

Charlotte May & Mary Mullen

Galway County PPN Annual Report

2022



Galway County
**Public
Participation
Network**

Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Phoiblí
Chontae na Gaillimhe

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Message from your PPN workers

Mary and Charlotte wish you to Thank all PPN Member Groups for their engagement and support during 2022 and look forward to working together again in 2023.

Charlotte will unfortunately be leaving the PPN after 3 years and says Farewell and THANK YOU to the team and all 1146 PPN Member groups.

Charlotte will be joining the North Western Regional Assembly working on EU projects.

The primary purpose of the PPN is to enable the PPN member groups to input into and have their voices heard within the formal decision making structures of the local authority

PPN Handbook, 2020.



Pictured above are L- R Charlotte May (PPN Coordinator) Patrick McHugh (PPN Secretariat) and Mary Mullen (PPN Support Worker).



Pictured above are Megan Dixon Flynn (PPN Rep), Charlotte May (PPN Coordinator) and Mary Mullen (PPN Support Worker).

What is the PPN?

The Galway County Public Participation Network (PPN) is a new platform on which the local community can engage with the Galway County Council. It forms the link between the Voluntary & Community, Social Inclusion and Environmental sectors and the local governing body.

Established in 2014 through the Local Government Reform Act 2014, the PPN ensures that the public can have their say on local government decisions. The Galway County PPN currently has over 1000 member groups. A Directory of our members is available [here](#). The PPN also works to

a) inform communities of events and funding available.

b) educate groups and organisations via trainings and workshops to support their community work and,

c) represent their interests and ensure the 'community voice' is heard in local decision-making processes.

The main reason the PPNs were set up is to enable community groups to be represented and to feed into local government decision-making in a way that is fair, clear and respectful. The PPNs have three main areas of interest, also called 'Colleges':



How does PPN Work?

The PPN has a 'flat structure' not a hierarchical one meaning there is no one leader making final decisions but instead each group represented has an equal voice and opportunity to make decisions and to be heard and they do this during the Plenary meetings.

Representatives are elected by PPN members to sit on committees and are supported by linkage or working groups to carry out their role. The PPN has a team of workers to support its work which is directed by an annual Work Plan. A Secretariat, which is a group of elected PPN members, oversees the running of the PPN. The Secretariat members can be seen and contacted [here](#). The PPN Plenary (meaning all member groups) is the main decision-making body of the PPN. A plenary meeting is convened annually to discuss issues and vote on policies and procedures. Each member group has one vote at a plenary.



How do I join PPN? ([Register here](#))

Registering is free and easily accessible via our PPN Website.

Membership of the PPN is open to ALL community & voluntary groups within County Galway which meet the following criteria:

- Have a written constitution, some form of operating rules & procedures and hold regular meetings
- Be in existence for at least 6 months and open to new members
- Have a formal structure e.g. Chairperson, Secretary or equivalent
- Be non-party political, non-sectarian and non-discriminatory.

Examples of the types of Groups:

- Residents Associations; Tidy towns; Family Resource Centres; Sports clubs/groups; Youth Groups; Environmental Groups; Art groups; Single based issue groups.

1. Governance

Secretariat Meetings

We aim to hold secretariat meeting every 6 weeks if possible. The dates for these meetings are usually set at the beginning of each year and agreed upon by the secretariat.

Secretariat meetings held in 2022

January 12th @ 7pm [ONLINE]

February 23rd @ 7pm [ONLINE]

April 6th @ 7pm [ONLINE]

May 18th @ 7pm [ONLINE]

June 29th @ 7pm [ONLINE]

August 10th @ 7pm [ONLINE]

September 21st @ 7pm [ONLINE]

November 9th @ 7 pm [ONLINE]

Your PPN Workers:

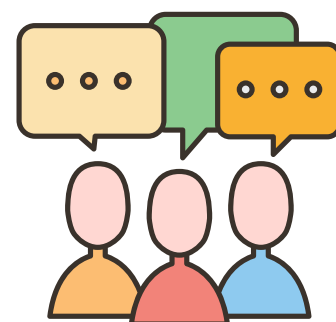
Coordinator - Charlotte May

Administrator – Mary Mullen

The Secretariat:

The PPN Secretariat is an important part of the PPN. It is the administrative arm and takes its direction from the Plenary (all of the Member Groups). The Secretariat is made up of Member Group representatives from each of the three Colleges (Community and Voluntary, Social Inclusion and Environmental). The role of the Secretariat is to make sure that the decisions taken by the Plenary, the operational decision-making body of the PPN, are carried out. They also oversee the implementation of the Strategic Plan. If the Secretariat needs to make operational decisions between Plenary meetings, they then must be approved (ratified) by the Plenary at the next Plenary meeting. We have one secretariat member per Municipal District and 2 secretariat members representing the PPN pillars.

