



## **Public Participation Network Cork County**

### **E - Bulletin Newsletter 08/08/2025**

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 almost 700 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



# Public Participation Network Cork County

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**Public Participation  
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## News & Events: Salmon Celebration

A colorful poster for the Salmon Celebration event. The background is a mix of green, blue, and purple wavy shapes. At the top left is the 'streamscapes the waters & the wilds' logo. At the top right is a purple box with the 'National Heritage Week' logo and text. The main title 'salmon celebration' is in large, stylized letters, with 'salmon' in green and 'celebration' in dark blue. Below the title is the text 'PUBLIC PARTICIPATORY ART DAY' in green. To the left of the title is a blue fish jumping out of the water. At the bottom, a green cloud-like shape contains the date and time: 'MONDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2-6PM'. Below that, the location is listed: 'LOCATION: STREAMSCHOOL, COOMHOLA, BANTRY, CO. CORK, P75 TY47'. There are several stylized flowers in green and purple scattered around the poster.

 **streamscapes**  
the waters & the wilds

 **National  
Heritage Week**  
A Heritage Council programme

**FREE  
ENTRY**

**salmon  
celebration**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATORY ART DAY

**MONDAY 18<sup>TH</sup>  
AUGUST 2-6PM**

**LOCATION: STREAMSCHOOL,  
COOMHOLA, BANTRY, CO. CORK,  
P75 TY47**



**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](https://www.childminding.ie/) 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 .



## Public Participation Network Cork County



Comhairle Contae Chorcaí  
Cork County Council

Invites all staff & family members to  
visit the Road Safety Authority's

**Interactive Shuttle at County Hall Car Park on August 12th, 2025 between 10am  
and 3pm.**



The road safety interactive unit, known as the Shuttle, is a highly popular and educational road safety experience. It's a superb learning tool to get across important and life-saving road safety messages in a highly memorable way.

What you can do on the shuttle:

Practice you're driving and hazard perception skills on our state-of the art car, motorbike or bicycle simulators.

Experience first-hand the dangers of driving and texting and driver fatigue.

Try the brake reaction timer to see how driving environments and speed affect your braking distances.

Learn about tyre safety as your tyres are your only contact with the road!

Play interactive road safety games.

**This event is suitable for both adults & children. It is extremely beneficial for Young Adults who have just started out on their driving journey so if you have family members in this category, please encourage them to pay a visit. Show your support for Road Safety by dropping in for a visit.**



## Get involved! Join Our 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](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.





## 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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**Public Participation  
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## **Fund to Support the Integration and Employment of Migrants**

Up to €2.7 million available under the Employment, Inclusion, Skills and Training (EIST) Programme

Fund is open to non-government and community organisations providing projects to increase the employability of people who moved here as migrants

Fund helps people overcome barriers to employment including language difficulties, lack of training or social exclusion

The Minister of State for Migration Colm Brophy today (31 July) announced funding of up to €2.7 million for projects that aim to increase the integration and employability of people who have moved here as migrants. Funding is being made available under the Integration and Employment of Migrants action of the Employment, Inclusion, Skills & Training (EIST) Programme 2021-2027.

The Programme is jointly funded by the European Union, through the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+), and the Government of Ireland. Announcing the fund, Minister Brophy said:

“I am very pleased to announce that regional and national organisations can now apply for funding through the Employability, Inclusion, Skills and Training Programme.

“People who move here as migrants bring skills and experience that are much needed in the current labour market. However, some people may find it difficult to find employment because of language difficulties, lack of training or social exclusion.

“The projects that will receive funding through this initiative will play a vital role in equipping people with the skills to overcome these obstacles and increase their employment opportunities.”

Organisations can apply for funding for projects supporting:

EEA Nationals who are resident in Ireland;

Third Country Nationals with permission to enter employment in Ireland, including people who are Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection fleeing the war in Ukraine.



## **Public Participation Network Cork County**

The funding will support a small number of significant projects and €200,000 is the minimum grant that can be applied for.

All applications must be submitted by email to [iem@justice.ie](mailto:iem@justice.ie).

Applications for funding will remain open until **noon on Thursday, 11 September**. Further information and the application form are [available online at gov.ie](#).

**Additional Fund Info:** [Minister Relaunches Fund to Support the Integration and Employment of Migrants | The Wheel](#)



**Public Participation  
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## **The What Works Enhancing Quality Fund 2025 is Accepting Applications**

Minister for Children, Disability and Equality, Norma Foley, TD has announced the creation of a new fund under the *What Works* prevention and early intervention initiative, which is funded through the Dormant Accounts Fund.

The *What Works* Enhancing Quality Fund has been established under the Quality strand of the *What Works* initiative. The aim of the Quality strand is to align, enhance and sustain quality in prevention and early intervention as it relates to the development and delivery of policy, provision and practice for children and young people.

The 2025 Enhancing Quality Fund aims to promote continuous improvement and innovation using a process of problem-solving in prevention and early intervention services for children and young people. Successful applicants will support the *What Works* initiative to build on the development of implementation structures and learning harnessed from over a decade of investment in prevention and early intervention in order to improve outcomes for children, young people and their families.

The fund is open to practitioners and service providers in not-for-profit organisations working with children, young people and their families and who have a strong emphasis on prevention and early intervention. The total value of the fund is €300,000, and organisations may apply for funding up to a maximum of €30,000.

The deadline for applications is **5pm, Friday, 22 August 2025**. Applications should be submitted to [whatworks@dcde.gov.ie](mailto:whatworks@dcde.gov.ie). Hard copies delivered via post will not be accepted.

**Full details available here:** <https://whatworks.gov.ie/enhancing-quality-fund-2025/>

You can read more about the Minister's new suite of prevention and early intervention measures at <https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-children-disability-and-equality/>



## Tips & Tools for Successful EU Partnerships

Effective partnership management is essential for successful EU projects because strong cooperation, clear communication, and mutual trust directly affect project delivery and long-term impact.

Whether you're coordinating a consortium or participating as a project partner, this session will provide concrete guidance and resources to help you start strong, collaborate effectively, and manage common challenges.

What to expect:

- **Best Practices for Partnership Success:** Discover how to build trust, align visions, and define clear roles from day one.
- **Practical Tools & Templates:** Access a toolkit of digital project management tools and templates to support effective coordination and communication.
- **Inspiring Case Study:** Hear firsthand how one organisation successfully navigated the dynamics of an EU-funded partnership.
- **Q&A:** Get your questions answered in a Q&A session.

This online event is ideal for civil society staff involved in project development, EU funding, partnership management, or strategic planning. Whether you're just starting out or looking to sharpen your skills, this session will leave you better prepared and more confident.

### 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](mailto:matthew@wheel.ie) if you have any special requirements.

**Register here:** [Tips & Tools for Successful EU Partnerships | The Wheel](#)



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The Killarney coffee cup project is an example of a grass root organisation leading transformative change with over 70 business in Killarney partaking in this initiative. A case study on the Killarney coffee cup project was commissioned by the Department of Climate, energy and the Environment. The results of which are now available as part of an information kit available in the following link: <https://localprevention.ie/topics/killarneycoffeecupproject/>

Part of the information kit includes an Insights document which outlines the strategic objectives for both Killarney and other towns throughout Ireland. The information kit is a valuable resource for other towns and communities across Ireland who may wish to replicate this initiative.





## Public Participation Network **Cork County**

The HSE has developed a Free, easy-to-access online programme called 'Balancing Stress' to support people across Ireland in managing everyday mental difficulties such as stress, anxiety, low mood and worry.

The Balancing Stress programme offers six online video sessions (each around 35 minutes) covering key topics including managing stress, worry, anxiety, low mood, and relationship stress. This online programme offers people evidence-based tools to manage stress effectively and enhance their mental wellbeing.

You can watch the videos at your own pace, on your own time, using a phone, tablet or laptop.

The easy to use QR code will take you directly to the programme.

If you require further information, see: [Balancing Stress - A HSE Resource for sharing with PPN staff & Representatives - Cork County PPN](#)



### Balancing Stress®

Practical skills to cope with stress



- 1 Understanding stress
- 2 Managing worry
- 3 Managing anxiety
- 4 Managing low mood and depression
- 5 Stress and relationships
- 6 Balancing stress now and into the future



#### A free HSE online stress management programme

##### What is it?

Balancing Stress is the HSE's free online programme to manage stress, worry, anxiety, low mood and relationship difficulties.

##### How do I take part?

[www.hse.ie/balancingstress](http://www.hse.ie/balancingstress)  
No registration is required. There are six sessions you can watch anytime, at your own pace.

##### Presented by:

Dr Niamh Clarke  
HSE Principal Psychologist





# Public Participation Network Cork County

**Logos:** EQUAL IRELAND, Deloitte, RETHINK IRELAND, Atlantic Technological University, An Rann Fíortha Tuairbe agan Póball agan Carthaísa (Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht).

**New Empowered Project**

**Under 30?**  
**Part Time Certificate in Enterprise and Community Development**

**Build Your Skills Shape your Future**

- Fully Funded
- No Exams
- Coaching & Mentoring
- Career & Workplace Connections

**Contact us today!**  
[empowered@equalireland.ie](mailto:empowered@equalireland.ie)  
[www.equalireland.ie](http://www.equalireland.ie)

EQUAL Ireland, in partnership with Atlantic Technological University (ATU), is now enrolling for our Certificate in Enterprise and Community Development — **a fully funded, part-time online programme for people aged 30 or under.**

**If you know someone, spread the word!** If your organisation works with young adults, please get in contact as we would like to discuss ways in which we can work together to support your target group. Please see attached Information Leaflet, flyer and Application Form.

Participants will gain:

- A recognised Level 6 qualification – [Certificate Brochure](#)
- Additional Coaching and mentoring to support you
- Workplace and/or career connections to build real-world experience



## **Public Participation Network** Cork County

 Apply now: [www.equalireland.ie](http://www.equalireland.ie) or [online here](#)

 Contact us: [empowered@equalireland.ie](mailto:empowered@equalireland.ie)

 Limited places – don't wait!

Further information: Join us on Zoom at 4pm - 4:30pm - any Monday and Thursday during August (see link below) or get in touch and we will be happy to get back to you.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83076565309?pwd=ZDZm66Qf3jBzBaohJugjfAnvjUD02S.1>

Meeting ID: 830 7656 5309

Passcode: 218713



## Public Participation Network Cork County

# Applications Open: Arts & Culture — Bereavement & Grief Training Course

Irish Hospice Foundation is delighted to announce applications are now open for our [Arts and Culture — Bereavement and Grief training course](#) commencing October 2025. This part-time blended course, running over two full weekends and four mid-week evenings, explores the many roles of arts and culture in contemporary dying, grief, and bereavement.

Irish Hospice Foundation developed the Arts and Culture – Bereavement and Grief course in association with staff from Helium Arts, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RSCI), LauraLynn Children's Hospice, St Francis Hospice, Irish Association of Creative Arts Therapists (ICAT), SoloSirens, and Réalta (the national arts and health development agency). It is designed to raise awareness and understanding, while providing an introduction to basic skills.

### Who is this course suitable for?

Applications are invited from professionals and volunteers in the arts, culture, or health sectors who support, or are interested in supporting, people of all ages experiencing dying, death, grief, and loss. We seek a diverse range of expertise and experience as this enriches the learning experience for all.

Our last course attracted practitioners and researchers involved in oncology, perinatal loss, psychology, primary schools, social work, and acute hospital management, along with creatives involved in dance, music, movement, and literature.

Places are limited to 14 people to facilitate experience, exploration and discussion. The course fee is €500. Given the level of interest and number of applicants, selection is competitive.

*“There was space to learn, to converse, and to consider the many points of view that arise for artists, care workers, families of those near end of life or experiencing grief. The sessions were open enough to allow opinion and to get to know one another, and structured enough to feel complete and walk away with new knowledge and understanding.” - Past course participant*

Applications are now open for the course running 25th October to 9th November 2025.



## **Public Participation Network Cork County**

**The application deadline is 17th September 2025 at 5:00pm.** Notification of places will be on or before 26th September 2025.

To learn more about the course and to apply, visit the course webpage: [Training Course: Arts and Culture – Bereavement and Grief](#).

### **Questions?**

If you have a query regarding the Arts and Culture – Bereavement and Grief training course, please email: [arts@hospicefoundation.ie](mailto:arts@hospicefoundation.ie).

## Consultations:



### **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  
Network Cork County**

## Public Consultation on a Potential Ban on Commercial Sunbed Use in Ireland



**An Roinn Sláinte  
Department of Health**

Minister of State Ms Jennifer Murnane O'Connor TD, with special responsibility for Public Health, Wellbeing and the National Drugs Strategy has launched an online public consultation seeking the views and opinions of the public and industry on a proposed ban on commercial sunbed use.

The views and opinions collected will be considered and will be used to inform future policy and legislation regarding a potential ban on commercial sunbed use.

**Complete Survey:** <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/b2334e70-6b00-8174-0e4b-e24bc70a4485>

## Public Consultation on New National Obesity Strategy

The Minister for Public Health, Well Being and the National Drugs Strategy, Jennifer Murnane O'Connor has launched a [public consultation](#) to inform the development of Ireland's next Obesity Policy and Action Plan.

This consultation invites individuals, communities, healthcare professionals, and organisations to share their insights, experiences, and recommendations in shaping a new, inclusive strategy to tackle obesity. All submissions will be reviewed and compiled into a report, that will guide the drafting of the new strategy.

The consultation is open until 18 September 2025.

**Complete survey:**

<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/NationalObesityStrategyPublicConsultation>





## Public Participation Network Cork County

# Critical Research on the Challenges Facing the Community Sector

## Community Groups' Greatest Challenges



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NHFCGGT>

Atlantic Technological University, in partnership with Sligo PPN, is conducting vital research to identify the key challenges facing the community and voluntary sector. Your input is essential to building a strong evidence base that will drive advocacy for better support and resources for our sector.

The survey takes just 15 minutes to complete, and every response counts.

Your voice matters. Together, we can advocate for a stronger, more supported community sector.  
Thank you for your time and commitment!



For many years, PPNs have heard and witnessed the growing pressures on the community and voluntary sector. The network has consistently advocated on behalf of the sector, but success has been limited - in part due to a lack of solid evidence with regard to the direct impact of these challenges on the operation of community organisations.

Under the Power to Change initiative, Sligo PPN have partnered with Atlantic Technological University to undertake a piece of research to form a solid evidence base on the key challenges facing the sector and what this means to grass roots community activity and volunteering.

This survey aims to:

- collect the evidence needed to highlight and stress to Government the challenges faced by community groups,
- to demonstrate that additional and better coordinated supports are needed for groups to operate successfully and thrive.



## **Public Participation Network Cork County**

More and more is being asked of the community sector, including taking a leading role on climate action. What support does the community sector need to make this workable?

The survey was co-designed with community organisations as well as colleagues across the PPN network.

While led by Sligo PPN and ATU under the Power to Change initiative, this research is intended to be of benefit to the entire PPN network and the broader community sector.

The survey will go out across the entire PPN national network as well as other key community based networks. The more feedback we receive, the stronger our case will be for advocating for positive change in the sector.

Every response we get is vital and we thank you in advance for taking the time to contribute to this important research.

Please feel free to share far and wide.

To complete the survey go to:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NHFCGGT>