



Public Participation Network Cork County

E - Bulletin Newsletter 28/11/2025

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 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:

PPN Snapshot of the year 2024





Public Participation Network Cork County

Local elections took place in May 2024, which resulted in SPCs having to be stood down and then reconstituted.

There was continuous engagement with member groups, ensuring that vital information was widely disseminated.



Limerick PPN and Limerick City and County Council hosted the 6th National Public Participation Network Conference in October.

This year's event marked the 10-year anniversary of the establishment of the PPNs across Ireland. The conference welcomed 160 delegates representing community and voluntary groups, social inclusion and environmental organisations from across the country, alongside local authority officials, elected representatives, and others who support the work of PPNs. The theme for this year's conference, "Collaboration for Resilient Communities," celebrated the essential partnerships needed for the delivery of government programmes at both national and local levels. The PPNs 'play a crucial role in facilitating these collaborations by providing representatives on committees and steering groups, sharing information, building capacity, and offering support'.¹



The PPN Implementation Roadmap was published in July 2024. It was drafted by the Roadmap Working Group, made up of PPN stakeholders including PPN volunteers and staff, civil society groups, CCMA and relevant government departments. The Roadmap sets out tangible actions to strengthen PPNs and enable them to more effectively fulfil the overall objectives set out for them in the 2014 *Working Group Report on Citizen Engagement with Local Government*.

The PPNs continued to adapt in response to the changes experienced by their communities and develop innovative solutions using a bottom-up approach to problem solving.

Consultations continue to be a vital part of the work of the PPN and took place across a wide variety of topics.



The PPNs continue to make
**a real difference to the
communities they serve.**

¹ <https://www.limerickppn.ie/national-ppn-conference-2024/>



**Public Participation
Network Cork County**



**Hygiene
Hub**

Urgent Call for Volunteers: Join the Cork Hygiene Hub Team!

The Hygiene Hub are seeking dedicated volunteers to help manage the flow of donations and ensure they reach partners efficiently.

- ✚ **Who are Hygiene Hub?** Hygiene Hub is a charity dedicated to tackling hygiene poverty in Ireland by providing essential hygiene and household cleaning products to those who need them. The organisation collects new, unused items through public drop-off points and hygiene drives, and its volunteers then sort these donations. The products are distributed through a network of community partners, including charities and schools, which support individuals experiencing poverty across the country.
- ✚ **The Role:** Volunteers are asked to collect donations from one or two assigned drop-off points and then distribute the products to one or two of our community partners each month. These are assigned by the Hub Co-ordinator.
- ✚ **Time Commitment:** We ask for a commitment of at least 4 hours per month minimum. However the role is flexible, so you can fit it around your schedule.
- ✚ **Important Note:** A car is required for this role due to the nature of collection and distribution.
- ✚ **The Impact:** Your help directly supports our 22 community partners, who collectively serve over 1000 people facing hygiene poverty.
- ✚ **How to Apply:** Anyone interested can apply here: <https://hygienehub.my.site.com/portal/s/volunteer-application>



Public Participation Network Cork County

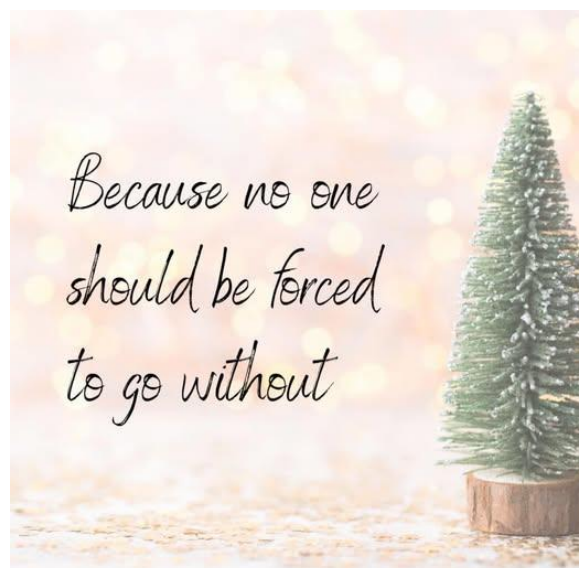
Where to Donate: Our Drop-Off Points Across Cork

We have numerous generous drop-off points throughout Cork where people can easily donate:

- Boots Blackpool
- Boots Douglas
- Boots Half Moon Street
- Cork Volunteer Centre
- East Cork Bathroom & Tiles
- Jen's Hair Kreation
- Kopper Hair Salon
- O'Sullivan's Pharmacy Bishopstown
- Owennacurra Late Night Pharmacy
- Quay Co-Op Ballincollig
- Quay Co-Op Carrigaline
- Goldirocks

Become a Partner or Drop-Off Point

We are continuously looking for new businesses and community partners! If anyone is interested in becoming a new drop-off location and supporting our mission, please ask them to reach out to me directly at cork@hygienehub.ie





**Public Participation
Network Cork County**



Castlemagner Sinsir Club

Cookery Demonstration

If the cooking demands of the Christmas season just seem too much for you, then fret not. Castlemagner Sinsir club have the very answer to this annual stressor, simply by de-stressing on a social night out at their cookery demonstration!

Date: Thursday December 11th

Location: Castlemagner Community Centre

Time: 8.00 pm.

This demonstration will be delivered by **renowned local chef, Hazel Bourke**. Hazel has a wealth of experience in culinary education, knowledge and service. She is an advocate for supporting local produce, and is particularly talented in developing a rapport with the audience. This is a highly anticipated festive and seasonal event in Castlemagner each year and is the ideal gathering for entering into the Christmas spirit, providing the opportunity to socialise and chat with friends and neighbours.

On arrival, guests will be treated to a reception of homemade mulled wine and some artisan Christmas treats. The event is the perfect crash course to fine tune your culinary skills for the coming festive season to impress all your friends and family. An exceptional demonstration of skill and fine dining is assured with some exclusive secret tips and recipes to be divulged on the night.

✚ Admission includes a booklet containing all the recipes and methods used on the night.

✚ **Admission is €15** and tickets may be purchased at the door.

The cookery demonstration is a fundraiser for the Castlemagner Sinsir Club Annual Christmas Party held at Springfort Hall on Sunday, 14th of December.



**Public Participation
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Glounthaune Community Centre Christmas Craft Fair

Glounthaune Community Association are so excited to invite you all to their **Glounthaune Community Centre Christmas Craft Fair**, on **Saturday 6th December**, from **11am to 6pm!** 🌿

They have a fantastic day planned, full of festive fun for everyone:

✦ **Loads of local crafters and delicious food stalls**

🎵 **Musical choirs** bringing all the Christmas vibes

👯 **A Mini Disco for the kids**

👴 **A visit from the one and only Santa!**

🎁 **And don't miss out on the Giant Raffle** — with some **amazing prizes** up for grabs!

This year, **Glounthaune Community Association** are proud to support **Local St. Vincent de Paul** and are thrilled to have **Autism Assistance Dogs Ireland (Little Island)** joining them as special charity guests. 🐾

So, bring your friends and family, and get the **Glounthaune Christmas spirit** going!

Shop local, have some fun, and help support great causes right there in the community.

Warm festive wishes from,

The Glounthaune Christmas Craft Team 👴 🌲

Glounthaune Community Association

<http://glounthaune.ie>



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Cork Harbour Tourism Strategy

We'd love to hear from you!

As part of the Cork City, Harbour and East Cork Destination and Experience Development Plan, exciting work on the Cork Harbour Tourism Strategy is underway to discover the tourism potential of Cork Harbour and its surrounding areas. Come along and join the conversation.

Please join us in one of our drop-in sessions below:

Cork City Hall

Monday 1st December 2025
2:30pm to 4:30pm

Crosshaven Royal Cork Yacht Club

Tuesday 2nd December 2025
5pm to 7pm

Sirius Arts Centre, Cobh

Wednesday 3rd December
1pm to 3pm

Midleton Library

Wednesday 3rd December
4:30pm to 6:30pm



[Fáilte Ireland](#), [Cork County Council](#), [Cork City Council](#) & [Port of Cork](#) are now inviting

communities, businesses and stakeholders from across to join the conversation and share their insights on how we can further unlock the tourism potential of Cork Harbour and its surrounding areas.

This is an opportunity to have your say!

Public Drop-In Sessions :

Cork City Hall	 Monday, 1st December 2025  2:30pm – 4:30pm
Royal Cork Yacht Club	 Tuesday, 2nd December 2025  5pm – 7pm
Sirius Arts Centre, Cobh	 Wednesday, 3rd December 2025  1pm – 3pm
Midleton Library	 Wednesday, 3rd December 2025  4:30pm – 6:30pm

Your input is vital in ensuring a vibrant, sustainable and successful future for Cork Harbour.