Municipal Districts	
Dan Dowling	Ballinasloe
Aodán MacDonnacha	Connemara
Nicola Johnston	Loughrea
Jarlath P. <u>Canney</u>	Tuam
Vincent Lyons	Oranmore/ Athenry



Community & Voluntary	Social Inclusion	Environmental
Carmel McGrath	Martin Ward	Martina Finn
Tom Madden	<u>Dr. Nives Stack</u>	Patrick McHugh

Your PPN Representatives:

A Representative is elected for a fixed term to represent the issues of Member Groups on a particular Board or Committee. The role of PPN Representative is an active and participative one which requires commitment and time. Representatives are required to represent the views of their Linkage / Thematic Group (where Thematic Groups are used to nominate and elect Representatives) as a whole, and not their own personal views, nor those of their Municipal District, Sector or Nominating Body.

The role of the Representative is a rewarding one. It is also a commitment of time and energy to make sure that it is carried out fully. For more information on the role of PPN Reps see [here](#).

Strategic Policy Committees (SPC)

Housing	Economic Dev. & Enterprise	Planning, Environ, Agri. & Emerg. Services	Transport & Infrastructure	Community & Cultural Dev.	Climate Change & Biodiversity
Aimee McGee	Dan Dowling	Mark Greene	Tom Madden	Megan Flynn	Margaret Sheehan
Nora Corcoran		Aodán MacDonnacha	Diarmuid Kelly	<u>Máirtín</u> Davy	Peter Butler

Joint Policing Committee (JPC)

Tom Madden

Aodán MacDonnacha

Gerard Larkin

Gerard Costello

Pat Flanagan

Aileen Heverin

Martin Ward

Local Community Development Committee

Máirín Ní Chonghaile Community & Voluntary

Gerard Costello Community & Voluntary

Peter Gohery Social Inclusion

Kevin Gavin Social Inclusion

Venetia McEllin Environmental

Fisheries Local Action Group (FLAG)

Enda Conneely

Western Region Drugs and Alcohol Taskforce

Dan Dowling

Healthy Ireland

Vincent Lyons

Galway Sports Partnership (GSP)

Josephine Gardiner

Zoe Langsdale

Cathy Keogh

Board members of Galway Rural Development (GRD)

Maria Heneghan

Vincent Lyons

Jarlath P. Canney

Refugee Resettlement Programme

Flutura Rrebeni

Frank K. Owusu

PPN Workplan 2022

Developing the Workplan

The Secretariat is responsible for the development of the PPN Workplan and develops it in consultation with the Local Authority, in collaboration with the PPN Workers and consultation with Member Groups. This Workplan is then put forward to the Plenary for approval.

Galway County Public Participation Network
WORKPLAN 2022

Galway County PPN Workplan 2022

This Workplan will be adopted by the PPN Secretariat and presented to the Members of PPN at the next Plenary meeting in 2022.

Introduction

Galway County Public Participation Network ('PPN') is an independent umbrella network of community & voluntary, environmental and social inclusion groups active within the county (excluding the city). The PPN is hosted by Galway County Council.

Public Participation Networks (PPNs) were established by the Irish government under the Local Government (Reform) Act 2014 to be the main link through which the Local Authority connects with these groups.

Galway County PPN is governed by the PPN Secretariat, a voluntary board elected from the wider PPN membership. The Secretariat oversee the development of the network and ensure that the objectives of the PPN are met. The Secretariat are supported by one full time coordinator ('Resource Worker') and a full-time Support Worker who manage the day-to-day running of the PPN. A part-time administrator is responsible for sending out emails, updating the PPN database and new registering groups.

Funding for the PPN is provided by both the Department of Rural and Community Development and by Galway County Council through an annual budget allocation (see SLA for details).

Government guidelines outline 3 main objectives for PPNs:

- Facilitate the **participation** and representation of communities in a fair, equitable and transparent manner through the environmental, social inclusion, community and voluntary sectors on decision making bodies.
- **Educate** and strengthen the capacity of communities and of the environmental, social inclusion, community and voluntary groups to contribute positively to the community in which they reside/participate.



View our 2022
workplan in full
[HERE.](#)

2. Influencing Policy

PPN Reps;

PPN Representatives perform an important function on behalf of the PPNs. They are elected by Member Groups in their College / area to represent the PPN on Local Authority Boards or Committees on behalf of the PPN. In doing this, they represent the PPN Plenary, their own Municipal District / area, and their College. This is a critical role for the PPNs as Representatives provide the “PPN voice at the table”.

