



Public Participation Network Cork County

E - Bulletin Newsletter 21/03/2025

Dear PPN Member,

Welcome to our E-Bulletin!

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 **over 600 member groups** (WOOHOO for that milestone!!) , 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



Public Participation Network Cork County

Come along!

Cork Volunteer Centre – Pop up Volunteer
Centres !

Cork Volunteer Centre
Ionad d'Obair Dheonach Corcaigh

March 25, 11:00-14:00/ Mitchelstown Library

POP UP VOLUNTEER CENTRE

- 01 HAVE A CHAT WITH OUR PLACEMENT OFFICER
- 02 LEARN ABOUT SERVICES PROVIDED BY CORK VOLUNTEER CENTRE
- 03 POST YOUR VOLUNTEER ROLE
- 04 LEARN ABOUT VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT
- 05 ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT

Contact: Gosia@volunteercork.ie to book your meeting



Public Participation Network **Cork County**



April 29 / Youghal Library



Contact: Gosia@volunteercork.ie to book your meeting



Volunteer Coordinators Network Meeting

**May 12 (12:15-13:00)
Cobh FRC**



Contact: Gosia@volunteercork.ie for details



Public Participation Network Cork County

Group of the Week: Fastnet Trails Walks Group



For Walkers or Trekkers, the Fastnet Trails Walks Group announce that a walk is now "Way marked" from the Heritage Centre Skibbereen to Kilcoe Trail Head.

A walker can now continue this waymarked Trail from Kilcoe Trail Head to Ballydehob Trail Head along the old road through the townland of Skeaghmore. The Butter Road Connects Ballydehob to Schull Trail Head. Then on leaving Schull the walk can go to Toormore and Goleen to Lissygriffin which is close to the Mizen Head.

All these Walks are listed on their webpage - <https://fastnet-trails.com/>

We would love to hear what our fabulous groups are up to! Whether it's a Tidy Towns group clearing the weeds for the summer bedding, or a knitting circle bathing in custard to raise money for a charity – let us know! You could be our next group of the week!



Public Participation Network Cork County



Comhairle Contae Chorcaí
Cork County Council

ANTI-LITTER CHALLENGE 2025

TOWNS AND VILLAGES APPLY AT

WWW.YOURCOUNCIL.IE



**APPLICATION CLOSING
DATE**
WEDNESDAY 9TH APRIL

ENQUIRIES TO
litterchallenge@corkcoco.ie
021 4532758

JUDGING DATES
First period
28th April to 7th May
Second period
12th May to 21st May
Third period
26th May to 4th June

Cork County council's Planning & Environment Directorate launched the 2025 Anti-Litter Challenge this week. This is a community-based competition that rewards local voluntary groups who tackle litter in their communities.

Applications can be made on www.yourcouncil.ie.



Public Participation Network Cork County

#fundingfriday



 Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí
Cork City Council

 Comhairle Contae Chorcaí
Cork County Council

COMMUNITY PAINT GRANT SCHEME

Open to community
groups, sports clubs and
schools in Cork

 **DEADLINE FOR
APPLICATIONS
FRIDAY
4 APRIL 2025**

 **RELOVE PAINT**
QUALITY REMIXED PAINT, MADE IN CORK.

 **CYCLE SENSE**

 **NCE**

 **IRD Duhallow
FURNITURE REVAMP**

CORK COMMUNITY PAINT GRANT SCHEME 2025 LAUNCHED

The Relove Paint Community Paint Grant Scheme is now open for applications, continuing a successful three year run in supporting community groups in Cork.

This scheme, supporting a circular economy through the recycling of unwanted paint, has attracted widespread participation over recent years. Last year, 96 groups, including Tidy Towns, community associations, sports clubs, and schools from across Cork, received over 2,000 litres of high-quality, upcycled paint. In return, the groups were encouraged to promote the initiative and share their positive experiences, helping to spread awareness and develop confidence in upcycled paint.



Public Participation Network Cork County

Mayor of the County of Cork, Cllr Joe Carroll, said “The Relove Paint Community Paint Grant Scheme not only promotes environmental sustainability, but also builds confidence in the use of upcycled paint. The feedback from last year’s recipients was overwhelmingly positive, with many reporting the high quality of the paint which helped revitalise community buildings, sports clubs, and schools.”