**Public Participation
Network Cork County**

**Cork County Council
ROAD SAFETY PROMOTION**

**VISION
ZERO**
NO ROAD DEATHS
OR SERIOUS INJURIES BY 2050



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!



Public Participation Network Cork County

Adult Service - Barnardos Boarded Out Practical Supports Service

Contact us via: Email: birthhistory@barnardos.ie Our centres: DUBLIN 4 Christchurch Square, Dublin 8 D08 DT63 23/24 Buckingham Street Lower, Dublin 1 Tel: (01) 813 4100 CORK Blackmore House, Meade Street, Cork Tel: (021) 203 8006 GALWAY: The Sanctuary, 27 Choix Chiar, Claregalway Tel: (091) 454489 Our National Helpline: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10am – 1pm Tel: 00 353 (1) 454 6388 Barnardos aim to deliver services and work with families, communities, and our partners to transform the lives of individuals who are affected by adverse childhood experiences. Registered Charity No. 20010007 Funded through DCEDFY dormant accounts TUSLA An Ombudsman for Children Local office in Tralee Child and Family Agency An Roinn Leasaí, Comhionannais, Athbheocháin, Leasghairneoire agus Oige Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth	TUSLA An Ombudsman for Children Local office in Tralee Child and Family Agency Barnardos Because childhood lasts a lifetime Barnardos Boarded Out Practical Support Service for Adults supported by Tusla 	Boarded Out is a term used to describe children who were fostered or raised with families other than their own in Ireland. This happened mainly between 1920 and 1970. There was also a practice of being nursed out, where infants were placed with women who could care for them. Some children were boarded out up to the introduction of the 1991 Child Care Act. While many children were boarded out on farms in rural areas, children were also placed in homes in larger towns and cities. Therapeutic support can also be accessed through Barnardos Birth History Service. Get in touch Email: birthhistory@barnardos.ie Tel: (01) 813 4100 If you have experience of being boarded out and would like to avail of practical support, you can contact Barnardos Boarded Out Practical Support Service for Adults. We provide a free and confidential service offering a wide range of practical supports including: • Support to access health, community and social services • Support with isolation and loneliness • Assistance in filling out forms and grant applications • Advocacy, information and signposting • Referral to Barnardos therapeutic supports
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The Mother and Baby Institutions Payment Scheme opened on March 20th 2024.

The Boarded Out Service can assist people who were boarded out, farmed out, fostered or nursed out with their applications to the scheme if they spent time in mother and baby homes and are eligible to apply under the scheme.

Please contact Barnardos if you would like support.

The service is free and confidential.

[#barnardos](https://www.barnardos.ie)



Public Participation Network Cork County



**Volunteer
Ireland**
Obair Dheonach Éireann

Sarah Sheridan of Volunteer Ireland has reached out to us. Sarah is currently compiling a nationwide list of voluntary transport services that assist individuals in traveling to and from healthcare appointments. She is seeking input from community networks and organisations across Ireland.

If your group is involved in such a voluntary transport scheme, or if you are aware of any services—local, regional, or county-level—that provide transport specifically for health-related appointments, Volunteer Ireland would greatly appreciate your assistance.

They are not requesting any personal data, only the names of relevant services. Follow-up contact will be made directly with those services if needed.

Additionally, if you know of any useful directories, contacts, or publications that could help identify these services, please feel free to share them.

For further information or to submit details, you can contact: **Sarah Sheridan**
Corporate Intern, Volunteer Ireland

✉ corporateintern@volunteer.ie

🌐 www.volunteer.ie



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.



Public Participation Network Cork County

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

Calling all
Sports Clubs!

myclub
mywaste



📣 WIN €1,000 FOR YOUR SPORTS CLUB!

♻️ MyWaste are exploring how sports clubs can go greener by swapping and re-using sports gear instead of letting it go to waste. Whether your club has taken part in a gear swap before or not, they want to know what would make it easier for you to get involved.

🕒 The survey takes just 5–10 minutes, is completely anonymous, and your answers will help shape real changes to make sport more sustainable.

📄 Opt in to the prize draw for a chance to win €1,000 for your club!

