Public Participation Network Cork County

E - Bulletin Newsletter 10/10/2025

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** 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 or Website Link

And be sure to engage with us on the socials!

Facebook – Cork County PPN

Instagram – @corkcountyppn

Happy Friday,

Morrin & Noelle

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The Alzheimher Society of Ireland

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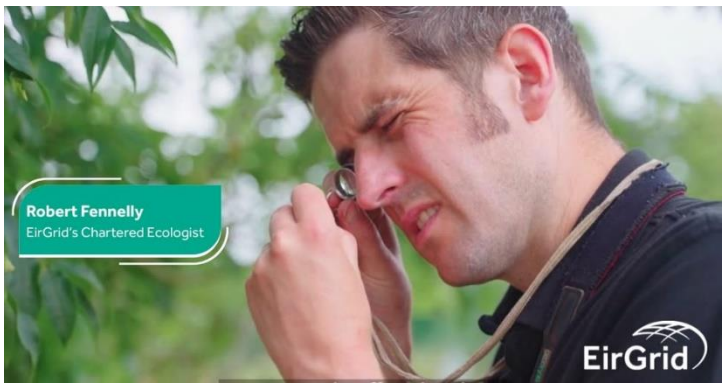

🌍🌿Youghal Climate Action Week with EirGrid: Energising Biodiversity Solutions 🌿🌍

Join us for a free community event where climate action meets nature restoration! ♻️✨

EirGrid is prioritising nature restoration in response to the twinned Climate and Biodiversity emergencies. 🌱🐝

🎤Hear from Robert Fennelly, EirGrid's Chartered Ecologist, as he showcases EirGrid's biodiversity initiatives—brought to life through stunning visuals and video storytelling. These include work on the Celtic Interconnector, being developed locally in Youghal. 🌱

👨‍💼We'll also welcome Kieran O'Sullivan from Ballintotis Community Council, who will share how funding from the Celtic Interconnector Community Benefit Fund is helping tackle invasive species in the Loughaderra proposed Natural Heritage Area—an prominent water feature along the N25.

📆Tuesday, 14 October @19:00
📍Cumann na Daoine
🚨Don't miss out—secure your spot now for free:

- 👉 Get Tickets Here - **https://www.eventbrite.ie/.../youghal-climate-action-week...**
- ℹ️ Learn more about what's taking place during Youghal Climate Action Week: **https://www.cumannnadaoine.com/climate-action-week.../**

SECAD Partnership CLG - SECAD Youghal Blue & Green Community Network Ballintotis Area Community Council Ltd Cumann Na Daoine

#ClimateAction #Biodiversity #EirGrid #CelticInterconnector #Youghal #Cork #Sustainability #NaturalHeritage #ClimateWeek

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Cork County Council
ROAD SAFETY PROMOTION

VISION ZERO
NO ROAD DEATHS OR SERIOUS INJURIES BY 2050

SAFETY SECTION

TYRE CHECKS

Put Tyre Checks at the Top of your To-Do List

The 6th to 12th of October is Road Safety Week. The winter months when wet and slippery conditions make tyre grip and braking distances even more critical. Awareness of the condition of our tyres and tyre pressure is vital. RSA analysis of coronial data (2015– 2020) found that 13% of driver fatalities where vehicle condition was recorded had a defect related to tyres.

Figures from the last 12 months show that 182,160 (10.5%) motorists failed their NCT due to tyre condition, with 43,184 vehicles recorded as having dangerously low tread depths of less than 1.6mm.

NCT service has detected over 200,000 tyres with defects & An Garda Síochána has issued 1,755 fixed charge notices for tyre offences this year to date.

You can download Your Guide to Tyre Safety at Home | Irish Tyre Industry Association to learn more about choosing the right tyres.

Tyres must meet the correct standard and size for your vehicle, be free from defects, properly inflated, and have a tread depth of at least 1.6mm (1mm for motorcycles).

Simple tyre safety tips for motorists:

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- Carry out a visual check before every journey.
- Look for bulges, cracks, cuts, or uneven wear.
- Ensure tyres are inflated to the manufacturer's recommended pressure.
- Replace tyres when tread depth falls below 3mm—new tyres typically have 8mm.
- Remember: the legal minimum tread is 1.6mm (1mm for motorcycles).

Free tyre checks are available nationwide at ITIA dealers right through Irish Road Safety Week - 6th to 12th of October 2025

Is your group interested in a Road or Water Safety Awareness workshop?

Caroline Casey, Cork County Council's Water & Road Safety Development Officer, has kindly offered to work with us from October! Is there anything you would like to learn more about, or raise awareness of?

Let us know!

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Macroom Pop Up Volunteer Centre

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Cork GAA Launches Sustainability Roadshow Series

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This October, Cork GAA is inviting clubs across the city and county to take part in a new initiative, Rebels Going Green, aimed at building a more sustainable future for Gaelic games and the communities they serve.

In collaboration with Cork City Council and Cork County Council, a series of in-person workshops will be held to support clubs in taking practical steps to champion sustainability. These sessions will offer tools, inspiration, and guidance to help clubs reduce their environmental impact and become sustainability leaders in their communities.

Workshop Schedule:

- Monday 13th October – Mallow GAA Club
- Monday 20th October – Dohenys GAA Club, Dunmanway
- Tuesday 21st October – Supervalu Páirc Uí Chaoimh
  All workshops begin at 7:00 PM.

The workshops will feature:

- Insights from Cork GAA's Sustainability Committee and its Rebels Going Green initiative
- Experiences from clubs involved in The GAA Green Club Programme, with representatives from the programme in attendance
- Guidance from local authority representatives and the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) on accessing funding and implementing sustainability projects

Enda Buckley, Chair of the Cork GAA Sustainability Committee, commented:

"This roadshow series is part of Cork GAA's broader Sustainability Vision and Strategy, which positions every GAA club as a hub for community-led environmental action. Through the Rebels Going Green initiative, Cork GAA is committed to embedding sustainability into all aspects of its operations — from club facilities and events to education and community engagement."

Lord Mayor of Cork City, Councillor Fergal Dennehy, said:

"Cork City Council is proud to support Cork GAA's Sustainability Roadshow, which reflects our shared commitment to building greener, more resilient communities."

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Mayor of the County of Cork, Councillor Mary Linehan Foley, said:

"Cork County Council is proud to support Cork GAA's sustainability journey, helping communities across the county protect their environment and secure a brighter future."

To register for any of the workshops and for further information, visit **www.gaacork.ie/rebelsgogreen**

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We've hit a Milestone!

Proud week in Cork County PPN HQ! We have reached over 700 registered groups – 701 to be exact!! Welcome aboard to our new groups:

Gloyne GAA

WiseWater

Glounthaune Tidy Towns

Beara Tourism Development LTD

Newtownshandrum Tidy Towns

Rossmore Community Alert

Araglen Community Council

Deerpark Community Association

St. Catherine's Cultural Centre, Kinsale

Carrigtwohill Flower & Garden Club

Parent Teacher Association St John the Baptist NS

Midleton RFC

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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 .

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.

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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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#fundingfriday

#OurEUStory Awards 2025

Two weeks to go !

 # APPLICATIONS OPEN UNTIL FRIDAY, 24 OCTOBER (5pm) #

The #OurEUStory Awards celebrates the transformational impact that EU-funded projects have on organisations and communities across Ireland.

Apply now

What is the #OurEUStory Awards?

By entering the #OurEUStory Awards, you'll have the opportunity to demonstrate how EU-funded projects have benefitted your community while inspiring your peers to take advantage of all the opportunities that EU funding offers!

All entries must take the form of a video posted to the entrant's LinkedIn and/or Facebook page that is **no longer than 140 seconds** and includes the hashtag **#OurEUStory**. The video must touch on the assessment criteria outlined in the **Terms and Conditions** and the **FAQ**.

Remember: your video doesn't need to be fancy or professionally shot - it's about **telling the story of your EU project journey**!

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All three winning entries will win a prize: **€1,000 for first place and €500 each for second and third places**. We'll announce the winning entries at our Access Europe Showcase on 27 November in Dublin!

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PARENT PEER SUPPORT FUND NOW OPEN

The Minister for Children, Disability and Equality, Norma Foley, has announced that a €150,000 parent peer support fund is now open for applications.

Parent peer support is when parents support each other by sharing knowledge, reducing feelings of isolation, and providing encouragement to navigate challenges and achieve well-being.

Grants of up to €5,000 can be provided to organisations working with parents and/or carers to support them to develop parent peer support initiatives. This includes peer support for parents who share similar life experiences, such as raising a child with complex needs or a mental health condition.

The Parent Peer Support fund will be made available under two tiers of funding.

- Tier 1 will provide grants of €2,500 to 37 successful applicants who either currently operate or wish to establish a new parent peer support project.
- Tier 2 will provide grants of €5,000 to 12 successful applicants who wish to scale up an existing parent peer support project, which is already having a positive impact on parents.

How to apply:

Application forms for the €2,500 and €5,000 funding tiers, along with the funding Guidance and Terms and Conditions can be found here.

Applications must be submitted by Friday 31 October 2025.