We have representatives on the following boards/ committees;

1. Housing Strategic Policy Committee
2. Economic Development and Enterprise
3. Planning, Environment, Agriculture & Emergency Services
4. Transport & Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee
5. Community and Cultural Development Strategic Policy Committee
6. Climate Change & Biodiversity Strategic Policy Committee

- Local Community & Development Committee (LCDC)
- Joint Policing Committee (JPC)
- Galway Sports Partnership (GSP)
- Galway Rural Development
- Older Persons Committee
- Childcare Committee
- Galway Education and Training Board
- Healthy Ireland
- Western Region Drugs & Alcohol Taskforce (WRDATF)
- Fisheries Local Action Group (FLAG)

Consultations;

Members are informed of many local and national level consultations.

The PPN welcomes submissions from member groups on issues that concern them.

Some of the consultations ran by the PPN in 2022:



3. Capacity Building

The PPN hosts regular training sessions free to our PPN member groups. Alongside our training workshops we also provide webinars on funding opportunities.

Examples of training undertaken in 2021:

- PR & Media Training
- Webinars on funding schemes available
- Sustainable Living – Building Community & Climate Resilience
- BeeKeeping Course
- Legal duties
- Community Work training
- Instagram for groups
- GDPR
- The Charities Governance Code
- Board Roles & Responsibilities
- Sustainable Development Goals Training

We always welcome training suggestions from our members!

Action of Galway County Heritage & Biodiversity Plan 2017 - 2022

TRIBES BEEKEEPING COURSE

FREE 6 Week Course

Starting Wednesday **23rd February 2022**
🕒 **7:30pm**

Tribes Clubhouse in the grounds of
Kilcornan, Clarinbridge


.....

Spaces limited, to sign up please email
mmullen@galwaycoco.ie

.....

Topics to be covered:

1. Equipment
2. Natural history of the honeybee
3. Practical beekeeping
4. Diseases, pests and poisoning
5. Harvesting
6. Manipulation of a colony

Galway County PPN in partnership with GCC Heritage Office



MARCH 2022

TUESDAY TRAINING FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS

08/03 10am-1pm Introduction to Strategic Planning – Jillian van Turnhout	15/03 10am-12pm New Options for Funding – Liam Scollan
22/03 6-8pm Financial Oversight for Board Members – Andrea Shupinski	29/03 6-8pm Building Community Support – Fiona Barry

TO REGISTER PLEASE CLICK HERE





Sustainable Living - Building Community & Climate Resilience

Training Series with **Alfred Decker**

8-WEEK TRAINING SERIES ONLINE VIA ZOOM

7pm every Thursday Begins 19th May

TSG **REGISTER HERE.**  12 PRINCIPLES PERMACULTURE DESIGN

Online Training Supporting LGBTIQ+ Communities

24th October 2022 @ 7pm
General Community Groups
Resource Pack Training for Supporting the LGBTIQ+ Community and welcoming diversity

26th October 2022 @ 10.30am
Resource Pack Training for Supporting the LGBTIQ+ Community aimed at service providers. Focus on building cultural competency and implementing a code of practice.

SIGN UP



PPN November Training Series

- 8th Nov 7:00pm: PR & Media for your Community Project** - with Ailish Irvine from Irvine Training.
- 10th Nov 6.30pm: Making Decisions in your organisation:** (Conflict of Interests, Code of Conduct, Communication with members of group) with Mairead Kelly from the Carmichael Centre.
- 17th Nov 6:30pm: Legal Duties of Community Organisations** (Regulatory Responsibilities, Charity/Tax & Bank Accounts, Succession Planning) with Mairead Kelly from the Carmichael Centre.
- 22nd Nov 11:00am: Instagram Reels Masterclass.** This workshop will help you get to grips with creating Instagram /Facebook Reels to help promote your organisation with zero marketing budget. A step by step how to add audio, video clips and video effects for Instagram (Venue: Galway County Hall, Prospect Hill, Galway).

sign up here!





SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS TRAINING

- 8th December @ 2pm Ballinasloe Community Enterprise Centre (All Welcome)**
- 9th December @ 10am Galway County Hall (for GCC staff/ Elected Members)**

REGISTER NOW!

Join Saolta and Galway PPN to explore the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, relating how the 17 Goals support the pillars of Social Inclusion, Voluntary and Community Services, and Environmental work of member groups of the PPN. This workshop will cover topics relating to the social and environmental issues facing communities locally. While also connecting them to global challenges and how the SDGs are a framework to meet the challenges facing society today and to build prosperity for the future. This session will include opportunities to connect to others using the principles of Global Citizenship Education to empower, inspire action and affect change for groups and communities.

"All is connected... no one thing can change by itself." - Paul Hawken











Galway County
Public Participation
Network

Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

An Roinn Forbartha
Tuisithe agus Pobail
Department of Rural and
Community Development

Liosta Bannghairíochta Phoiblí
Chontae na Gaillimhe

CLÁR FUNDING SCHEME 2022

The CLÁR programme (Ceantair Laga Árd-Riachtanais) provides funding for small scale infrastructural projects in rural areas that have suffered significant levels of population decline.

