



## Public Participation Network Cork County

### E - Bulletin Newsletter 18/09/2026

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** 800 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,

Anthony & Noelle xx



# Public Participation Network Cork County

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## News & Events:

# Sustainable Sporting Summit 2026 – Tomorrow!

We're exhibiting at the **Sustainable Sporting Summit 2026**



Cork County  
**Public Participation Network**  
Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Poiblí  
Contae Chorcaí

**One morning. Practical answers for your club.**

 SAT 19 SEPTEMBER  SUPERVALU PÁIRC UÍ CHAOIMH, CORK

[REGISTER FREE](#)

 SESYSTEMS | **SUSTAINABLE SPORTING SUMMIT | 2026**

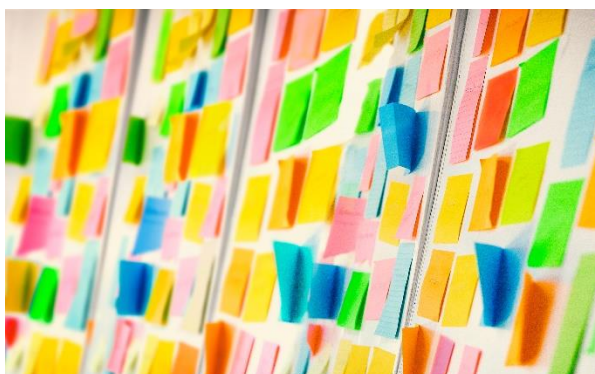
We're delighted to be exhibiting at the **Sporting Summit 2026** tomorrow, taking place at **Páirc Uí Chaoimh, Cork**, from **9:00am to 12:30pm**. The event brings together sporting clubs from across Munster to explore practical ways to reduce energy costs, access funding opportunities, and plan sustainable facility upgrades.

If you're attending, be sure to stop by our stand to say hello. We look forward to connecting with clubs and community organisations and sharing ideas that can help drive sustainable change in sport. **See you there!**



## Public Participation Network Cork County

### Linkage Groups Meetings – Save the Date



We're delighted to announce that our Linkage Groups will officially kick off with three in-person evening meetings on **13, 14 and 15 October**.

The first meetings of the Linkage Groups will explore the development of a PPN Issues Paper and Terms of Reference for the Linkage Groups.

#### **Why Linkage Groups Matter:**

The Public Participation Network (PPN) cannot effectively function without its Linkage Groups.

By participating in a Linkage Group and making submissions, you provide valuable insight and guidance to our representatives on the Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs), Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) and Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP). This gives our representatives a clear community mandate to bring forward in discussions and decision-making processes.

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### Interested in Joining 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.**



## **Public Participation Network Cork County**

**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**

## Cork Pop Up Volunteer Centre



**Cork  
Volunteer Centre**  
Ionad d'Obair Dheonach Corcaigh

### POP UP VOLUNTEER CENTRE MITCHELSTOWN LIBRARY

**13<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**  
TUESDAY  
**10:30-12:30**



**A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO:**



Any questions? Contact: [gosia@volunteercork.ie](mailto:gosia@volunteercork.ie)

- Speak 1:1 with Cork Volunteer Centre staff
- Find out more about the services Cork Volunteer Centre provides to volunteers and non-profit organisations
- Register as a volunteer and apply for volunteer opportunities
- Advice on recruiting and managing volunteers for community groups

## Power Up Your Mind - Charleville GAA



**POWER UP  
YOUR MIND**

**PUBLIC Workshop**  
Kindly Hosted by:  
Charleville GAA &  
Camogie Healthy Clubs

**Thurs 24th Sept**  
**7pm - 9pm**

**Location:**  
Charleville GAA Sports Hall  
P56 KR94

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**  
Admission FREE - Over 14's  
**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

**REGISTER  
HERE**

AN INSPIRATIONAL  
EVENING AWAITS YOU!

