



Public Participation Network Cork County

E - Bulletin Newsletter 01/10/2026

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:

Save the Date – Winter Plenary



****SAVE THE DATE !****

Cork County PPN Winter Plenary

 Thursday, 29th October

 7pm - Online 

 All other details to follow

Linkage Groups Meetings –

Please note, our Linkage Group meetings scheduled for 13 – 15 October have been postponed. TBC.

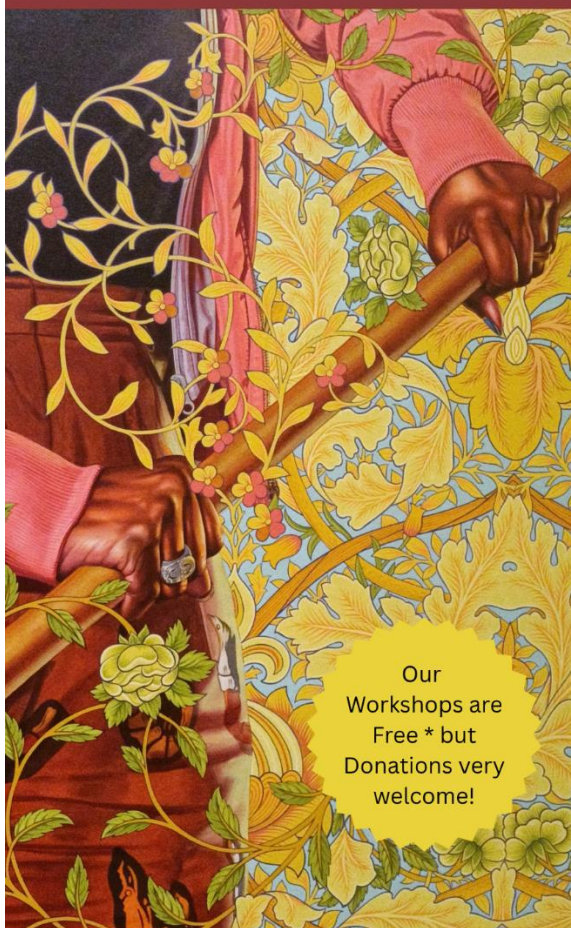


Public Participation Network Cork County

Kinsale Skill Shares

KINSALE SKILL SHARES AUTUMN 2026

CULTIVATING A CULTURE OF RESILIENCE



Our
Workshops are
Free * but
Donations very
welcome!

Our skill shares offer ways to discover basic techniques, and connect with community members. They are very relaxed, friendly & inclusive

SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER
2.30pm Fire Craft (Adult Forest School) with Tara @Kinsale Community Orchard near Saile

THURSDAY 15 OCTOBER
7.30pm Sea Shanty Sling-a-long with Eidin, Ami & Roisin @Kinsale College

MONDAY 9 NOVEMBER
7.30pm Milk Kefir- how to make it and different uses with Raffaella @ Kinsale College

MONDAY 7 DECEMBER
7.30pm How to make your own laundry liquid with Alex @Kinsale College

For further details and to book please email:

info@transitiontownkinsale.org

WWW.TRANSITIONTOWNKINSALE.ORG

Regenerate





Public Participation Network Cork County

Geoff Lawton Permaculture Masterclass

10 & 11 OCT 9-5PM €300



DAY 1 - KINSALE CAMPUS - KINSALE - P17NN67
MAINFRAME LAND DESIGN, WATER MANAGEMENT, DROUGHT PROOFING.

DAY 2 - KINSALE CAMPUS & LOCAL FARM SITE VISIT
ABUNDANT FOOD FOREST SYSTEMS THINKING, DESIGN & SPECIES SELECTION

Geoff Lawton is a world-renowned Australian permaculture consultant, designer, teacher, and speaker who leads The Permaculture Research Institute. Since 1995 he has specialized in permaculture education, design, system establishment and community development. His Greening the Desert project in Jordan is also a fantastic example of permaculture in action. This will be his first time teaching in Ireland !