The Community Paint Grant Scheme is open to community groups, sports clubs and schools who can apply for up to 25 litres of paint, most of which is internal water-based paint, but some external paint may also be available. **The deadline for applications is Friday 4th April 2025.**

Commenting on the scheme, the Lord Mayor of Cork, Cllr Dan Boyle said, “The Relove Paint Community Paint Grant Scheme is an opportunity to enhance circular economy initiatives within the city while allowing a cost-effective, high-quality paint product to be accessed by local communities”.

Relove Paint is the result of a collaboration between Cork County Council, Cork City Council and three local social enterprises: Northside Community Enterprises, IRD Duhallow Furniture Revamp, and Cycle Sense. The social enterprises collect unwanted paint from City and County Council recycling centres, then remix and recolour it, before redistributing a high quality but low-cost paint back into the community.

To date over 30 tonnes of paint have been diverted from incineration to reuse. The public are encouraged to bring unwanted or leftover paint to their nearest recycling centre so it can be reused by the Relove Paint project. Members of the public can also purchase Relove Paint in Cycle Sense, Skibbereen; IRD Duhallow, Newmarket; and NCE Farranferris.

At a national level, there are 9 paint reuse social enterprises operating across the country, supported by 11 Local Authorities and 27 civic amenity sites. In total, over 80 tonnes of paint have been diverted from incineration and redirected to reuse.



**Public Participation
Network Cork County**

LIDL GREEN FUND OPENS FOR APPLICATIONS

The Lidl Green Fund is a new community sustainability initiative from Lidl Ireland. The Green Fund aims to support, promote and empower environmentally conscious and healthy local community projects across the Republic of Ireland.

Lidl has created this €100,000 fund to support communities take an active role in championing sustainable living.

Community groups, schools and charities across the country can apply for funding through the application portal. Shortlisted groups are selected per county by Lidl employees and independent judges and the winners are selected by publicly nominated voting in Lidl stores through the Lidl Plus App.

Community groups, primary and post primary schools and charities must [complete the online application form here](#). This is the Application for the Lidl Green Fund Republic of Ireland.

Before submitting your application please download the [Guidance Document](#) and read the [FAQs](#). You must complete all fields in the form to submit your application.

For more information on the fund and your application, please contact csr@lidl.ie

Applications close 24 March 2025.



Public Participation Network Cork County

2025 CHILDMINDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OPENS FOR APPLICATIONS

The Childminding Development Grant provides up to €1,000 to assist both registered and unregistered childminders who are providing a childminding service in their own homes.

Applications for the 2025 Childminding Development Grant open on Tuesday, 4 February and close on Friday, 4 April.

The grant aims to support childminders to enhance quality and safety in their service through the purchase of toys, childcare equipment, safety equipment, equipment to support inclusion and Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Maths (STEAM) education, as well as IT equipment to assist childminders to engage with training and registration processes.

The grant scheme is open to all childminders, including those who are planning to open a childminding business during 2025. 75% of the grant is paid in advance to help childminders with the upfront costs of purchasing equipment.

Making today's announcement, Norma Foley, Minister for Children, Disability and Equality said:

"I am delighted to announce the launch of the 2025 Childminding Development Grant as one of the first actions in my term of office as Minister.

"Childminders play an essential part in the provision of childcare in all parts of the country, and I am fully committed to recognizing and supporting their important role, and to following through on the National Action Plan for Childminding 2021-2028.

"I encourage childminders to avail of this funding opportunity, whether they are already registered or would like support in advance of registration over the next couple of years.

"The Childminding Development Grant provides funding for quality and safety equipment and can also be used to contribute to IT equipment."

The total budget of €500,000 reflects the high demand for the grant in previous years. It also reflects the Government's commitment to support childminders to prepare for registration with Tusla. In line with the National Action Plan for Childminding 2021-2028, regulations written specifically for childminders came into effect for the first time



Public Participation Network Cork County

in September 2024, making it possible for all childminders to register with Tusla and take part in the National Childcare Scheme (NCS).

Those childminders who were previously exempt from regulation have a three-year transition period until 2027 during which they are now able to register with Tusla but are not yet required to do so.

For further information about the Childminding Development Grant or the National Action Plan for Childminding 2021-2028, visit www.gov.ie/childminding or contact your local City or County Childcare Committee.



Public Participation Network Cork County



HERITAGE COUNCIL SKILLS PROGRAMME

The **All-Ireland Heritage Skills Programme** aims to address the shortage of traditional heritage skills by helping to train the next generation of skilled craftspeople.

The 2025/26 programme is now open for applications – if you work in the construction sector in the Republic or Northern Ireland and are interested in take your skills to the next level, this is your chance to apply.