**Resilience**  
NIALL MCCARTHY

**Health Pillars**  
JEN O'CALLAGHAN NT

**Stress  
Management**  
DR ANT KIERNAN

**GAA** **hi** **C.L.C.G. CHARLEVILLE** **CUMANN CAMÓGAÍOCHTA RATHLUIRC** **Comhairle Contae Chorcaí** **Cork County Council** **LCDC**

Join Healthy Ireland for an uplifting evening dedicated to nurturing mental well-being. Open to everyone aged 14 and over, this event features a panel of insightful speakers who will explore the foundations of positive mental health. Topics include building resilience, the impact of nutrition on mental strength, and strategies for navigating life's challenges.

**Venue:** Charleville GAA Sports Hall. Eircode: P56KR94

**Date & Time:** Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September | 7pm – 9:00pm

**Age Group:** Open to ages 14+

**Speakers on the night are:**

Niall McCarthy – Former All Ireland Winning Cork Hurler

Jen O' Callaghan – Nutritional Therapist & Health Coach

Dr. Ant Kiernan – Senior Clinical Psychologist

**Click here to register:** [Power Up Your Mind - Charleville](#)



**Public Participation  
Network Cork County**



# FAMILY FUN DAY

**SUNDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER \\\ 1 – 5pm**

**BALLINSPIITTE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**ALL WELCOME!**

**FREE ENTRY  
GAMES  
CHALLENGES**

**CAKES CREPES  
SAVOURIES TEAS  
COFFEE + MORE!  
MEGA RAFFLE**

**ARCHERY STAND | ARTISTS ALLEY**

**MARTIAL ARTS DEMO**

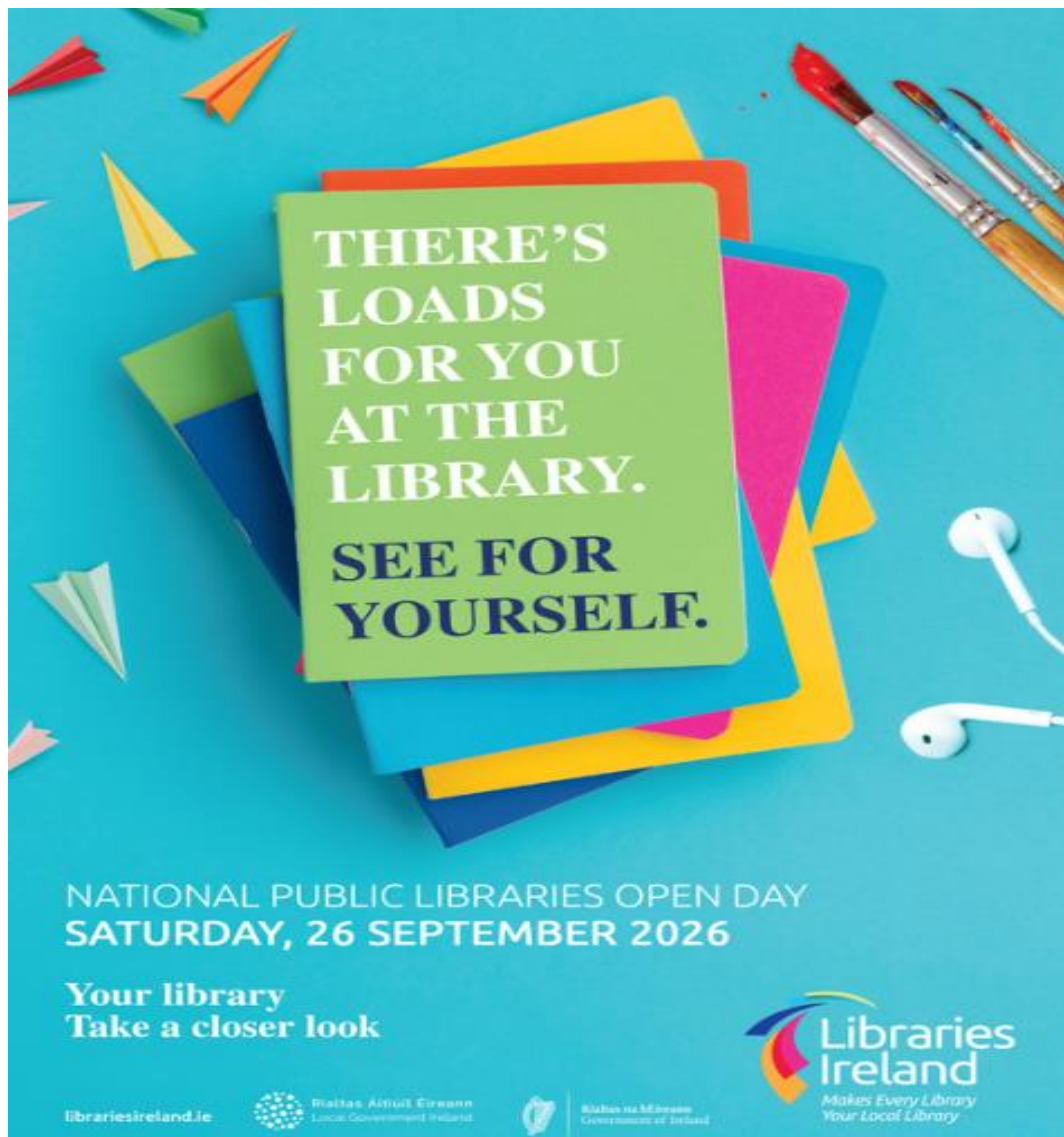
**PERFORMANCE BY BREHANE WALSH**

**FUNDRAISING THE WKSА IRISH TOURNAMENT 2027**

**[WWW.KUKSOOLWONCORK.COM](http://WWW.KUKSOOLWONCORK.COM)**



## Public Participation Network Cork County



## National Public Libraries Open Day: Saturday 26th September

National Public Libraries Open Day takes place on Saturday 26th September. On this day, libraries across Ireland will open their doors to showcase the services, resources, and opportunities available in communities nationwide.

Whether you're already a member or haven't visited in years, this is a chance to discover everything your local library has to offer.