Regenerate

Contact
info@regenerateourecosystem.ie
for further course info & payment details



Transition Town Kinsale and Regenerate are happy to announce that Geoff Lawton, one of the world's top Permaculture Designers is coming to Kinsale this October from Australia. Learn how to design abundant and regenerative landscapes with this experienced masterclass teacher.

If you are a landowner, farmer or you just want to redesign your garden, this workshop is not to be missed.



Public Participation Network Cork County

Geoff Lawton giving his personal message to Ireland below. He is one of the world's top Permaculture Designers & is coming to Cork College of FET-Kinsale Campus on the 10th & 11th of October. This may be his only appearance teaching in Ireland ever, so it is not to be missed. Details in the comments

[Geoff Lawton - Teaching Permaculture in Ireland for the first time ever.](#)



Public Participation Network Cork County

East Cork Railway Alliance Table Quiz

ECRA
EAST CORK RAIL ALLIANCE
PEOPLE • PLACES • PROGRESS

A Brighter Tomorrow for Youghal

YOUGHAL

CORK
MIDLETON
YOUGHAL
—
RAIL
COMMUNITY
HERITAGE

**FUNDRAISER
TABLE QUIZ**
EAST CORK RAIL ALLIANCE

**FRIDAY
23rd OCTOBER
2026**

**DOORS OPEN
8:00PM**

**QUIZ STARTS
8:30PM**

THE WALTER RALEIGH HOTEL, YOUGHAL
EVERYONE WELCOME

A STRONGER EAST CORK ON TRACK



Public Participation Network **Cork County**

Cork Pop Up Volunteer Centre



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

POP UP VOLUNTEER CENTRE MITCHELSTOWN LIBRARY

13TH OCTOBER
TUESDAY
10:30-12:30



A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO:



Any questions? Contact: 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



Public Participation Network Cork County

Power Up Your Mind - Ilen Rovers GAA

POWER UP YOUR MIND

PUBLIC Workshop
Kindly Hosted by:
Ilen Rovers GAA Club.

Thurs 8th Oct
7pm - 9pm

Location:
Ilen Rovers GAA Club, Church
Cross, Aughadow, Skibbereen.
P81 K028

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** **LCDC**
Comhairle Contae Chorcaí
Cork County Council

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: Ilen Rovers GAA Club, Church Cross, Aughadow, Skibbereen. P81K028

Date & Time: Thursday 8th October| 7pm – 9pm

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 - Ilen Rovers - REGISTER](#)



Public Participation Network Cork County

HUGG Walks



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.