This webinar will give a presentation of the CLÁR scheme and an update on the Town and Village Renewal Scheme.

Webinar / Q&A

Wednesday, 23rd March 2022
@
7pm

[Register here to join](#)




Galway County
Public Participation
Network

An tÚdarás Árachas Sláinte
The Health Insurance Authority

Liosta Bannghairíochta Phoiblí
Chontae na Gaillimhe

DO YOU NEED ADVICE AND INFORMATION ABOUT HEALTH INSURANCE?

We're an authority.
Dad's just 'a bit of an expert.'



JOIN OUR WEBINAR

with Aoife Cooney, HIA

Online via [Zoom](#)
Tuesday, 22nd February @ 11am
[Register HERE.](#)

The HIA is a statutory regulator of the health insurance market. The Authority also provides information to consumers regarding their rights and health insurance plans and benefits.






An Roinn Forbartha
Tuisithe agus Pobail
Department of Rural and
Community Development

Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

LCDC
Local Community Development Committee

Galway County
Public Participation
Network

Liosta Bannghairíochta Phoiblí
Chontae na Gaillimhe

WEBINAR

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES FUND 2022

*A Fund to provide small grants for
community groups impacted by the
pandemic*

This webinar will include a
presentation on the scheme
followed by Q & A

Thursday, 20th January @ 5pm
[Register here](#)

4. Information Sharing

PPN Weekly Digest

Each Friday we send a brief summary of information to our members via email. This information bulletin includes funding opportunities, consultations, news and events. Information sharing is a key part of our work.

PPN Monthly Newsletter

The PPN monthly newsletter contains information on PPN member groups, a round up of information from the Government Departments, funding opportunities, training opportunities, community events and covid-19 information and supports. Our newsletters are sent to all PPN member groups and also uploaded to our website and shared across our social medias.

Member groups are encouraged to submit their news/ events to the newsletter. This is a great way for a group to publicise an event or share their news with members of the PPN across the County.

We recognize the importance of social media for information sharing amongst our community network. Keep an eye on our social media channels for regular updates!

- **Facebook** - <https://www.facebook.com/GalwayCountyPPN>
- **Twitter** - <https://twitter.com/GalwayCoPPN>



5. Meetings and Events



Galway County PPN Plenary Meeting 27 Sep 2022

On Tuesday 27th September 2022 Galway County PPN held its first in-person Plenary event since the Covid Pandemic.

The members of the Galway County PPN were asked to attend the meeting in the Claregalway Hotel and vote on a change to the PPN Constitution based on a Circular issued by the Department for Rural and Community Development. The Amendment addressed the voting procedure at PPN Plenaries where there is a lack of a Quorum in attendance. The Amendment was passed and will be included in the Galway County PPN Constitution.

Next, the Members were asked to adopt the PPN Workplan and Budget and ratify PPN Representatives nominated by PPN member groups to sit on the LCDC and Climate Change and Biodiversity SPC. The operational documents were approved and the 9 representatives were ratified by the members present. After a short break, the Plenary heard presentations about an energy efficiency training course that the PPN will run with Clar Éifeachteacht Fuinnimh, from AMACH, Community Finance Ireland and about LocalHub a new app to connect communities.

[You can read the Plenary report here](#)

June 2022

- Galway City and County PPN host Galway Active Travel meeting- 27 June 2022
- Galway County PPN Secretariat meeting- 29 June 2022
- LGBTQ Interagency Group meeting- 30 June 2022
- Galway Migrant Centre meeting - 30 June 2022

July 2022

- IHREC Public Sector Duty training- 1 July 2022
- National PPN Workers meeting- 13 July 2022
- Galway Co PPN meeting with Galway Volunteer Centre- 14 July 2022
- Galway Co PPN Permaculture training- 14 July 2022
- National PPN Review Consultation meeting- 15 July 2022
- Galway Co PPN Worker attend Salesforce training- 18 July 2022
- EAPN Ireland Workshop on the Increasing Demand for Basic Necessities as provided by the Community and Voluntary Sector- 20 July 2022
- Traveller Pride event- 21 July 2022
- Galway Co PPN Worker attend Salesforce training- 25 July 2022

August 2022

- Meeting with Community Law and Mediation Centre- 2 August 2022
- Galway Co PPN Secretariat meeting - 10 August 2022

September 2022

- Galway County PPN meets with Minister Joe O'Brien TD- 6 September 2022
- Galway Age Friendly Alliance meeting- 8 September 2022
- Galway Co PPN presents at Connemara MD meeting- 9 September 2022
- Galway County Traveller Interagency Group meeting- 13 September 2022
- National PPN Workers meeting- 14 September 2022
- Green Linkage Group meeting- 14 September 2022
- Galway Disability Forum meeting- 15 September 2022
- National Ploughing Championships- 20 September 2022
- Galway Co PPN Secretariat meeting- 21 September 2022
- Climate Action Day- 22 September 2022
- Data Cleansing training- 23 September 2022
- Galway Co PPN Plenary event- 27 September 2022
- Hosted 'Finding and Keeping Volunteers workshop'- 29 September 2022
- Make Way Day events in County-30 September 2022

October 2022

- Gold Star Disability Initiative Launch- 4 October 2022
- Women in Local Politics webinar- 4 October 2022
- Galway Community Connect event- 6 October 2022
- 'Finding and Keeping Volunteers workshop'- 6 October 2022
- WHO'S SHE intercultural event- 8 October 2022
- Galway County Traveller Interagency Group meeting- 11 October 2022
- Comhionannas Project Steering Committee with AMACHI- 11 October 2022
- Galway Co PPN presents at Ballinasloe MD meeting- 12 October 2022
- PPN Structural Review Consultation event- 13 October 2022
- Disability Awareness training- 17 October 2022
- Bridge Project Steering Group meeting- 19 October 2022
- CORA Social Enterprise project event- 19 October 2022
- LGBTQ Interagency meeting- 19 October 2022
- PPN National Conference- 20-22 October 2022
- Older Persons Council- 24 October 2022
- Supporting LGBTIQ+ Communities Training event- 24 October 2022
- Refugee Resettlement Programme Steering Group meeting- 26 October 2022

November 2022

- Meeting with Galway Rural Development- 4 November 2022
- Galway Co PPN November training- 8 November 2022
- PPN Workers meeting- 9 November 2022
- Galway Co PPN Secretariat meeting- 9 November 2022
- Galway Co PPN Housing Linkage Group meeting- 10 November 2022
- Galway Co PPN November training- 10 November 2022
- Galway Co PPN presents at Tuam MD meeting- 14 November 2022
- North West Regional PPN Workers meeting- 15 November 2022
- Buy Social Networking event- 16 November 2022
- Galway Co Litter management Consultation event- 16 November 2022
- Supporting LGBTIQ+ Communities Training event- 17 November 2022
- Galway Co PPN November training- 17 November 2022
- Conference - a Community Response to Domestic Abuse - 18 November 2022
- Galway Co GAA Health and Wellbeing Conference- 18 November 2022
- Galway Co PPN November training- 22 November 2022
- Funding Workshop: Brexit Blue Economy Enterprise Dev Scheme- 28 November 2022
- Older Persons Council training- 28 November 2022
- Webinar: HOW TO USE ETBs- 29 November 2022
- Horses Connect Team building event- 30 November 2022
- LGBTQ Interagency meeting- 30 November 2022

December 2022

- GRD Wellbeing event- 1 December 2022
- SEAI Project Steering Group meeting- 6 December 2022
- PPN Workplan and Budget Consultation initiated- 6 December
- Comhairle na nóg AGM- 7 December 2022
- Saolta and Galway Co PPN SDG training- 8 December 2022
- Saolta and Galway Co PPN SDG training- 9 December 2022
- Galway Co PPN presents at Loughrea MD meeting- 12 December 2022
- Galway Age Friendly Alliance Meeting- 13 December 2022
- Galway Disability Forum meeting- 13 December 2022
- Refugee Resettlement Interagency Meeting- 14 December 2022
- LEADER & Galway Co PPN meeting- 14 December 2022

Social Policy Committees & other Committee meetings attended by Galway Co PPN Reps in 2022

For all Reps reports on these meetings please see [here](#).

- JPC Public meeting:
14th November
- Housing SPC:
16th November
- Planning, Environment, Agriculture & Emergency Services SPC:
8th December
- Climate Change & Biodiversity SPC:
- Transport & Infrastructure SPC:
20 April, 8 September, 8 December
- Economic SPC:
- Culture & Community SPC:
13th July, 06th December
- LCDC:
15th February, 23rd March, 17th May, 22nd November

5. Meetings and Events contd.

Galway Women in Politics
What you need to know
Women in Local Politics informing Women interested in Local Politics

PANEL:

- ☆ Megan Flynn Dixon (Galway Co PPN Rep)
- ☆ Dr Michelle Maher (Programme Manager for See Her Elected)
- ☆ Cllr. Shelly Herterich Quinn
- ☆ Cllr. Geraldine Donohue
- ☆ Claire Hillery campaign manager (Senator Pauline O'Reilly)

'Our Council Chambers need to look more like the society it represents' (Dr Michelle Maher)

Online
4th October
8-9pm

Register now!