## **Public Participation Network** Cork County

Throughout the day, Cork County Library branches will host events, activities, and exhibitions for people of all ages, highlighting the many ways libraries support learning, creativity, wellbeing, and community life. We will also be highlighting all the great online resources you can access for free with your library membership.

Everyone is welcome!



# Public Participation Network Cork County

## HUGG Walks



### HUGG WALKS

Walk, Talk, and Connect



**Cork**  
**Glengarriff Nature Reserve**  
**Sunday, 20th September**  
**10.30am**



HUGG Walks is a safe, non-judgmental  
space to connect and feel supported.

**Sign up today or learn more**

Email [walks@HUGG.ie](mailto:walks@HUGG.ie)

Call 01 513 4048  
(monitored answering machine)

Visit [HUGG.ie](http://HUGG.ie)



**OCT**  
**10**

Wexford Hotel & Lounge  
Cork City Centre, Cork  
10:45 am-1:00 pm

### Soft Pastels WORKSHOP

For adults bereaved by suicide

**HUGG**  
SUPPORT AFTER SUICIDE



## Public Participation Network Cork County

HUGG is the national suicide bereavement organisation in Ireland. We provide support to people who have lost a loved one to suicide through peer support groups, a support line and community activities.

This month we're hosting a HUGG walk in Glengarriff Nature Reserve. It's a welcoming space where you can **get outdoors**, **move** at a comfortable pace and **connect** with others.

**Date:** 20<sup>th</sup> September

**Time:** 10:30am

**Location:** Glengarriff Nature Reserve

Please see our website for more details here: <https://hugg.ie/news-events/hugg-grief-support-walks-suicide-loss/>

If you have any questions, please email [walks@HUGG.ie](mailto:walks@HUGG.ie)

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### Soft Pastels Workshop - For adults bereaved by suicide

A hands-on, immersive creative experience to explore soft pastels and experiment with colour and texture. Become absorbed in the moment and focus on the piece at your fingertips.

Being alongside others who have experienced suicide loss can offer a sense of connection and understanding.

No previous experience needed. All materials provided, and you'll create your own piece of art to take home.

Led by soft pastel artist **Emma Phillips**.