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: 10th October

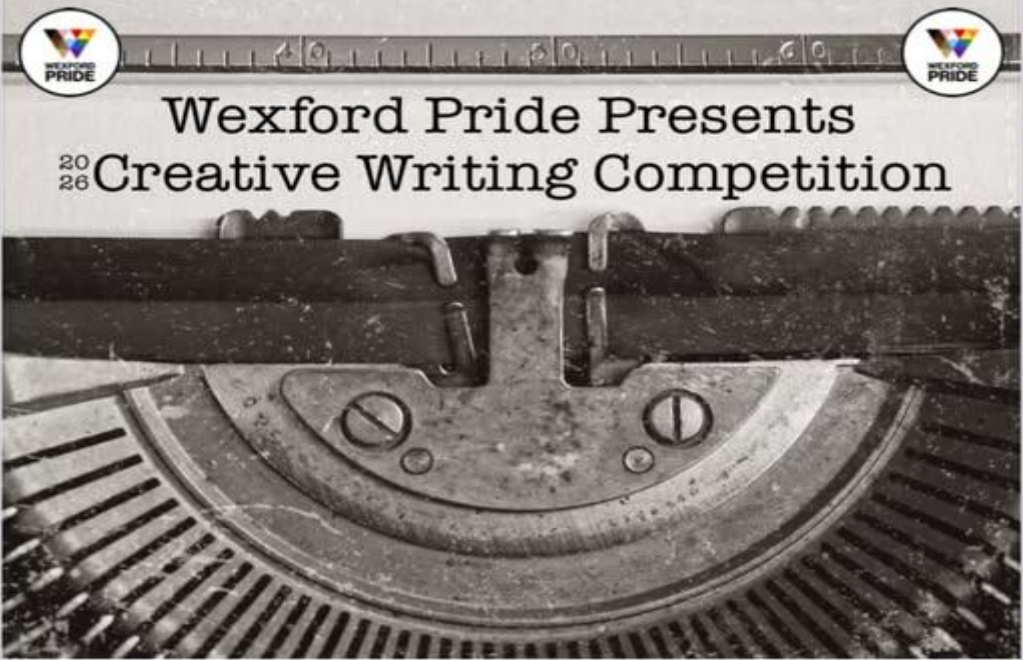
Time: 10.45am–1pm

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 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

Free Online Training for Community Groups: Fundraising & Grant Applications

As we head into Q4, that time of year is coming – the Local Enhancement Programme (LEP), the Municipal District Community Fund Scheme, etc – they will all be reopening for applications between now and early January 2027, and we want to ensure you are prepared!

Cork County PPN is delighted to offer a series of **four practical online training sessions** delivered by experienced community development consultant **Tom O'Leary**. These **interactive workshops** will provide tools, templates and practical guidance to help your group secure funding and plan successful fundraising initiatives.



O'LEARY & ASSOCIATES

Sessions 1 & 2: Fundraising Skills for Community Groups

Learn how to develop a fundraising strategy, identify new income opportunities, engage sponsors, and plan effective fundraising campaigns. Topics include budgeting, online fundraising, sponsorship, marketing and campaign evaluation.

 **Monday 23rd November** | 7.30pm - 9.00pm

 **Tuesday 24th November** | 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Sessions 3 & 4: Preparing Grant Applications

Gain practical skills to identify suitable funding opportunities and prepare strong grant applications. The training will cover needs analysis, application planning, funder requirements, scoring systems, procurement guidelines and online application processes.

 **Tuesday 1st December** | 7.30pm - 9.00pm

 **Wednesday 2nd December** | 7.30pm - 9.00pm



Public Participation Network Cork County

Who should attend?

Community and voluntary groups, residents' associations, local projects and anyone involved in fundraising or applying for grants on behalf of a community organisation.

Booking details will be issued shortly. Spaces are limited, so early registration is encouraged – we will circulate the registration link in the coming days.



Public Participation Network Cork County

#fundingfriday

**DR
UR
Y.**

Cash4Clubs

The scheme at a glance

Grants of €2,000 for 225 clubs, plus five major awards of €10,000

Unrestricted, so the club decides how best to spend it, whether that is facilities, equipment, coaching qualifications, activity programmes or something else

Applications open 1 Oct and close 1 Jan 2027, with grants awarded early in the New Year

For adult clubs and groups. The scheme funds adult participation, so it is open to not-for-profit clubs, groups and charities whose members are aged 18 and over. Clubs with junior members or junior activities are not eligible, so a quick check before applying saves anyone time. Priority groups. Groups in areas of high deprivation, and those involving women, older adults, people with disabilities and other under-represented groups, are especially encouraged to apply.

Apply at cash-4-clubs.com.

Who funds it

Cash4Clubs is delivered by the charity Sported and funded by Flutter UKI. The adult-only rule follows from that, which is worth knowing if a club asks why it applies.

Is it worth applying

Sported's review of last year found 95 per cent of funded groups said the grant made a positive difference, 94 per cent were able to run more activities as a result, and 91 per cent said it made it easier for people to take part. Strong applications that missed out were held in reserve for further awards, so a good application is never wasted.