💡 Interested? Why not pop along to one of their zoom information sessions.

📅 Tuesday 25th March (7:00–8:00 PM)

Full details on the programme and details on how to join the webinars are available at <https://ow.ly/lmrs50VkJNgB>



Public Participation Network Cork County

Creative Europe - Audience Development and Film Education

Deadline : March 27, 2025 5:00 PM

Funding available: The available call budget is EUR 6 000 000.

Partners required:

Applications by single applicants (single beneficiaries) as well as proposals submitted by a consortium of at least two applicants (beneficiaries; not affiliated entities) are allowed.

Application linkCall documentnational contact point

Funding programme

Creative Europe is the EU's funding programme for providing support to the culture and audiovisual sectors.

Call overview

This call aims to find initiatives promoting audience development and engagement, including film education activities, addressing in particular young audiences.

Expected results:

Stimulate interest and increase knowledge of audiences in European films and audiovisual works including specific programmes on film heritage

Strengthen pan-European cooperation for innovative audience development and film education projects especially using new digital tools

Increase pan-European impact and audience outreach

Develop film education projects across European and non-European territories

[Link to Application here](#)



**Public Participation
Network Cork County**

RETHINK IRELAND

Connected Communities Fund 2025-2028

Fund Overview

The Connected Communities Fund is a three-year fund that aims to build inclusive and resilient communities and strengthen social cohesion across Ireland.

This €1.5 million fund is created by Rethink Ireland in partnership with Mason Hayes & Curran LLP and the Department of Rural and Community Development via the Dormant Accounts Fund.

The new fund is open to organisations dedicated to scaling innovations that strengthen civil society, build community cohesion and empower communities to develop solutions that work for all.

The fund aims to promote equity and inclusion, encourage media literacy and community awareness initiatives, and empower communities to develop meaningful connections across diverse groups.

The fund will offer a package of cash grants and non-financial supports to a maximum value of €220,800 each for up to five projects, to help them expand and increase their social impact.

This includes:



Public Participation Network Cork County

- Cash grants of up to €204,000 (up to €68,000 per project per year over three years)*
- The non-financial supports will include:
 - a place on Rethink Ireland's Accelerator Programme
 - Bespoke business and capacity-building supports designed in consultation with the successful projects on topics such as strategic planning, maximising your impact, communications, storytelling and fundraising
 - Access to Rethink Ireland's networks

**The Rethink Ireland Board will decide the level of funding to award, which may be less than the amount requested. The final amount of each award will depend on how many organisations are selected.*

*You can apply to the Connected Communities Fund via the **online portal** until Friday, 11 April at 1pm.*



Public Participation Network Cork County

Have your say!

An Coimisiún Toghcháin
The Electoral Commission

**DO YOU HAVE A
GREAT IDEA TO
GET PEOPLE MORE
ENGAGED IN OUR
DEMOCRATIC
SYSTEM?**

Scan Anseo:

An Coimisiún Toghcháin, Ireland's Independent Electoral Commission is a statutory, independent body, established in 2023 with responsibility for a broad range of electoral functions set out in the Electoral Reform Act 2022. An Coimisiún is central to Ireland's electoral system, carrying out a range of pre-existing electoral functions as well as several new and exciting roles.

They are preparing an Education and Public Engagement Strategy to encourage democratic participation in its ultimate expression, voting in a polling booth.

To help inform the strategy, they are undertaking a comprehensive public consultation process. We see the public consultation process as a vital component of the education and public engagement strategy. An Coimisiún Toghcháin is casting the net wide to ensure that they can take on board truly representative views of the public.

We encourage you or your organisation to submit a response and participate in shaping the approach to the future of voter education.

The consultation will finish on 24 March.

If you would like to read more about the public consultation, you can find it at www.electoralcommission.ie/consultation or by scanning the QR code below.



**Public Participation
Network** Cork County



Public consultation on new suicide reduction policy

A public consultation to inform the next suicide reduction policy in Ireland was launched on 7 March 2025:

[gov.ie - Minister for Mental Health launches public consultation on new suicide reduction policy](#)

Information about the public consultation can be found here:

[gov.ie - Public consultation on Ireland's next suicide reduction policy](#)

This is your opportunity to offer your views on suicide reduction in Ireland, as well as express what you would like to see in the new policy. See the link to the survey :

[Suicide Reduction Policy - Public Consultation](#)



Public Participation Network Cork County

Public Consultation Survey for New Rural Development Policy

The Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, Dara Calleary T.D., has today launched an online survey giving the public an opportunity to have their say on the next phase of Ireland's rural development policy, *Our Rural Future*.