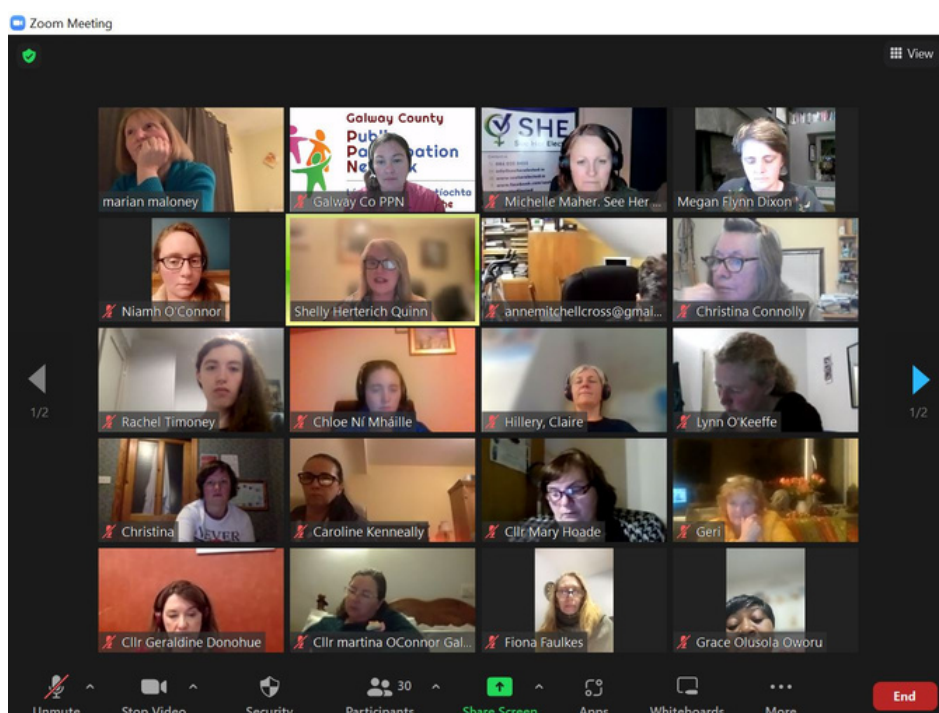
WOMEN BEYOND THE DÁIL: MORE WOMEN IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Galway County Public Participation Network
SHE See Her Elected
Women In Politics

On 4th October 2022 we were delighted to bring together key partners active in politics and advocacy to give important insights into the landscape.

We collaborated with Dr Michelle Maher. Dr Maher runs the See Her Elected Campaign which promotes active citizenship and empowers women in rural constituencies to engage in electoral politics.

WHY? 'Our Council Chambers need to look more like the society it represents' (Dr Michelle Maher).





**Galway County
Public Participation
Network meets
Minister for
Community
Development and
Charities, Joe O'Brien
TD, to discuss
community needs.**

On Tuesday 6th September 2022 a delegation of the Galway County PPN met with Minister for Community Development and Charities Joe O'Brien TD, in the Galway County Council Chambers. The meeting, which was part of the Minister's trip to visit Galway based community initiatives, emphasized the extensive community work taking place across the City and County.

PPN Secretariat Vincent Lyons highlighted some current shortcomings in the representation of communities on local committees. PPN Representatives gave an overview of their activities.

**PPN Presentations at Galway
County Council Municipal
District Meetings**

From September to December 2022 Galway County PPN began a series of presentations at Municipal District meetings across the County to address stakeholders, such as County Councillors, of the added value of the PPN in the democratic process of participative representation.



Charlotte May & Vincent Lyons

PPN Team Building Exercise with Horses Connect

30/11/2022



Galway Disability Forum mark Make Way Day 2022



UN SDG training

In December 2022 Saolta and Galway County PPN hosted 2 workshops to explore the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

At this workshop we discussed how the 17 Goals support the pillars of Social Inclusion, Voluntary and Community Services, and Environmental work of member groups of the PPN.

This workshop covered topics relating to the social and environmental issues facing communities locally. While also connecting them to global challenges and how the SDGs are a framework to meet the challenges facing society today and to build prosperity for the future.

These sessions gave us opportunities to connect to others using the principles of Global Citizenship Education to empower, inspire action and affect change for groups and communities.

The first session was aimed at PPN Member groups and the second invited elected members and Galway County Council Staff.



6. Networking

Galway Health & Wellness Conference 2022

 Raheen Woods Hotel Friday Nov 18th
Registration at 7pm



Guest Speaker Professor Rose Anne Kenny
Author of Age Proof and founding principal
investigator for the Irish Longitudinal Study on
Ageing (TILDA).

Club Presentations for clubs participating in GAA Healthy Clubs Project

All are welcome to attend & Refreshment's will be provided

Oughterard Health Awareness Day

Buy Social
BuySocial.ie

Social Enterprise Networking Meet & Greet Event

**Come and see services and products
on offer from social enterprises in Galway.**

Date: Wednesday 16th November
Venue: Oughterard Courthouse, H91 CC96
Time: 11am - 1pm










Western Traveller & Intercultural Development
cordially invited you
to
Our Traveller Pride Celebrations
on
Thursday 21st July 2022 in Harmony Hall from 11:30pm until 1pm

Embracing a modern Traveller culture, with creativity in our roots



Traveller
Pride Week

Comhairle na nÓg AGM 7/12/2022

Galway County
Comhairle na nÓg
Young Voices. Local Issues.

County
Galway
Comhairle
na nÓg

Youth Work Ireland

Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

On Wednesday, October 19th from 10:00 am - 11:00am, CoRá will host an event at The Harbour Hotel, Galway and we would be delighted if you could attend.

CoRá is part of a wider EU project, Facilitating United Approaches to Social Innovation in Europe (FUSE). The **CoRá** project is the Irish dimension of the FUSE project and is led by Rethink Ireland and Genio Trust. CoRá aims to develop a joint blueprint for a Social Innovation Strategy and Action Plan. This will be developed with a collaborative and inclusive approach with the active participation of representatives from the public and private sectors, civil society, and academia.

At our event, we will be discussing the following topics:

- What is the CoRá project?
- What role can the CoRá project play within the Social Innovation Ecosystem?
- What challenges have emerged from the CoRá research study on the Social Innovation Ecosystem in Ireland?

This event is an opportunity to bring together all social innovation stakeholders from a cross-section of the public sector; industry; academia; and civil society with the aim of sharing updates on developments within the CoRá Project.

We would be delighted if you could attend. Please register [here](#).

CoRá - Ireland's Hub for Social Change with Rethink Ireland and Genio.
www.coraireland.ie

EVENT DETAILS:

Date: Wednesday, October 19th 2022

Time: 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Location The Harbour Hotel, The Docks,
Galway, H91 E9PR

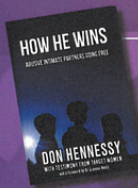
NATIONAL CONFERENCE

"A COMMUNITY RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC ABUSE" CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF THE WESTERN REGIONAL NETWORK

FRIDAY 18th NOVEMBER

Harbour Hotel, Galway

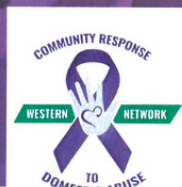
Registration 10am; Conference finishes at 3pm



Keynote Speaker: DON HENNESSY

Author of *How He Wins*

Afternoon Panel Discussion - Moderator: Deputy Catherine Connolly



Barbara Condon, *Ruhamá*
Ana Heagney, *Offaly Domestic Violence Support Services*
Bernie Quinn, *Dundalk Outcomers*
Tessa Collins, *Pavee Point*
Sarah Benson, *Women's Aid*
Mary McDermott, *Safe Ireland*
Detective Inspector Adrian Kinsella,
Garda National Protective Services Bureau

To register please book through Eventbrite

AKIDWA STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2025 LAUNCH, GALWAY

Monday 27th June 2pm-4.30pm
Westside Resource Centre,
Galway

AkiDwA Strategic Plan 2022-2025 Launch Galway

Mon, Jun 27, 14:00

Westside Resource Centre • Galway

GOLD STAR DISABILITY INITIATIVE

Launch Invitation

Launch Invitation to Galway Gold Star Disability Initiative

Tue, Oct 4, 11:00

The Connacht Hotel • Galway

Galway Connect Café



**Mental Health
Ireland**



Comhairle Chontae na Gallíoch
Galway County Council



Cúram Síle
Probiol, Lárthar
na n-Éireann

**Community
Healthcare West**
Galway, Clare, Kerry
and Limerick



**Healthy
Galway**

Date: **06/10/2022**

Day: **Thursday**

Time: **11am to 1pm**

Venue: **The Clayton
Galway City**

This World Mental Health Month join Mental Health Ireland, Galway Mental Health Association and Healthy Galway for a celebration and acknowledgement of the existing work and partnerships in Galway. It's also an exciting opportunity to develop new partnerships through a special Galway Connect Café based on the theme 'Mental Health and Wellbeing for all, A Global Priority'.

Take time out to connect, have a cup of tea, celebrate the work being done and find out more about other organisations promoting mental health in Galway.