**Date:** 10<sup>th</sup> October

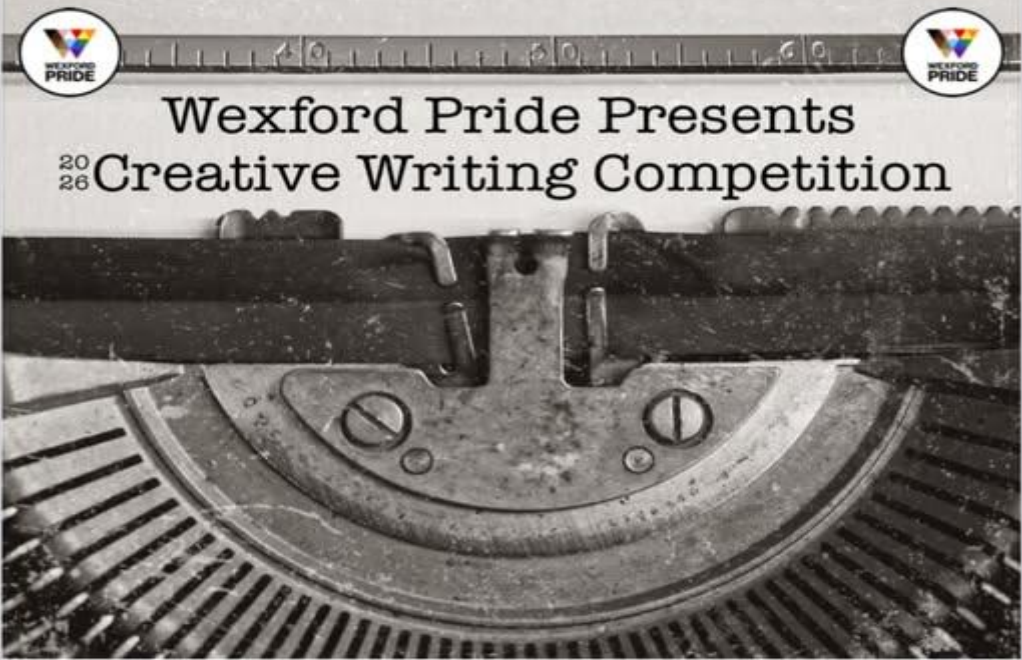
**Time:** 10.45am–1pm

**Location:** Westlodge Hotel & Leisure Centre, Bantry, Co. Cork

**Registration is FREE and ESSENTIAL:** <https://hugg.ie/news-events/soft-pastel-creative-workshop-for-adults-bereaved-by-suicide/>



## Public Participation Network Cork County



Wexford Pride Presents  
2026 Creative Writing Competition

Theme: Queer Joy  
Any genre or writing style  
2,500 words or less  
Submission deadline: October 31st, 2026  
Young adult (under 23) and adult (over 23) categories  
Follow QR code for submission form



<https://wexfordpride.ie/creative-writing-competition-2026>

## Wexford Pride Creative Writing Competition

*"If there's a book you really want to read, but it hasn't been written yet, then you must write it" (Toni Morrison)*



## **Public Participation Network Cork County**

Wexford Pride has launched a creative writing competition intended to celebrate the LGBTQIA+ community. The theme is Queer Joy. The competition is now open to submissions with a closing date of October 31, 2026.

<https://wexfordpride.ie/creative-writing-competition-2026>

Submissions can be in any genre or writing style and up to 2,500 words. There is no fee to enter. After the competition, some submissions may be published (with the author's permission) in the queer zine, Aiteach.

Our panel of judges includes LGBTQIA+ activists and a published writer, with entries judged anonymously in two categories: young adult (writers up to 23 years of age) and adult (writers over 23 years of age).

The rules are laid out on the website, which includes a submission form. We have attached a flyer to this email and would be grateful if you could print it and display it on your library noticeboard as well as promoting the competition to any writers' groups connected with your library.



## Public Participation Network Cork County



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

### PPN Stakeholder Training

We would like to remind you that the online only self-paced videos programme for PPN stakeholders has been developed with SJI. Registrations for the online only training is now open. Social Justice Ireland is providing this training on behalf of the Department.

The online only training covers the following:

- An Introduction to the PPNs (2 Modules)
- Local Government Budgets
- PPNs and Local Government
- Effective Participation in Consultations
- Effective Facilitation
- Strategic Planning
- Measuring Outcomes and Impacts

This is online only training and is intended for self-directed learning at the learner's own pace. Social Justice Ireland will provide some support via the webform on each Module page. There are no scheduled classes as part of this training.