👉 Take the survey here: <https://bit.ly/3IAcXk5>

[#GreeningCorkCounty](#) [#SustainableSport](#) [#GearSwap](#) [#MyWaste](#) [#CorkCountyCouncil](#)
[#GreenerClubs](#) [#CircularEconomy](#) [My Waste Ireland](#)



**Public Participation
Network** Cork County

Cash4Clubs Grassroots Community Clubs



Cash4Clubs, funded by Flutter UKI, is offering €500,000 in 2026 to help 250 grassroots sports and community clubs across Ireland and the UK. These small grants of €2,000 will be allocated to clubs and organisations that help keep adults engaged with sport.

Closing Date: 8 December

For more information, go to: <https://cash-4-clubs.com/>



Native Tree and Hedgerow Planting for Schools



Coill na nÓg is a native tree & hedgerow planting initiative in partnership with eFlow with the support of local authorities.

Each winter **FREE tree packs are delivered to schools to create mini-woodlands and native hedgerows**, backed by **online resources and training**.

Closing Date: 12 December

For more information, go to: <https://www.biodiversityinschools.com/coill-na-n%C3%B3g>

Rural Development (LEADER) Programme



2023-2027 LEADER Programme grant support is available in rural areas under the following themes:

-  Economic Development and Job Creation
-  Rural Infrastructure and Social Inclusion
-  Sustainable Development of Rural Environment and - Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

For more information, go to:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-rural-and-community-development-and-the-gaeltacht>



Public Participation Network Cork County

Community Climate Action Programme, Strand 1 Call 2

Cork County Council is delighted to announce that applications will open for the **Community Climate Action Programme (CCAP) Strand 1, Call 2** on **Tuesday 28th October 2025** for a period of **8 weeks**, with a closing date of **Tuesday 23rd December 2025**. Applications can be made through [YourCouncil.ie](https://yourcouncil.ie).

This Programme will provide targeted funding to community groups through a competitive application process to deliver community climate action.

The Community Climate Action Programme (CCAP) in partnership with Cork County Council, aims to support and empower communities to shape and build low carbon, sustainable communities to contribute to national climate and energy targets.

Strand 1, Call 2 of the CCAP will provide funding to community organisations in Cork County to deliver a local climate action project or initiative, and eligible community organisations can apply for up to 100% funding across three categories:

- Small scale projects: Up to €20,000
- Medium scale projects: €20,000 to €50,000
- Large scale projects: €51,000 to €100,000

Proposed projects should address one or more of the following five themes:

- community energy
- travel
- food and waste
- shopping and recycling
- local climate and environmental action.

Cork County Council has, once again, been allocated **€1.24 million** by the Department of Climate, Energy & the Environment to deliver the second call of the CCAP.



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To support the incredible work that so many charities do Movement for Good invites you to **nominate a charity** close to your heart for the £1,000 donation draws.

The **Movement for Good Awards** is an annual programme of giving that anyone can get involved in.

Closing Date: 15 December

For more information, go to: <https://movementforgood.com/>



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ECO-UNESCO runs the Young Environmentalist Awards (YEA), a free all – Ireland programme that **supports young people aged 10 – 18 to design and lead environmental action projects** in their schools and communities.

Closing Date: 30 November

What are the Young Environmentalist Awards? ECO-UNESCO runs the Young Environmentalist Awards (YEA), a free all – Ireland programme that supports young people aged 10 – 18 to design and lead environmental action projects in their schools and communities. Since 1999, the programme has celebrated youth-led solutions to real-world environmental challenges, from climate change and biodiversity loss to waste reduction and sustainable living.

By taking part, young people gain the tools and support to raise awareness, take action on issues they care about from biodiversity loss to climate change and inspire others to do the same. Over 70,000 young people have participated in the programme, gaining valuable life skills while driving positive change at both a local and national level. The YEA programme is a fun and exciting way to empower young people to become better citizens.

Who can enter? The YEA is free to enter and open to any group (2-25 members) of young people aged 10-18 years based in the Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland.

There are three age categories:

-  Super Junior Group: 10-12 years
-  Junior Group: 12-14 years
-  Senior Group: 15-18 years

Already entered a science, sustainability or innovation competition? You can enter the same project into YEA to increase its impact and reach.

For more information, go to: <https://ecounesco.ie/young-environmentalist-awards/>



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EOPD Community Grant 2025/6 – Applications Now Open

EOPD.ie is proud to announce that the 2025/6 Community Grant Programme is now open! These grants aim to support initiatives that improve the health, well-being, and quality of life of people living with Parkinson's disease across the Republic of Ireland.

Total Fund: €6,000

Grant Size: Up to €1,200 per applicant

Focus Areas:

- **Exercise & Physical Well-being** – Parkinson's-specific programs such as dance, Tai Chi, cycling, or boxing.
- **Support for Care Partners** – Education, resources, and peer support initiatives for care partners.
- **Mental Health, Wellbeing & Social Inclusion** – Projects that reduce isolation, improve emotional health, and foster community connection.

Who Can Apply:

- Community organisations and local groups
- Coaches or instructors delivering Parkinson's-specific classes
- Gyms, community centres, or local facilities offering accessible programmes

Application Deadline: Saturday, 13 December 2025

Rolling review process – early applications encouraged as funds may be fully allocated before the closing date.

Apply here: <https://eopd.ie/get-involved/eopd-community-grants-2025/>

Questions? Contact us at info@eopd.ie

Through these grants, EOPD.ie aims to empower communities, promote resilience, and foster inclusive, evidence-informed approaches to living well with Parkinson's.



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Consultations



An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe
agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta
Department of Rural and Community
Development and the Gaeltacht

DRCDG - Cairt agus Plean Gnímh do Chustaiméirí (2026-2028)

A chairde,

Mar chuid dár dtiomantas do sheirbhís ardchaighdeán do chustaiméirí, tá an Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta ag athbhreithniú agus ag uasdátú ár bPlean Gníomhaíochta do Chustaiméirí agus ár gCairt Custaiméirí.

Chun eolas a dhéanamh don obair seo, táimid ag lorg tuairimí ónár ngeallsealbhóirí agus ón phobal maidir lena n-eispéiris ina gcaidreamh lenár Roinn. Cabhróidh sé seo linn chun tuiscint a fháil ar conas ar féidir linn freastal ar riachtanais ár gcustaiméirí ar bhealach níos fearr.

Is féidir rochtain a fháil ar Shuirbhé um Sheirbhís Custaiméirí de chuid na Roinne Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta ag an nasc seo

https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/DRCDG_CustomerServiceSurvey2025

(roghnaigh do rogha teanga tríd an roghchlár anuas ar bharr an scáileáin ar dheis)

Dúnfar an suirbhé ag a **5in ar Dé hAoine, 5^ú Nollaig 2025**. Má tá ceisteanna ar bith agat, déan teagmháil le info@drcdg.gv.ie.



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An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe
agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta
Department of Rural and Community
Development and the Gaeltacht

Customer Charter and Action Plan (2026-2028)

A chairde,

As part of our commitment to quality customer service, the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht are currently reviewing and updating our Customer Action Plan and Customer Charter.

In order to inform this work, we are seeking the opinions of our stakeholders and the public in relation to their experiences in engaging with our Department. This will help us to understand how we can better serve the needs of our customers.

The Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht's Customer Service Survey can be accessed in both Irish and English at this link

https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/DRCDG_CustomerServiceSurvey2025

(please select your preferred language using the dropdown menu at the top right of the screen)

The survey will close at **5pm on Friday 05th December 2025**. If you have any queries please contact info@drcdg.gov.ie



Public Participation Network Cork County

Universal Health Coverage focus groups



YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Share your views in an online focus group on how Universal Health Coverage could work in Ireland.

The Institute of Public Health, on behalf of the Department of Health, is running online focus groups to hear the public views on Universal Health Coverage in Ireland.

If you are:

- Aged 18+
- A low user of GP and Primary Care health services
- Happy to take part in a focus group to share your views and understanding of UHC

Please click www.publichealth.ie/uhc to read more and/or indicate your interest to participate.



As a token of appreciation - focus group participants will receive a €30 gift voucher.

 An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

 Institute of
Public Health

The Future Eligibility Policy Unit (FEPU) of The Department of Health is responsible for setting out a vision for UHC in Ireland and developing proposals, in line with Sláintecare. To inform these considerations they want to hear what people understand about how UHC works and their views on how it could be implemented in Ireland.

The Institute of Public Health (IPH) have been commissioned to conduct the focus groups.