What have clubs spent it on

Last year in Dublin, a grant bought 100 lighter weights for an over 60s gym class. In Pettigo in Donegal, another put a village GAA club in new training gear. Across the programme, the scheme has supported more than 100 different sports and activities.

Contact

Carlos Gatterdam, Drury, carlos.gatterdam@drury.ie, 085 168 2268

Conor Mulligan, Drury, conor.mulligan@drury.ie, 083 341 1780



Public Participation Network Cork County

#OurEUStory Awards Are Now Open!

Irish organisations involved in EU-funded projects are being encouraged to enter the **#OurEUStory Awards 2026**, which celebrate the positive impact of EU funding on communities and organisations across Ireland. Marking their fifth anniversary, the awards showcase inspiring stories of how EU-funded initiatives have delivered real benefits and helped organisations achieve their goals.

To enter, organisations are invited to create a short video of up to 140 seconds highlighting their EU-funded project and share it on LinkedIn and/or Facebook using the hashtag **#OurEUStory**. Entries must also be submitted through the online application form by **5.00pm on 23 October 2026**.

The competition offers cash prizes of **€1,000 for first place** and **€500 each for second and third place**, with winners to be announced at the #OurEUStory Awards Ceremony in December.

Further information: [#OurEUStory Awards Are Now Open! - The Wheel](#)

Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2027 Inviting Expressions of Interest

The Heritage Council is pleased to announce that Expressions of Interest (EOIs) for the Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2027 are now open.

Community and voluntary groups and non-governmental organisations are invited to begin preparing their applications for this new funding opportunity, which supports projects that protect, conserve, celebrate, understand and share Ireland's heritage.

Expression of Interest deadline: 16 October 2026 at 5.00pm.

More information: [Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2027 Inviting Expressions of Interest - The Wheel](#)



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

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](#).

Survey on Barriers to Accessing Bank Accounts for Small Community Groups

We are interested in learning more about any barriers that small community groups faced when trying to open bank accounts. They usually need them in order to apply for and receive small grants and funds. The survey is short and not too onerous. We would appreciate if you could share with your relevant networks please.

The survey is here - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FVCFB9S>



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; or by e-mailing: recruitment@corkcoco.ie

CORK COUNTY COUNCIL IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

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; nó trí ríomhhost a chur chun: recruitment@corkcoco.ie

IS FOSTÓIR COMHIONANNAS DEISEANNA Í COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHORCAÍ



Public Participation Network Cork County

CORK COUNTY COUNCIL

REQUIRES

Part-time Pool Assistants - Mallow Swimming Pool (26/083)

Closing date for the receipt of completed application forms is 2pm on Monday, 12th October 2026.

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

CORK COUNTY COUNCIL IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

TÁ COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHORCAÍ

AG LORG

Cúntoir Linn Snámha Páirt-aimseartha - Linn Snámha Mala (26/083)

Ní foláir foirmeacha iarratais chomhlánaithe a chur isteach roimh 14:00 iarnóin De Luain, 12ú Mí Dheireadh Fómhair, 2026.

Tá foirmeacha iarratais agus tuilleadh eolais ar fáil anseo - www.corkcoco.ie; nó trí ríomhhost a chur chun: recruitment@corkcoco.ie

IS FOSTÓIR COMHIONANNAS DEISEANNA Í COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHORCAÍ

Behind the Scenes – PPN National Conference 26



Cork County PPN was delighted to attend the National PPN Conference 2026, hosted by Roscommon PPN in partnership with Roscommon County Council.





Public Participation Network Cork County

The two-day event brought together PPN representatives from across Ireland under the theme *Connection, Collaboration and Cohesion*, providing valuable opportunities for learning, networking and sharing experiences.

We would like to thank Roscommon PPN for their warm welcome and excellent organisation!



Personally, I loved my heritage tour of Roscommon town and the castle!

Up the Rossies!