This training is available to the following PPN Stakeholders:

- PPN Workers
- PPN Secretariat Members
- PPN Representatives
- PPN Member Groups
- Local Authority Staff
- Elected Councillors

To register, please complete the Registration Form at the following link : [Register for Training | Social Justice Ireland](#)



## Public Participation Network Cork County

### Get involved!

### Secretariat Vacancies:

Cork County PPN has a number of vacancies available, some on the various Committees within the County Council - the SPCs and LDCDs, but at the moment we also have a number of positions we are looking to fill on our Secretariat - the incredibly important group that keeps the PPN show on the road !

The Cork County PPN Secretariat provides a coordinating and oversight function for the PPN. Its role is to:

- Facilitate the implementation of decisions of the PPN
- Ensure the proper functioning of the PPN between plenary meetings
- Coordinate the activities of the PPN Communicate extensively and regularly with all PPN members and disseminate information concerning all PPN activities as widely as possible
- Manage and support PPN staff The Secretariat is made up of two representatives from each of the Cork County Municipal Districts i.e. Carrigaline, Macroom, Cobh, East Cork, Bandon-Kinsale, Fermoy, Kanturk-Mallow and West Cork, as well as, two representatives from each of the PPN colleges i.e. Community & Voluntary College, Social Inclusion College and Environmental College.

#### **Commitment Involved:**

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

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

Applications forms for all our available roles can be found on our website [Cork County PPN Nominations - Cork County PPN](#)

- or reach out to [PPN@corkcoco.ie](mailto:PPN@corkcoco.ie) and we can have a chat with you about any of the roles available.



#### **Current Vacancies:**

**2 x Vacant** seats – Carrigaline Municipal District

**Vacant** seat – East Cork Municipal District

**Vacant** seat – Kanturk/Mallow Municipal District

**Vacant** seat – Macroom Munciple District

**2 x Vacant** seats – Environmental Electoral College

[Cork-County-Secretariat-Nomination-form](#)

## **Further vacancies:**

### **SPC Vacancies:**

**Economic Development & Enterprise SPC:** 1 seat vacant

**Social Inclusion, Community & Rural Development SPC:** 2 seats vacant

**Arts, Culture & Language SPC:** 1 seat vacant

Please submit your nomination by completing this form:

[Cork-County-SPC-Nomination form final](#)

### **LCDC Vacancies:**

- **North Cork** (1 Social Inclusion vacancies)

Please submit your nomination by completing this form:

[Cork-County-LCDC-Nomination-form](#)



**Public Participation  
Network Cork County**

**#fundingfriday**



**THE  
IRELAND  
FUNDS**



## **Ireland Funds Heart of the Community Fund 2026**

This year, The Ireland Funds will award \$1 million in grants through two targeted rounds of the Heart of the Community Fund.

For this grant round, applications will be accepted from organisations on the island of Ireland working in two areas: **(i) Arts and Culture Organisations** **(ii) Community Organisations with Arts-based Programmes.**

**Arts and Culture Organisations:** This funding strand is intended for organisations that work in the promotion, preservation, and development of all art forms. Organisations applying under this stream may apply for core funding to support their ongoing activities and operations.

**Community Organisations with Arts-based Programmes:** This funding strand is intended for organisations seeking grants for a community-based arts project. Applicants must provide details of how the funding will be used, and all expenditure must relate directly to the programme or project for which funding is requested.

**All details can be found here:** [Heart of the Community Fund – Ireland Funds](#)

All applications must be submitted through the online portal.

Any queries can be sent to [grantsinfo@irelandfunds.org](mailto:grantsinfo@irelandfunds.org)

**Deadline:** Friday, 2 October at 5pm



**Public Participation  
Network Cork County**

## **NTR Wind & Solar Farm Community Benefit Funds 2026 Now Open**

Community groups located near NTR wind farms are invited to apply for funding through the NTR Wind & Solar Farm Community Benefit Funds, which are now open and will accept applications until **Friday, 13 November 2026**.

Funding is available for a wide range of community projects, with a particular focus on **Youth Facilities and Services** for applicants in the Boolard & Rathnacally area of County Cork.

Support is also available for larger multi-annual community infrastructure projects. Further information, guidance notes and the online application form can be found via the Community Benefit Funds website.