The survey is the first step in an extensive public and stakeholder consultation process which will continue throughout 2025.

The survey is open to everyone and asks participants about the opportunities and challenges facing rural Ireland, as well as what actions they think the government should consider to secure a more resilient future for rural communities.

Launching the survey, Minister Calleary said:

"There has been incredible progress achieved under Our Rural Future since it was launched in 2021 and I want to commend my predecessor Heather Humphreys for her work on this. The measures delivered in that time have provided vital investment and supports for rural communities, strengthened local economies and improved the lives of many people across rural Ireland."

"I believe the time is right to build on this success and look ahead to the next phase of our rural development policy. Recent events have shown us the strength and resilience within our rural communities however there are also challenges and the Government recognise that it must do more to support rural Ireland over the coming years."

The survey findings will inform a series of stakeholder events on issues of significant importance for rural Ireland. More broadly, they will help shape a new future-focused plan which continues to support vibrant, resilient and sustainable rural communities and meet the evolving needs of those living and working in rural Ireland.

Minister Calleary added:

"This survey is an important opportunity for everyone to help shape the next chapter of rural development in Ireland. I strongly encourage everyone to have their say, so that together we can deliver a plan to make rural Ireland an even better place to live, work and raise a family."

The online survey is available [here](#) and is open until close of business on Wednesday, 2 April 2025. All responses are anonymous.



Public Participation Network Cork County

**AIR QUALITY
&
MENTAL
HEALTH
SURVEY**

5th FEBRUARY 2025 - 30th APRIL 2025

**Are you living, studying or working in
Dublin, Cork or Limerick?**

Join the survey!
You will help to uncover the potential "invisible"
culprit responsible for our mental health well-
being.

Visit:

OR [HTTPS://SPRW.IO/STT-LXUPT](https://sprw.io/stt-lxuPT)

**SHARE YOUR VOICE—BECAUSE
YOUR VOICE MATTERS!**

Contact: info@mhandairsurvey.com

TU DUBLIN **ESHI** **Taighde Éireann** **DCU** **Maynooth University**
Environmental Sustainability Research Institute Research Ireland Dublin City University National University of Ireland Maynooth

Survey: Air Quality & Mental Health - Your Voice Matters!

Researchers at TU Dublin are seeking **participants for a study on mental health and air quality** in Ireland. This research examines how stress, anxiety, and depression affect individuals living in Dublin, Cork, and Limerick and explores whether external factors, such as urban environments and air quality perceptions, play a role in mental well-being.

The survey takes 10-15 minutes and is open to adults aged 18 and over. As a thank you, participants can enter a draw to win a €100 One4All gift card or a €50 Amazon gift card.

Closing Date: 30 April

To contribute to this research, go to: <https://eu.surveymonkey.com/r/remarcsurvey>

To learn more, go to: <https://padlet.com/rwccppn/climate-action-environment-natural-heritage-linkage-group-fg2tsw0sms2hr68p/wish/94PGWnzJqI74WLRV>



Public Participation Network Cork County

nWc

Women's Health Forum

Share your experiences of accessing health services in Ireland as a woman impacted by domestic, sexual, or gender-based violence. Your voice matters in shaping our future healthcare policies

1 to 1 Interview by Zoom or by phone at a date/time that suits you

Contact Doireann Crosson (NWC Women's Health Coordinator)

doireannc@nwci.ie
087 266 7214

Scan QR for more information

Participate in Interview: Women's Health Forum

Share your experience of accessing health services in Ireland as a woman impacted by domestic, sexual or gender-based violence. Your voice matters in shaping future healthcare policies.

The National Women's Council is carrying out 1 to 1 interviews by zoom or phone at a date/time that suits you.

Contact
doireannc@nwci.ie or
087 266 7214.



Public Participation Network Cork County

Linkage Groups

Linkage Groups bring together stakeholder organisations and groups who are members of the PPN with a common interest to discuss their diverse views and interests in a specific policy area.

This is a pathway for such organisations and groups to have a real input into policy in their respective area of operation.

Linkage Groups are an essential component of the work of the PPN.

They are independent networks of community groups who are interested in a common theme such as Arts, Community, Environment, Heritage, Housing, Planning, Social Inclusion, Transport or Tourism (and more).

Linkage Groups work to influence change. They do this through advocating for policy changes on behalf of the community through PPN Reps engaging with Cork County Council and other bodies appropriate to the issue or subject matter of advocacy.