6. Other Activities



Galway County PPN supports unique Initiative: WHO'S SHE GALWAY

- NETWORK MIX UP – We brought together women from all across Galway; urban, rural, migrants, settled, traveller, young and not so young, mixed abilities, employed and under employed, varied sexual orientation, different ethnicities, religious beliefs, and language.
- MEET, RELATE, CONNECT – participants were invited to broaden their horizons and engage with each other. In an ever changing world, we envisage a community where we can create lasting connections. So we enjoyed getting to know women we might not normally meet.
- SHARE, LEARN, SMILE – practitioners donated their expertise to offer classes including yoga, dance and self-defence. There was a Human Library and speakers from a broad range of backgrounds who shared their stories in an intimate setting.
- SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER – Free tickets were offered to women from marginalised communities. The money raised from ticket sales covered catering, transport and associated costs for the day and opened the door for another women to attend.

This event was supported by SCCUL Sanctuary, SETU YOGA, AKIDWA, Galway City Partnership, and many more.

Pictured right is a group of smiling women holding a sign reading whos she galway inside the venue of the event



8. The Cathaoirleach's Awards

Cathaoirleach Peter Keaveney presented each of the Groups with a specially commissioned award designed and hand-crafted by Zara Little Campbell and Tommy Campbell of Group 8, a non-profit professional artist group based in Ballinasloe. Each Group also received a Certificate and a cash prize of €500 to use for their work.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed the opportunity to recognise the outstanding contribution of these individuals and groups which had a major bearing on keeping people safe and well during the pandemic.



After an absence of a few years, community & voluntary activity was back to being celebrated ‘in person’ at the Cathaoirleach’s Community Awards which were held in conjunction with the Cathaoirleach’s Ball on Saturday 11th June. The Awards were organised by Galway County Council in partnership with Galway County Public Participation Network and were hosted by the Cathaoirleach Cllr. Peter Keaveney, and MC for the evening Mr. John Mulligan of Galway Bay FM who warmly welcomed everyone to the Ard Rí Hotel in Tuam.

Introducing the Cathaoirleach Awards, Cllr. Peter Keaveney stated: “Each year these Awards acknowledge the contribution of volunteers across a wide range of local activity and the significant impact their actions have on quality of life. Tonight’s Awards will honour the work of groups across a range of activities which all serve to make our local areas better places to live, work and visit”.

Winners:

Best Contribution to Heritage Award - Headford Lace Project.

Environment & Climate Action Award - Ballymoe Development Group.

Social Inclusion Award - Loughrea Mens Shed.

Sports Award - Club Iomanaíochta Bearna /Na Forbacha.

Heritage Publication Award - Scoil Bhriocáin Rosmuc.

Gradam na Gaeilge – Féile Chois Fharraige.

Tidy Towns Recognition Award - Milltown Tidy Towns

Pride of Place Awards - Lawrencetown Community Development Group,
Woodford Parish Development Group

Special Achievement Award - Headford Lace Project

Conclusion

2022 was another busy year for Galway County PPN. The year was a difficult one for community groups across County Galway as they returned to 'normal' following the Covid-19 pandemic. The strength and resilience of communities during this time highlighted the vital role of the community and voluntary sector in community well being!

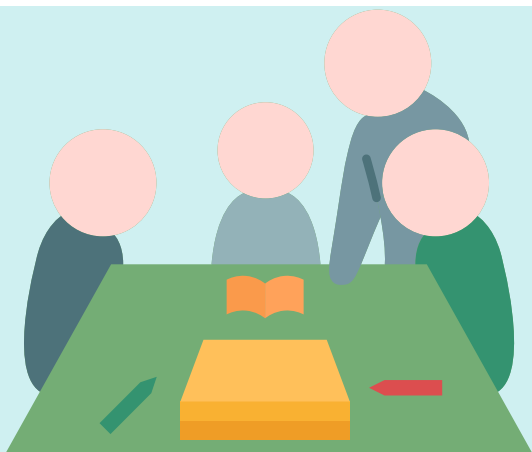


Participation

In 2022, our membership grew to 1,153. Broken down by pillar, that's a total of 885 Community & Voluntary groups, 36 Environment and 230 Social Inclusion. We have representatives sit on over 16 committees.

Educate

In 2022, we hosted over 10 training programmes and workshops FREE to PPN Members.



Information

In 2022, we shared 12 Monthly Newsletters, 36 Weekly Digests, and a total of 123,577 emails. We also posted regular updates on our website, Facebook and Twitter.

Acknowledgements

The Galway County PPN especially wish to thank the **SECRETARIAT Members** of the Galway County PPN who offer advice and guidance on the strategic direction of the PPN.

We also thank the many **PPN Representatives** for their time and efforts representing the **COMMUNITY VOICE** in local policy-making!

A very special thanks to **Galway County Council**, in particular Mary McGann who works closely with the PPN to ensure active engagement from the community.

We also wish **Vincent Lyons** all the best in his new, important role, representing the National PPN Secretariat Network on the PPN NAG (National Advisory Group).

*Thank
You*

We thank YOU for your continued support in our efforts to contribute to the growth and development of community groups across County Galway.

Contact

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