Full details here https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-children-disability-and-equality/publications/202526-parent-peer-support-fund/

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Consultations

Last Chance to Participate !!

Critical Research on the Challenges Facing the Community Sector

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.

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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.

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

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PCSA
Údarás Póilíneachta & Sábháilteachta Pobail
Policing & Community Safety Authority

As you may already be aware, the Policing and Community Safety Authority (PCSA) was established on 02 April 2025 following commencement of the Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024.

The Authority has developed a draft of its first Strategy Statement covering the period 2026-2028 setting out the key areas of focus we will have in performing our statutory functions.

Now is your opportunity to review this draft and provide any feedback and/or views you may have as part of the 30-day public consultation.

The draft strategy and the consultation questionnaire are available here on the PCSA website (also available here through Irish). We would welcome a return through the consultation link, if you wish to provide one, by **Sunday 02 November 2025**.

The PCSA will consider returns received through the consultation to inform the finalisation of the strategy ahead of publication in early 2026. If you have any questions, please contact Helen Hall (pressoffice@pcsaireland.ie) or my colleague Mr Mark Nother (mark.nother@pcsaireland.ie).

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Shaping the New National Volunteering Strategy

Ireland's National Volunteering Strategy 2021-2025 is due to expire, and the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht is seeking ideas, and guidance from across the community in developing its successor. The strategy aims to recognise, promote, and grow volunteering, acknowledging its vital social, cultural, and economic contributions, and provides a framework for government support and collaboration with organisations like The Wheel and our colleagues throughout the voluntary sector.

Your voice is important!

The impact of volunteers is felt across our sector. Whether your organisation relies on the efforts of drivers, gardeners, fundraisers, youth leaders, or befrienders, or if your only volunteers are your board of trustees - volunteers shape so much of what we do as charities, community groups and social enterprises.

Please take a few minutes today to share your thoughts. The survey is just four questions but your contribution is invaluable. It's vital we have a volunteer strategy that truly reflects the experiences and the needs of volunteers themselves, those who benefit from their efforts, and the organisations, large and small supporting and coordinating them.

Shaping the New National Volunteering Strategy

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Public Consultation to inform Ireland's Social Climate Plan

The Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment (DCEE) is currently developing a national Social Climate Plan which will set out measures to be financed from the EU Social Climate Fund over the period 2026 to 2032.

We are writing to you to draw your attention to a public consultation to inform the development of this Plan. The consultation was launched by Minister Darragh O'Brien on 11 September that will conclude on 23 October.

The EU Social Climate Fund is the first EU fund developed with the explicit purpose of alleviating potential energy and transport poverty occurring from the transition towards clean mobility and a decarbonised built environment. The focus of Ireland's Plan will be investment in long-lasting, socially fair measures aimed at supporting those who may be most vulnerable to energy and transport poverty arising from the rise in the price of carbon and consequent rise in fossil fuel prices.

DCEE is working closely with relevant Departmental stakeholders and with the European Commission to ensure that the Plan developed will meet the requirements of the governing Regulation. We are committed to developing robust and high-quality measures, guided by meaningful stakeholder input, to ensure that the funds are appropriately targeted to those most vulnerable. In this context, two consultation processes at key points in the development of the Plan are planned.

The first of those is the following open public and stakeholder consultation which is designed to capture information on what the public and stakeholders see as the priorities for investment under this Plan. The second consultation, being planned for November, will be a public event, with European Commission officials present.

Commenting on the consultation, Minister O'Brien said:

> "Over the longer-term, we will have a much more sustainable, secure and efficient transport and heating system, but in the here and now, I recognise that the transition can be difficult for people and that it impacts people unevenly. We have a fantastic opportunity now, with the support of this significant EU co-financing, to develop measures that will have a lasting impact on the wellbeing and comfort of those most vulnerable to energy and transport poverty while also having decarbonisation co-benefits.
>
> While this is an open consultation, I particularly encourage all those impacted by energy and transport poverty, and the groups that represent them, to participate in this consultation."

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It is in this context that we invite you, and your network of contacts and stakeholders, to participate in this consultation found on the Departmental website at the following link:

https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-climate-energy-and-the-environment/press-releases/minister-obrien-launches-consultation-on-irelands-social-climate-plan/

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Vacancy: Permanent Part-time Senior Library Assistant -Ballyvourney

Please note that the following position is currently advertised:

25-092 Senior Library Assistant -Ballyvourney

Closing date for the receipt of completed application forms is **4:00p.m Friday 31st October 2025.**

Application Form and Details are available on the Cork County Council Website – Careers Section.

https://www.corkcoco.ie/en/council/careers