



Public Participation Network Cork County

E - Bulletin Newsletter 13/06/2025

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, 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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Public Participation Network Cork County

News & Events: Cork Summer Show 2025

CORK SUMMER SHOW
A FUN FAMILY DAY OUT!

Sat 14th and Sun 15th June 2025
CORK SHOWGROUNDS,
CURRAHEEN, CORK, T12AX2F

FUN FAIR
• AGRICULTURE
• CATTLE
• SHOWJUMPING
• EQUINE
• POULTRY
• SHEEP & GOATS
• PIGS

LIVE MUSIC
• RETAIL STALLS
• KIDS ZONE
• AMUSEMENTS
• FOOD DEMOS
• HEALTH & WELLNESS
• MOTORS ZONE

FOOD MARKET
• HORTICULTURE & GARDEN ZONE
• FLORAL ART
• ARTS, CRAFTS & BAKING
• DOG SHOW
• VINTAGE VEHICLES

SAVE TIME
BUY ONLINE

FREE
PARK
& RIDE

www.corksummershow.com

PLAITNUM
SPONSORS:



Cork
County Council
Comhairle Contae Chorcaí



Cork
City Council
Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí

Location:

Munster Agricultural
Society Showgrounds,
Curraheen, T12 AX2F,
Cork, Ireland

Promoting agriculture, industry, and science

- Skip the Traffic, hop on the **FREE Park and Ride** located at Ballincollig Shopping Centre, The Black Ash Park & Ride or the Curraheen Greyhound Stadium or use the **extended Bus Éireann 208 route**.

• **All Attendees will require a ticket to enter the Cork Summer Show Showgrounds.**

- CHILDREN UNDER 16 ARE FREE BUT THEY MUST HAVE AN INDIVIDUAL CHILD TICKET
- For further information see: [Cork Summer Show 2025 - Cork Summer Show](https://www.corksummershow.com)



**Public Participation
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Irish Architecture Foundation

Thanks again to our brilliant Planning and Strategic Development SPC Rep, Neil Kane, for sending this over:

There is a very good initiative from the Irish Architect Foundation - Hometown Architect, which may be of interest to members, the free webinar is available to register with link below:

Hometown Architect is a key initiative of the Irish Architecture Foundation's placemaking programme. The initiative has already run for two years and supported eight collaborative projects between local architects and community stakeholders to explore possibilities to regenerate their town centres. The projects were designed to align with the Government of Ireland's Town Centre First Policy and focused on themes such as accessibility, wellbeing, community use of public spaces, sense of belonging, environment, vacancy and dereliction.

Speakers at this session will present an overview of the projects developed as part of Hometown Architect 2024:

<https://architecturefoundation.ie/event/hometown-architect-webinar/>

<https://architecturefoundation.ie/place-making/#start2>



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Cork Volunteer Centre



July 1 / Tuesday / 10:30-12:30 / Clonakilty Library



Contact: Gosia@volunteercork.ie for details / to book your meeting



**Public Participation
Network Cork County**

Group of the Week : Cork Co Beekeepers



Cork Co Beekeepers 2026 beginners beekeeping course is now open for registration.

8 Wednesday evenings commencing from 7 January 2026.

You can register and get further info here <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/2026-beginners-beekeeping-course>

Special shout out to Eleanor in Cork Co Beekeepers, who has been working like a trooper attending our recent “Social Media for Community Engagement” & “Beginners Guide to Facebook ads” trainings. Our groups would be nothing without the amazing volunteers giving up their time!



Public Participation Network **Cork County**



Cork Deaf Club are looking for help & advice for social inclusion.

They have several upcoming events planned outside of Cork City, including:

- A visit to *Art + Soul* at Castlemartyr Resort in June
- A tour of Ballycotton in July
- Additional outings to other locations around County Cork

We would like to know if there are any available funds to support Irish Sign Language (ISL) interpreters for these events.