For more details and to apply, visit [NTR Community Benefit Funds](#).

If you previously registered, you should [log in](#) using the same username and password to apply for the 2026 Fund. If you have lost or forgotten your password, please use the ["Forgot Password"](#) feature or contact SECAD for assistance. New users should [register](#) before applying.

Please don't hesitate to contact **SECAD** if you need any help or assistance with your application. If there are any other community groups in your area that you feel may be interested in finding out about the NTR Wind Farm Community Benefit Funds, please don't hesitate to pass along these details and contact information.

Further information and the Online Application Form can be found at [www.communitybenefitfunds.ie/ntr](http://www.communitybenefitfunds.ie/ntr)



## Public Participation Network Cork County

### Consultations:

### Carrigaline to Ringaskiddy cycleway



Cork County Council has unveiled proposals for a new **5.5km pedestrian and cycle route** connecting Carrigaline and Ringaskiddy, designed to provide a safer and more accessible travel option for walkers, cyclists, commuters and families.

The planned route will run from **Fernhill/Rock Road** in Carrigaline to the **Castle Warren/Barnahely Castle** area near Ringaskiddy.

Largely off-road and approximately four metres wide, the scheme aims to improve active travel links between local communities, schools, sports clubs and workplaces.

In addition to the new shared walking and cycling path, the project includes:

- New footpaths, verges and shared pedestrian and cycle facilities
- Upgrades to existing roads, crossings and junctions
- New public lighting and signage
- Sustainable urban drainage measures
- Public realm and landscaping enhancements
- A reduction of the speed limit on Old Post Office Road to **30km/h**

The proposed route has been developed in conjunction with the M28 motorway project to support sustainable transport options along the corridor.

Residents, businesses and other stakeholders are encouraged to review the plans and provide feedback. Submissions can be made online through Cork County Council's consultation portal or in writing to the Cork National Roads Office.

The consultation period remains open until **5:00pm on Friday, 16 October 2026**.

**How can I make a submission?**



- You can do so by tapping on the 'Make a Submission or Observation' button on the [Council's website here](#).
  - Alternatively, you can do so in writing, clearly marked: 'Part 8 – Fernhill to Ringaskiddy Pedestrian and Cycle Route', Senior Engineer, Cork National Roads Office, Richmond, Glanmire, Cork, T45 WA44.
- 

## UCD Research Survey for Partners of People with Prostate Cancer

Researchers from **University College Dublin (UCD)** are seeking participants for an anonymous survey examining the experiences, information needs and support needs of current and former partners of people diagnosed with prostate cancer in Ireland and Northern Ireland.

The survey is open to adults aged 18+ whose partner has been diagnosed with prostate cancer, including those on active surveillance or watchful waiting, as well as those who have received treatment. The survey takes approximately 10–15 minutes to complete and has received ethical approval from UCD.

Further information and access to the survey are available via the following link: [Take the survey](#).



## **Public Participation Network Cork County**

### **Job Vacancy:**



#### **CORK COUNTY COUNCIL**

#### **REQUIRES**

##### **Web Digital Officer (Grade V) (26/081)**

Closing date for the receipt of completed application forms is 2pm on Thursday, 8th October 2026.

Further details and application forms for the above posts are available on the careers' section of the website: [www.corkcoco.ie](http://www.corkcoco.ie); or by e-mailing: [recruitment@corkcoco.ie](mailto:recruitment@corkcoco.ie)

**CORK COUNTY COUNCIL IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER**

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#### **TÁ COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHORCAÍ**

#### **AG LORG**

##### **Oifigeach Digiteach Gréasáin (26/081)**

Ní foláir foirmeacha iarratais chomhlánaithe a chur isteach roimh 14:00 iarnóin Déardaoin, 8ú Mí Dheireadh Fómhair, 2026.

Tá foirmeacha iarratais agus tuilleadh eolais ar fáil anseo - [www.corkcoco.ie](http://www.corkcoco.ie); nó trí ríomhhost a chur chun: [recruitment@corkcoco.ie](mailto:recruitment@corkcoco.ie)

**IS FOSTÓIR COMHIONANNAS DEISEANNA Í COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHORCAÍ**