



## **Public Participation Network Cork County**

### **E - Bulletin Newsletter 11/07/2025**

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:

### CAMDEN FORT MEAGHER

**FAMILY FUN WEEK:  
SUNDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> - SUNDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> JULY**

**DAILY PROGRAM**

10:30AM - 11:30AM  
ARTS & CRAFT

11:30AM - 12:30PM  
TEDDY BEAR PICNIC

12:30PM - 1:00PM  
GAMES FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN

1:30PM - 2:00PM  
GAMES FOR OLDER CHILDREN

2:30PM - 3:30PM  
ARTS & CRAFT



**11<sup>TH</sup> JULY IS  
FESTIVAL FRIDAY**

11:30AM - 3:30PM  
FACE PAINTING

1:00PM - 3:00PM  
MAGIC SHOW

SCAVENGER HUNT

FOLKLORE STORIES

**10AM - 5PM DAILY    TICKETS: €8 ADULTS | €5 CHILD**  
**CAFE ON SITE**



An Roinn Leanaí, Míchumais  
agus Comhionannais  
Department of Children,  
Disability and Equality



Comhairle Contae Chorcaí  
Cork County Council

**Camden Fort Meagher are holding a Family fun Week from 6 - 13 July  
with a family festival on TODAY Fri 11th of July!**





# Public Participation Network Cork County

## Introduction to Linkage Groups



### Introduction to Linkage Groups

MEETING, 21 JULY 2025  
7PM , TEAMS

**WANT TO HAVE A REAL  
INPUT INTO POLICY ?**

Meet your SPC reps, learn how  
you can get involved.

**RAFFAELLA VALENTI,  
ENVIRONMENT SPC REP**

Will discuss the importance  
of Linkage Groups, and her  
experience as an SPC Rep.

**x3**

**BREAK OUT ROOMS**

To have an initial meet up  
with your Linkage Group.



Inform  
Policy



Get  
Involved



Meet Your  
Reps





## **Public Participation Network Cork County**

**Register here for our upcoming Introduction to Linkage Groups Meeting -**

**<https://form.jotform.com/251904806891363>**

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](mailto: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

### Group of the Week: Castlemartyr Community Association



Busking in the Woods , taking place this Sunday 13 July from 2pm with a fantastic group of musicians taking part.

Run by [Castlemartyr Community-Council](#). Their fourth year running this event and they say it's getting better every year!





**Public Participation  
Network Cork County**



**AUGHADOWN IN OLDEN  
TIMES  
POP-UP MUSEUM**

**IN SKIBBEREEN TOWN HALL  
FOR HERITAGE WEEK**

**16<sup>TH</sup> -24<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST**

**FOCUS WILL BE ON**

**PAST FARMING, FISHING, FORGES, SHOPS  
& PUBS, OLD DOCUMENTS/BOOKS,  
FOLKLORE AND MONUMENTS**

**If anyone has anything of interest, please contact any ICA  
member or 087 9867453.**





## Childminding Ireland Art Competition 2025

We are delighted to announce that the [Childminding Ireland](#) Art Competition 2025 is now open! This special initiative is a joyful celebration of creativity and a wonderful opportunity to showcase the artistic talents of both children and childminders.

This year's competition includes:

**Children's Art Categories (ages 0–3, 4–7, and 8–12)**

**Childminder Artwork & Photography Categories**

There are fantastic prizes on offer for all winners – including both the children and their childminders!

We would be so grateful if you could help us spread the word within your community.

Click here to learn more about the competition and to watch a short video featuring last year's winning entries. <https://www.childminding.ie/.../art-competition-2025.../>

All entries should be emailed to [art@childminding.ie](mailto:art@childminding.ie) by 22nd August 2025.

Thank you so much for your support – we can't wait to see the creativity and colour that this year's entries will bring!

Don't hesitate to contact Mairead Hurley, Head of Childminding Services at [maireadhurley@childminding.ie](mailto:maireadhurley@childminding.ie) , phone 01 287 8466 .





## 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](#)





## Public Participation Network Cork County

- or reach out to [PPN@corkcoco.ie](mailto: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://corkcountypn.ie/cork-county-pn-nominations/> or email [PPN@corkcoco.ie](mailto: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.

Research Ireland encourages the efficient use, renewal and development of existing infrastructure while also advocating for continued investment in state-of-the-art facilities and resources across diverse research areas of importance. The Infrastructure Programme aims to foster interdisciplinary collaboration and ensure all researchers have access to the resources necessary for excellence in their respective fields.

Applications to the 2025 Programme Call will support significant infrastructure investments across all disciplines within Research Ireland's remit. The programme welcomes proposals for substantial resources that enhance research capabilities in diverse fields, recognising the different infrastructure requirements of various research traditions.

Applications to the 2025 Programme Call will have a minimum budget request of €500,000 direct costs. An additional 10% cash cost share is mandatory in all applications; therefore, the total infrastructure cost must be at least €550,000. There is no maximum budget request.

The Programme will be run in collaboration with the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI).

**Deadline: 31st July 2025**

[Research Ireland Infrastructure Programme - Research Ireland](#)





**Public Participation  
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## **2025 LGBTIQ+ Community Services Fund Opens for Applications**

**The Minister for Children, Disability and Equality, Norma Foley today (27 June) announced that applications can now be made for funding from the LGBTIQ+ Community Services Fund.**

The 2025 LGBTIQ+ Community Services Funding Call is an important element in supporting the implementation of the National LGBTIQ+ Inclusion Strategy II 2024-2028, which was published in June 2025

Announcing the opening of the 2025 fund, Minister Foley said: “I am delighted to announce the opening of the 2025 LGBTIQ+ Community Services Fund, which provides vital funding to organisations throughout the country to support LGBTIQ+ people and to provide crucial services to the LGBTIQ+ community.

2025 marks the fifth year of the LGBTIQ+ Community Services Funding Call. The opening of the Funding Call coincides with Pride celebrations and recognises the key contribution made by LGBTIQ+ organisations to enable LGBTIQ+ people to participate fully in Ireland’s social, economic, cultural, and political life.

The National LGBTIQ+ Inclusion Strategy II 2024-2028 was also published this year and outlines the Government’s commitment to responding to continued challenges facing the LGBTIQ+ community and ensuring they are supported in realising their rights. “

### **Application details for the LGBTIQ+ Community Services Fund**

There are two streams of funding under the LGBTIQ+ Community Services Fund

- Scheme A is open to applications from existing LGBTIQ+ NGOs and community organisations working with the LGBTIQ+ community to support new initiatives and to maintain and enhance existing services and initiatives.
- Scheme B will provide small grants to organisations for projects that promote visibility and inclusion of LGBTIQ+ persons.

All applications must be submitted electronically.

**Full details:** [2025 LGBTIQ+ Community Services Fund Opens for Applications | The Wheel](#)





## Public Participation Network **Cork County**

### Full Circle Awards



Do you know a Circular Champion? We're looking to celebrate ordinary people doing extraordinary things to promote the circular economy. The winners will receive a prize of €2,000, as well as dedicated, expert communications mentoring for their circular initiatives.

Our categories are: Repair and Reuse Champion; Community Circular Champion; Creative Circular Artist; Circular Living Advocate; Best Community Campaign; and Young Circular Star (under-18).

Nominate them at **[Circular.ie](https://www.circular.ie)**

<https://www.circular.ie/full-circle-awards>





**Public Participation  
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## Consultations:



# Social economy action plan – mid-term review

**Summary:** The European Commission adopted the action plan on the social economy in 2021. The actions plan's time horizon is until 2030.

This mid-term review will:

- assess the progress made to date
- identify new developments.

**Topic:** Employment and social affairs

**Feedback period:** 22 May 2025 - 16 July 2025

**Find further information, and make a submission here :** [Social economy action plan – mid-term review](#)





## Public Participation Network Cork County



### Stakeholder Consultation on the Development of New Strategy to Support Community & Voluntary Sector Launched

Minister of State with responsibility for Community Development and Charities, Jerry Buttimer TD, has announced the commencement of a stakeholder consultation on the development of a new Government strategy to support the sector.

The consultation will give organisations across the community and voluntary sector an opportunity to contribute to the new strategy.

You can access the survey and find more information below:

[Public Consultation on a new Strategy to support the Community and Voluntary Sector in Ireland](#)

***The deadline for submissions is 15 August.***





**Public Participation  
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**Lár Bailte ar dTús**  

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**Town Centre First**

Under the [Town Centre First Policy](#) initiative, funding has been made available to Cork County Council to conduct research to identify the key priorities for Bantry, and to support the development of a Town Team.

Through the surveys, the challenges and opportunities in Bantry will be assessed, aiding the local authority in working with local community and business stakeholders to prioritise the planning of projects and initiatives, and to develop funding applications to progress them.

Cork County Council would like to hear from you - the Bantry Community – on your thoughts, views and suggestions about the opportunities and challenges in Bantry Town. Your participation in this survey will help guide the Bantry Town Team as they collaborate with Cork County Council to make Bantry a better, more vibrant place to live, work and visit.

[Town Centre First Survey Bantry - Introduction - www.yourcouncil.ie](http://www.yourcouncil.ie)





## **Public Participation Network Cork County**



### **Youghal Residents Called to have their say in Transport Study!**

Kieran Harrahill is a researcher in the School of Geography in UCD. He is working on a research project focusing on improving transport in small and medium towns in Ireland.

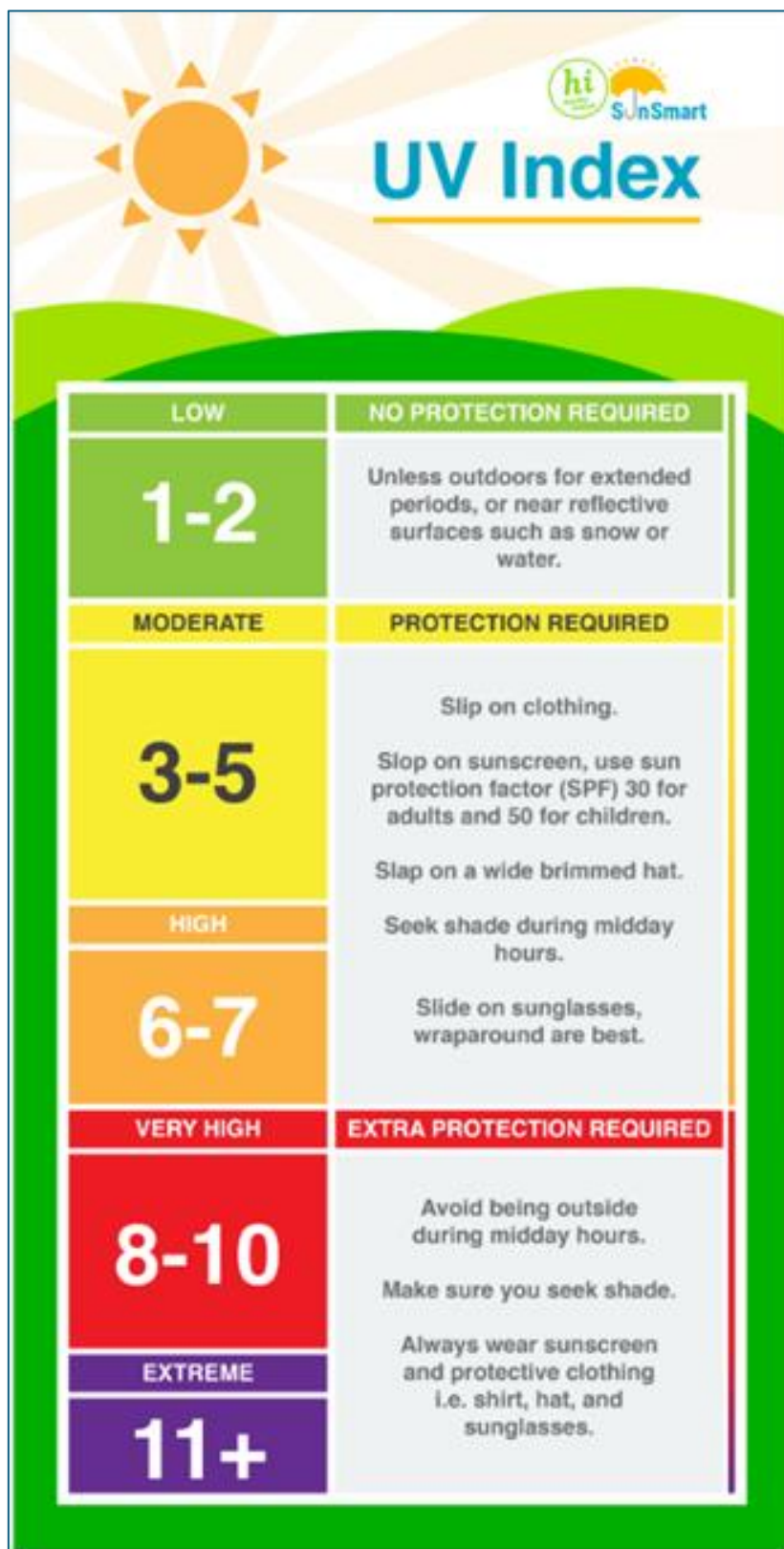
Youghal is one of three towns that has been selected to take part in this research. The aim of the project is to take a citizen-led approach to identifying challenges and opportunities relating to transport in Youghal.

If you or your Community Group is interested in engaging with the project, email Kieran at [kieran.harrahill@ucd.ie](mailto:kieran.harrahill@ucd.ie)





# Public Participation Network Cork County







## Public Participation Network Cork County

We hope everyone enjoys the sun this weekend, but make sure to mind yourself!!

With more people spending time outside, it's important to protect your skin.

Protect yourself in **five ways** from skin cancer



SLIP



SLOP



SLAP



SEEK







SLIDE

### For the best protection, use the five SunSmart steps:

1. Slip on covering clothing. Choose clothing that covers as much skin as possible, for example, collared shirts with long sleeves.
2. Slop on SPF 30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen.
3. Slap on a hat.
4. Seek shade.
5. Slide on some sunglasses.

### As well as the 5 S's it is important to remember:

-  In Ireland, the UV radiation levels are high from April to September, even when it is cloudy. Stay safe by limiting time in the sun when UV is strongest, typically between the hours of 11:00am-3:00pm
-  Do not deliberately try to get a suntan. Remember tanned skin is damaged skin.
-  Avoid getting a sunburn.
-  Never use a sunbed