There are five (5) principal Linkage Groups operating at a Cork County Council area level:

1. Housing, Planning and Transport.
2. Arts, Community, Heritage and Sports.
3. Climate Change, Water and Environment
4. Social Inclusion, Rural Development, Youth and Enterprise (including Economic Development and Tourism).
5. Community Safety

Please let us know if your group would like to join to any of these Linkage Groups, by emailing ppn@corkcoco.ie .

By making submissions to a Linkage Group, you can support our SPC and LCDC Reps and give them a mandate to bring to the Council.



Public Participation Network Cork County

PPN News



A very warm welcome to our new
groups !!

Kilbrittain Trails Group	Midleton Boxing Club
Knocknagree Community Development Group CLG	Youghal Communications
East Cork Songwriting Group	Bunscoil Mhuire Parents' Association
Burnfort Village Development Group	Millstreet Community Council CLG
Killeagh-Inch Community Council	Macroom Golf Club
Munster Association of Romanian Speakers	Fermoy tidy towns
West Cork Jesters	An Sanctoir
Kanturk AFC	Bandon AFC
Cloyne Diocesan Youth Services	Dunmanway Rowing Club
Bandon Agricultural and Show Society Company Limited	Newmarket Ladies Football Club
Youghal Athletic Club	Crookhaven Community Council



Public Participation Network Cork County

Erins Own	Templebreedy SOS - Save Our Steeple
St. Itas GAA club	St. Colum's GAA Club
Mourneabbey Community Council	Midleton Hockey Club
Youghal CYMS	Aghada 66th Cork Sea Scouts
East Cork Glenmary Basketball Club	Youghal United
St. Martha's boxing club	O'Brien Scaffolding Football Club (FC)

We're now proud to have a network of 626 groups!! Woohooooo for that milestone!! And thank you so much to all the groups that make Cork County PPN what it is!



Public Participation Network Cork County

Vacancies GALORE !!

Cork County PPN has a number of vacancies available, some on the various Committees within the County Council - the SPCs and LDCDs , but at the moment we also have a number of positions we are looking to fill on our Secretariat - the incredibly important group that keeps the PPN show on the road !

The Cork County PPN Secretariat provides a coordinating and oversight function for the PPN. Its role is to:

- Facilitate the implementation of decisions of the PPN
- Ensure the proper functioning of the PPN between plenary meetings
- Coordinate the activities of the PPN Communicate extensively and regularly with all PPN members and disseminate information concerning all PPN activities as widely as possible
- Manage and support PPN staff The Secretariat is made up of two representatives from each of the Cork County Municipal Districts i.e. Carrigaline, Macroom, Cobh, East Cork, Bandon-Kinsale, Fermoy, Kanturk-Mallow and West Cork, as well as, two representatives from each of the PPN colleges i.e. Community & Voluntary College, Social Inclusion College and Environmental College.

Applications forms for all our available roles can be found on our website [Cork County PPN Nominations - Cork County PPN](#)

- or reach out to PPN@corkcoco.ie and we can have a chat with you about any of the roles available



Public Participation Network Cork County

Secretariat Positions Available :

- 2 x Vacant seats– Carrigaline Municipal District
- Vacant seat – West Cork Municipal District
- Vacant seat – Macroom Municipal District
- Vacant seat – Bandon/Kinsale Municipal District
- Vacant seat – East Cork Municipal District
- Vacant seat – Environmental Electoral College

• For further information, and if you are interested in applying, see <https://corkcountyppn.ie/cork-county-ppn-nominations/> or email PPN@corkcoco.ie.





Public Participation Network Cork County



Public Participation Network Cork County



Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) Vacancies Available !

**1 x Social Inclusion – North Cork
seat**

**2 x Social Inclusion – South Cork
seats**

For further information, and if you
are interested in applying, see
[https://corkcountypn.ie/cork-
county-ppn-nominations/](https://corkcountypn.ie/cork-county-ppn-nominations/) or email
PPN@corkcoco.ie .



Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) Vacancies Available!

Positions available across various committees :

- Planning & Strategic Development
- Environment, Climate Action & Biodiversity
- Economic Development & Enterprise
- Tourism
- Roads & Transportation
- Social Inclusion, Community & Rural Development
- Arts, Culture & Languages

For further information, and if you are interested in applying,
see <https://corkcountypn.ie/cork-county-ppn-nominations/>
or email PPN@corkcoco.ie .



Public Participation Network Cork County