Thank you very much for your time and support. We look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,
Graham O'Shea
Secretary,

Cork Deaf Club

We in the PPN are not aware of any such funds, so we're putting this out to the Hive Mind! (Beekeeper pun- tying in nicely there with our Group of the Week!) Can you help Cork Deaf Club out ? Are you, or do know someone who could help them out as a ISL Interpreter ?

Less than three weeks to go to Have your say!

Review of Policies & Procedures 2025

- These set out how the PPN operates.
- Essential that they effectively support the working of the PPN.
- They need to respond to change (internal or external).
- Review is to check this and give PPN member groups a chance to feed into their development.

For review:

Constitution	Gathering Signatures
Code of Conduct	Grievance Procedure
Complaints Procedure	Nomination Form
Dignity at Work	Plenary Standing Orders
Electoral Processes	Re-Registration Protocol
Email & Internet Usage	Representatives Reporting Template
Expectations & Responsibility of Committees with PPN Representative	Travel & Expenses Policy
Financial guidelines	Vulnerable Adults Policy

Aim of Review:

Ensure that these are all

- Fit for purpose
- Robust & comprehensive
- “joined up”
- Clear and unambiguous



- Up to date & any gaps are filled

Timetable for Review:

1. PPN member group inputs

- ✚ All policies are on the website - <https://corkcountyppn.ie/resource/category/policies/>
- ✚ Inputs can be submitted direct to - ppn@corkcoco.ie
- ✚ **Submissions can be made up to 1st July 2025**

2. Policy Revision Member group inputs compiled

All policies & procedures reviewed considering inputs, Departmental guidance, etc.

Draft revised policies made available ahead of Autumn Plenary for member feedback & any re-drafting completed.

Final draft policies and procedures submitted to Autumn Plenary for ratification.



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.

After our recent Plenary meeting, we are proposing four Linkage Groups:

1. Housing, Planning, Transport and Community Safety
2. Arts, Community, Heritage and Tourism
3. Climate Change, Water and Environment
4. Social Inclusion, Rural Development, Youth, Enterprise & Recreation

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.

One of our **Environment, Climate & Biodiversity** reps, Raffaella Valenti, wrote the below about her experience as an SPC rep and the importance of Linkage Groups:



Importance of Linkage Groups

My name is Raffaella and I'm part of an environmental group in County Cork that is a member of the Public Participation Network.

I was nominated Representative for the PPN in one of the Strategic Policy Committees, the Environment, Climate Action and Biodiversity one.

I have the privilege of participating in the meetings of this committee in Cork County Council and work together with the elected Councillors and the other representatives, to formulate, develop and review the policies of the Council and to have the opportunity to be fully involved in the policy making process.

My role, and the role of all the other PPN Representatives sitting in different Strategic Policy Committees, is to be representative of the PPN as a whole and to do this we need the help of the community and voluntary groups that are part of the PPN.

Each group can participate in a Linkage group and bring forward their ideas, suggestions, issues that the Representatives then can present at the Committee meetings.

I really encourage you to be part of one or more of the Linkage groups that were established at our last Plenary meeting:

1. Housing, Planning, Transport and Community Safety
2. Arts, Community, Heritage and Tourism
3. Climate Change, Water and Environment
4. Social Inclusion, Rural Development, Youth, Enterprise & Recreation

If you are interested, please get in touch with the PPN so that your group can be added to the list.

All the Representatives are looking forward to working with you.



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**Raffaella is pictured here at
a Blue Flag & Green Coast
Award Presentation in the
Carrigaline Court Hotel**
(Thanks to Imogen Bertin –
Cottageology for the pic!)





Get involved! Secretariat Vacancies:

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.

Commitment Involved:

The Secretariat role is voluntary and requires approximately two hours per month to attend meetings, which generally take place at 7:00 PM on the third Tuesday of each month, alternating between in-person and online formats. Travel expenses for in-person meetings are reimbursed. Additional involvement may be required from time to time, such as participation in sub-groups or events.

This is a rewarding opportunity for individuals to contribute meaningfully to the social fabric of our communities. Secretariat members receive access to training and national events, develop key skills, and play a crucial role in shaping supports for community groups, particularly those representing marginalised voices.

