !!

[Online Manual - Online Manual - Funding Tenders Opportunities](#)



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Applications for Funding Open - Training Links 2025 - 2026



Training Links, a workforce development funding programme exclusive to the community and voluntary sector, is now open for applications. The 2025 programme sees a record fund of €575,000 available.

Charities, community and voluntary organisations and social enterprises who form 'networks' are invited to apply for grants ranging from €10,000 to €50,000.00 to support the learning and development needs of their staff, volunteers and board members.

With a shared training goal or skills gap, community and voluntary organisations come together to form a Training Network in their region, subsector or community of interest. Networks must have a minimum of 10 members to apply.

There are a wide range of priority training areas covered under Training Links including:

- Digital transformation
- Leadership and management development
- Green transition
- Innovative business models
- Workplace innovation
- Addressing sector challenges.

Check out www.wheel.ie/training/traininglinks for full details or drop us an email on: traininglinks2025@wheel.ie.

The deadline for applications is Friday, 7 February 2025 at 5pm.



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EirGrid announces opening of next phase of €2.4m community benefit fund

EirGrid, the operator and developer of Ireland's electricity grid has announced the opening of the next phase of community benefit sharing for the Celtic Interconnector project. Applications for the second phase of the €2.4 million fund are now being welcomed, with €841,013 in funding available to eligible communities and voluntary groups.

The Celtic Interconnector Community Benefit Fund was established by EirGrid to recognise the importance of local communities who facilitate this critical development of the electricity grid and will benefit groups and projects in the east Cork project area.

The Celtic Interconnector, a 575km subsea link between Ireland and France, will enable the movement of electricity between the two countries, making our electricity supply more secure. The community benefit fund is open to community groups and not-for-profit organisations who can demonstrate benefits to communities from the services, programmes or facilities they provide in the project area, under three streams of funding: community, sustainability and biodiversity.

Funding of €240,000 will be available for community projects, €240,000 for sustainability projects and €361,013 for biodiversity projects, with a €121,013 underspend carried over from the first phase of the fund under the biodiversity stream.

The first phase of the Celtic Interconnector Community Benefit Fund saw 29 community groups receive a total of €838,987, with funding supporting a wide range of projects, from the funding of an electric vehicle community bus, the funding of LED floodlights for Youghal Rugby Football Club, to supporting the development of a school's sensory garden.

Speaking about the fund opening, Sinead Dooley, Head of Public Engagement, EirGrid said: *"We're delighted to open the next phase of this fund and build on the incredible projects already completed. These initiatives demonstrate the power of collaboration and show how targeted support can make a real difference. We strongly encourage communities to apply, particularly for projects with a biodiversity focus."*

Dooley added, *"This fund shows EirGrid's commitment to supporting local communities as they further environmental sustainability and civic initiatives. We want to thank all the communities in east Cork who have collaborated with us so far as we work to deliver this strategic energy*



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project and we look forward to seeing what can be achieved through this latest phase of funding.”

Deadline for application is March 14, 2025.

For more details on eligibility, please visit [Celtic Interconnector](#) | [Projects](#) | [EirGrid](#)

PPN News

Poor Morrin was out on sick leave for a fortnight at the beginning of 2025, but I (Noelle) did my best to hold down the fort!

We will be in touch with eligible groups very soon to hold LCDC elections where necessary, where we have more nominations than seats - so keep an eye on your emails !!

In the meantime, our Secretariat have been busy getting their nominations in for the Mayors Community Awards 2025.

With so many groups doing incredible work around the County. Why not get in touch with us to show off, and we might even highlight you as our Group of the Week??

On Thursday 16 January, we provided Induction training to our Strategic Policy Committee Reps. An amazing group, ready to work hard to help Communities! Watch this space, we'll let you all know soon how you can get in touch with your Reps.

With that in mind, see our website – where you can see our full list of vacancies ! [Cork County PPN Nominations - Cork County PPN](#)



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On Wednesday 22 January, we had the great opportunity to attend a Tidy Towns showcase hosted by Cork County Mayor Joe Carroll, and new CEO Moira Murrell. It was a lovely morning. We got to meet amazing Tidy Towns groups from all over the County – some who were not involved with Cork County PPN are going to register with us now! We will hit that 600-member mark very soon!! Exciting times!!





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Training Opportunities

Cork County PPN is excited to continue facilitating training for our members in 2025. See the following survey, where you can let us know what you think would be useful for your group, and we'll try our best to offer it - <https://form.jotform.com/250073905528053>

The Wheel and Open University Learning Hub



Looking for some free, easy to access training for your staff? The Wheel and Open University have collaborated to create a collection of free courses and resources to support the development of leadership skills within the charity and community sector in Ireland.

The offering available [here](#) is a shop window into the wide range of training available through Open University.

The current offering contains topics particularly suited to those in leadership positions such as board members. The modules include Understanding and Managing Risk, Working in Groups and Teams and Effective Communication in the Workplace. The best part? You can combine whichever elements that you like the look of, no need to complete all the resources on offer.



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Leaders for Change Certificate in Nonprofit Leadership and Management



Leaders for Change, the Level 9 Certificate in Nonprofit Leadership and Management, delivered by [Quality Matters](#), in conjunction with [The Wheel](#) and [National College of Ireland](#), is now accepting candidates for January 2025.

[Leaders for Change](#) is an applied programme, aimed at improving specific managerial and leadership competencies for managers and executives in Irish nonprofit organisations. The course combines academic, evidence-based practices with practitioner-led knowledge and skills.