In the focus groups, the department would like to hear the views of adults who are low users of health care services. Participants may have a Medical Card, a GP Visit Card, private health insurance, or none of these. To be eligible you must be:

- Aged 18+ living in Ireland
- A low user of GP and primary care health services

The online focus groups will involve small group discussions of around 5-8 people. IPH researchers will facilitate the focus groups (lasting 60-90 minutes) and they will make sure everyone gets a chance to express their views. The IPH will write a report detailing



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the anonymised views expressed at the focus groups to give to the Department of Health. The report will not contain names or any details that could identify participants.

As well as the chance to give views to the Department of Health about UHC, participants who take part in the focus groups will receive a **€30 One4All gift voucher**.

Register your interest: [Universal Health Coverage Survey](#)



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Network Cork County**

Native Woodland Strategy: 2026-2030



Woodlands of Ireland is a partnership-based environmental charity founded in 1998 dedicated to native woodland conservation and expansion. Previously, Woodlands of Ireland, in conjunction with a range of public and private sector stakeholders, had developed a 5-year native woodland strategy for the period 2016 to 2020. You can view this document here: <https://www.woodlandsofireland.com/a-strategy-for-native-woodlands-in-ireland-2016-2020/>

Since that time, grant-aided native woodland establishment has grown to form c.40% of afforestation activity, while native woodland conservation has struggled to gain significant ground.

Here are several factors which need to be considered in an updated strategy for 2026-2030:

- ✚ Many new organisations to engage with in the consultation have emerged to populate the fertile ground of native tree cover expansion in recent years.
- ✚ EU Nature Restoration Law (NRL) legally bound woodland targets require planning, implementation and long-term maintenance in the public and private sectors.
- ✚ Opportunities for hardwood timber production require consideration.
- ✚ Climate Resilient Reforestation and Emergent Woodland grants are some existing mechanisms to fund works.
- ✚ A comprehensive tree cover education and training strategy is needed to achieve the DAFM Forestry Programme, Water Framework Directive and NRL targets.
- ✚ IEN member groups' input will be welcome.

To get involved in the creation of this new strategy for native woodlands, Woodlands of Ireland will be commencing a public consultation from the end of September to run until December 2025. To contribute, you can get in contact with Woodlands of Ireland



by email at info@woodlandsofireland.com. More details and requests for input will follow in the next few days.

Community Conversations Survey | Your Voice on Nature's Future

Following the adoption of the Nature Restoration Law in Europe in August 2024, all Member States must produce their own Nature Restoration Plan to show how they will achieve the targets set out in the regulation.

Community Conversations is a way to hear from communities across Ireland about what nature means to them - now and into the future.

The Community Conversations today will help shape Ireland's upcoming Nature Restoration Plan.

There is still time to add your voice [using this survey](#) .

For more info visit www.restorenature.ie .

You can listen to [an introduction to the Nature Restoration Law with Fintan Kelly here](#).



**Public Participation
Network Cork County**

Development of a Professional Doctorate in Community and Voluntary Sector Management

The Department of Social Sciences at TUS: Midlands are currently developing a Professional Doctorate in Community and Voluntary Sector Management in partnership with European universities.

The Technological University of the Shannon (TUS) (Ireland), University of Burgos (UBU) (Spain), NHL Stenden University of Applied Sciences (NHL Stenden) (Netherlands), Häme University of Applied Sciences (HAMK) (Finland) and "Dunărea de Jos" University of Galația (UGAL) (Romania) are exploring the development of a new Professional Doctorate programme in the area of Community and Voluntary Sector Management.

We'd like to invite you to participate in a survey to help us design our programme. Our vision is that this programme will provide advanced professional development opportunities for leaders and practitioners in the community and voluntary sector. It will integrate cutting-edge research with real-world application, equipping practitioners and leaders with the tools to navigate complexity, drive innovation and sustain meaningful impact. Incorporating work-based learning across all modules will ensure that sectoral change occurs from the programme's outset.

The purpose of this questionnaire is to:

- Identify the needs and priorities of organisations within the community and voluntary sector.
- Ensure the programme supports leadership, innovation and sustainable impact.

We are seeking input from organisations of varying sizes and missions across Europe.

What participation involves:

Participation involves completing an online survey (approximately 10 minutes). Participation is voluntary. You are free to skip any question you do not wish to answer and you may withdraw from the study at any time without giving a reason.

At the end of the survey, you will be asked if you would like to participate in a follow-up focus group (60 minutes) to review draft programme proposals and provide feedback as the programme is being designed. This is optional.

For more information, go to:

https://qualtricsxm2d6nv8qbj.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0P8wCU6laahrxrg