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.



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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://corkcountypn.ie/cork-county-pn-nominations/> or email PPN@corkcoco.ie.





**Public Participation
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#fundingfriday



Small Town, Big Difference

The *Small Town, Big Difference* campaign highlights stories of community groups, organisations, clubs, schools, and societies across Ireland that are raising funds and creating meaningful impact for their local area through the Deposit Return Scheme (DRS).

Submit your story for the chance to win €2000 for your Community!

[Small Town, Big Difference - Re-Turn](#)

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Research Ireland Infrastructure Programme

The Research Ireland Infrastructure Programme supports the research community in building and sustaining essential resources to conduct high-quality, innovative research across all disciplines. This programme recognises that robust research infrastructure is fundamental to advancing knowledge that contributes to Ireland's cultural, social, environmental and economic development.

For further information see : [Research Ireland Infrastructure Programme - Research Ireland](#)



The [Benefact Group](#), does financial services differently – we give all available profits to charity and good causes.

The Movement for Good Awards is our annual programme of giving that anyone can get involved in, and again this year we'll be donating over £1 million to charities and good causes.

Nominate a charity : [Movement for Good - Nominate a charity for an award.](#)



Writing Your EU Funding Application

This event will demonstrate best practice in writing EU funding applications.

Learners will come away with:

- Practical tips for co-writing applications with partners
- An understanding of how to answer key project questions
- The information needed beyond the idea itself – describing your project management, impact and sustainability activities .

This event is brought to you by [Access Europe](#), The Wheel's EU funding support service funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs.

How to register

- You can book places for yourself and/or colleagues by clicking the button below.
- This event will take place on Zoom.
- Closed Captions can be enabled by participants
- Please email matthew@wheel.ie if you have any special requirements.

Register here: [Writing Your EU Funding Application | The Wheel](#)



**Public Participation
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COUNTYWIDE SAFETY BULLETIN - SUMMER DRIVING TIPS



With the arrival of summer, roads become busier with bicycles, motorcycles, caravans, agricultural vehicles, visiting tourists and increased traffic congestion. It is crucial to exercise caution and vigilance, particularly during school holidays when more children are present, and their actions may be unpredictable due to their limited awareness of vehicle-related dangers. Here are some tips for safe driving during the summer months:

1. Sunny weather can serve as a major incentive to get people out on the roads. The more drivers on the road, the greater chance that accidents will occur.
2. Reduce speed in built up areas and near cyclists.
3. Pedestrians increase over summer months so be extra vigilant in urban areas and near parks and beaches.
4. Exercise extreme caution when reversing. Adopt a reverse in, drive out policy.
5. Summer is a peak period of activity for farmers. Tractor cabs are often sound proofed and drivers may be wearing ear protectors so may not be able to hear approaching cars.
6. Take particular care driving in the early morning, dusk and nighttime when animals and agricultural vehicles are more likely to be on the roads.
7. Drive defensively, anticipate unsafe actions by others, adhere to road signs & signals.
8. Do not ignore driver fatigue. Resist the temptation to 'push on' when tired and prioritise getting sufficient rest. Regular breaks every two hours.
9. Driving in hot conditions is liable to play havoc on your car's engine. Check coolant levels and take regular breaks.



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10. Dazzling sunlight can blind drivers and is a regular cause of accidents. Keep your windscreen clean and the windshield fluid topped up.
11. The glare off a wet road in summer can be blinding, be aware of the possibility of these conditions.
12. Check your tyre pressure, high temperature can aggravate any existing damage to the rubber in your tyres.
13. Road resurfacing is at its peak during the summer months. Expect narrow roads, slower speed limits and construction workers and machines on the road.
14. Respect the 'cone zone' when driving through road works.
15. Loose chippings can be kicked up by other cars moving at speed and can crack headlamps and windscreens. Respect the temporary speed limit on these roads.
16. Be mindful after a dry period if a summer storm occurs as rainfall can cause slippery road surfaces. Mind your speed in these instances.

STAY SAFE AND ENJOY THE SUMMER MONTHS!