[Full details and application process available here.](#)

If you would like to learn more about this course, please contact Regina Dunne on regina.dunne@ncirl.ie.

Future Board Leaders 2025 Now Taking Expressions of Interest from Boards and Candidates



[The Leadership Academy](#) and [Boardmatch](#) are delighted to announce that they are now taking expressions of interest from both candidates and Boards for our 2025 Future Board Leaders (FBL) programme!



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FBL is a programme which aims to bring new and diverse voices to Irish charity boards.

In 2023 they found a group of 22 people from all walks of Irish life who had limited or no charity board experience. Successful applicants were provided with director training and were matched with charity boards based on their interests. [Click here for more info.](#)

Charities who are interested in diversifying their membership are also recruited to meet with candidates. When a successful appointment is made, the charity provides additional support to the new trustee. [Learn more here.](#)

To date the programme has placed and supported 36 new voices onto Irish charity boards.

If you are a potential candidate who would like more info, email Sharon@wheel.ie and if you are a board who requires more info, email Hannahcoleman@boardmatch.ie.

Public Affairs Ireland Accredited Training



Public Affairs Ireland hold their three most popular listings in early 2025:

1. [Certificate in Effective Leadership](#)
2. [Certificate in Human Resource Management](#)
3. [Certificate in Corporate Governance.](#)

Please register your interest at jcoonan@pai.ie.

The Leadership Academy have partnered with PAI to provide a 33% discount until the week they commence.

Join for networking and peer learning opportunities!



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Certificate in Charity Law, Trusteeship and Governance 2025



The charity sector has faced many challenges in recent times which have had a particular impact on fundraising, governance and service continuity. Additionally, the long-awaited enactment of the Charities (Amendment) Act 2024 herald a period of significant changes to the sector in Ireland.

This course, which represents a collaboration between the Law Society of Ireland and The Wheel, provides practitioners and those working in charitable, social enterprise and community organisations with an overview of the law and best practice in the relevant areas. The course has a very practical emphasis and will equip participants with the necessary knowledge and skills to maintain integrity and uphold standards.

Find out more and book directly with The Law Society [here](#).



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Mind yourself!

POWER UP YOUR MIND

Mourneabbey LGFA
Clyda Rovers GAA
Healthy Clubs

Thurs 30th Jan
7pm-9pm

Mourneabbey Community
Centre P51AKP9

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Admission Free
Over 16's

AN INSPIRATIONAL
EVENING AWAITS YOU!

Resilience
NIALL MCCARTHY

**Performance
Nutrition**
JEN O'CALLAGHAN NT

**Stress
Management**
DR ANT KIERNAN

GAA hi healthy Ireland Comhairle Contae Chorcaí Cork County Council LCDC

Mourneabbey LGFA & Clyda Rovers GAA Healthy Clubs Positive Mental Health Talks:

Join us for an empowering evening dedicated to nurturing your mental well-being! Hosted by Mourneabbey LGFA & Clyda Rovers GAA Healthy Clubs, this transformative event is designed for everyone aged 16 and older.

Our enlightening lineup of speakers will explore the pillars of positive mental health, offering insights into cultivating a resilient mindset, understanding the impact of nutrition on mental strength, and harnessing the power of resilience to take on life's challenges head on.

Open to all over 16, this event provides essential support and guidance for navigating the complexities of life at any stage. Come and be a part of an evening filled with insight, inspiration, and empowerment as we embark on a journey towards greater mental resilience and well-being.

Brought to you by Healthy Ireland & Cork County Council and supported by Mourneabbey LGFA & Clyda Rovers GAA Healthy Clubs.



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ROAD SAFETY PROMOTION BULLETIN VEHICLE SAFETY



Statistics on road fatalities which occurred in 2024

- In 2024 a total of 175 lives have been lost on Irish roads
- 7 out of 10 road fatalities occurred on roads with a speed limit of 80kph or greater
- When? Almost a quarter (23%) of the fatalities occurred between 4pm and 8pm
- Counties with highest fatalities

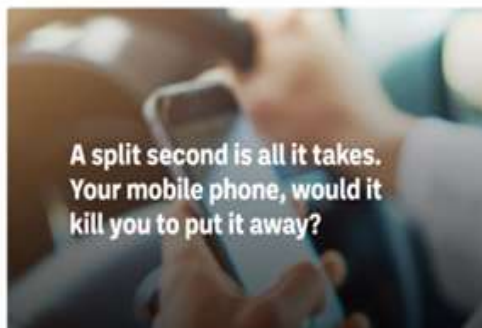
Dublin - 23
Cork -19
Mayo -19
Donegal -17

- 35% (60) of the fatalities were aged 25 years or younger

You are 4 times more likely to have an accident if you use your mobile phone while driving.

How does using a mobile phone while driving affect how I drive?

If you drive & use a mobile phone (hand-held or hands-free) it will hinder your driving in different ways.



Distracted Driving causes accidents.
Switch off before you drive off.

It is harder for you to:

- ✓Keep in Lane
- ✓Drive at the right speed & at a speed that other drivers can predict
- ✓Keep a good distance from the car in front
- ✓Judge safe gaps in traffic
- ✓Affects your reaction time
- ✓General awareness of other traffic



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Thanks for reading . Here's hoping
you've all come out the other side of
Storm Eowyn safe & sound!