



Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Phoiblí Chontae na Gaillimhe
Public Participation Network Galway County

Winter Plenary

28th November 2023

6:30pm – 9:00pm

Agenda



- Welcomes
- PPN Presentation
- Approve PPN Workplan 2024
- PPN Pillars – Key challenges & opportunities
- SPC Presentations
- Green Recovery Working Group

BREAK

- Guest Presentations



Welcomes / Fáilte

Vincent Lyons – PPN Secretariat



Department for Rural and Community Development

‘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. The PPN is now the main way that local authorities connect with groups active in their area’

(PPN Handbook (2020))



FUNCTIONS of the PPN

Príomh-fheidhmeanna an PPN

- 1) Facilitates the **participation** and **representation** of communities in a fair, equitable and transparent manner
- 2) Strengthens the **capacity** of community groups to contribute positively to the community in which they reside/participate
- 3) Provides **information** relevant to the environmental, social inclusion, and community & voluntary sector and acts as a **hub** around which information is distributed and received.





What do PPNs do?

Obair an PPN

- Build community capacity – broadening understanding and participation
- Support inclusion of socially excluded groups and those facing discrimination
- identify issues of collective concern, bring community concerns to decision making arena and work to influence policy locally
- Elect representatives
- Participate in consultations etc.
- Share information
- Support individual member groups with advice, mediation or training so that they can function effectively
- Build relationships between communities and agencies, create networking opportunities

Welcome new members, 2023!

Groups by Municipal District



PPN Communications For & From the Community

The screenshot shows a web browser at the URL <https://www.galwaycountypn.ie/event-directory/>. The browser's address bar and tabs are visible at the top. The website header includes a search bar, a 'REGISTER NOW' button, and a language dropdown set to 'English'. The main navigation menu contains links for Home, About, Members Directory, Events (highlighted in yellow), Forums, Funding, News, Resources, and Contact us. The Galway County Public Participation Network logo is centered, featuring a colorful graphic of four stylized figures holding hands. Below the logo, the text reads 'Galway County Public Participation Network' and 'Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Phoiblí Chontae na Gaillimhe'. The main content area features a large background image of a landscape with rolling hills and a river, with the word 'Events' overlaid in a large, white, sans-serif font. At the bottom of the page, a white button with the text 'SUBMIT YOUR EVENT' is prominently displayed.



Approve Workplan & Budget 2024

Vote by show of hands

PPN Pillars
Key Challenges &
Opportunities

Community &
Voluntary

Social Inclusion

Environmental

Strategic Policy Committees (SPC) Presentations



Planning, Environment,
Agriculture & Emergency
Services – Mark Green



Climate Change & Biodiversity
SPC – Peter Butler & Mags
Sheehan



Joint Policing Committee -
Aodán Mac Donnacha

Green Recovery Working Group

- Climate Change & Biodiversity Linkage group
- Current projects – Galway County Energy Master Plan, Rights of Nature Motion,
- Rights of Nature film: <https://vimeo.com/600595431>





BREAK

8:00pm – 8:30pm

Guest Presentations



Galway County Council Climate Action Team



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council



Galway County Council

CLIMATE ACTION

GNÍOMHÚ AR SON NA HAERÁIDE

Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe



Rialtas
na hÉireann
Government
of Ireland

Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

Community Climate Action Programme

Supporting Galway to build
low carbon communities

Denise Feeney

Community Climate Action Officer

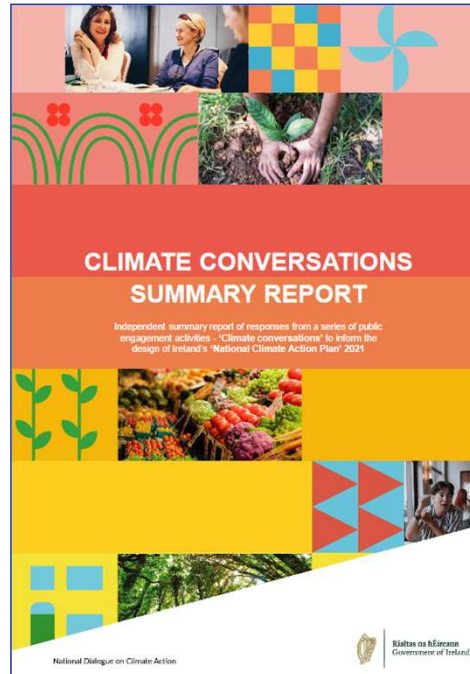
Galway County Council

Background to Community Climate Action Programme



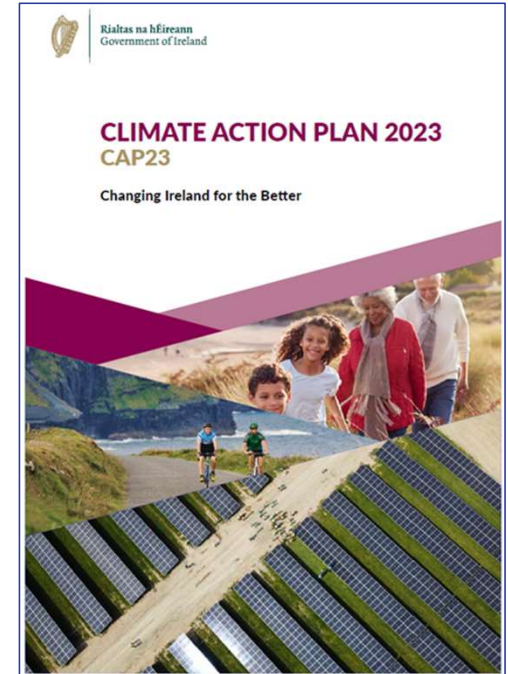
Climate Action & Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021

- 51% overall reduction by 2030
- Climate neutral by 2050



Climate Conversations

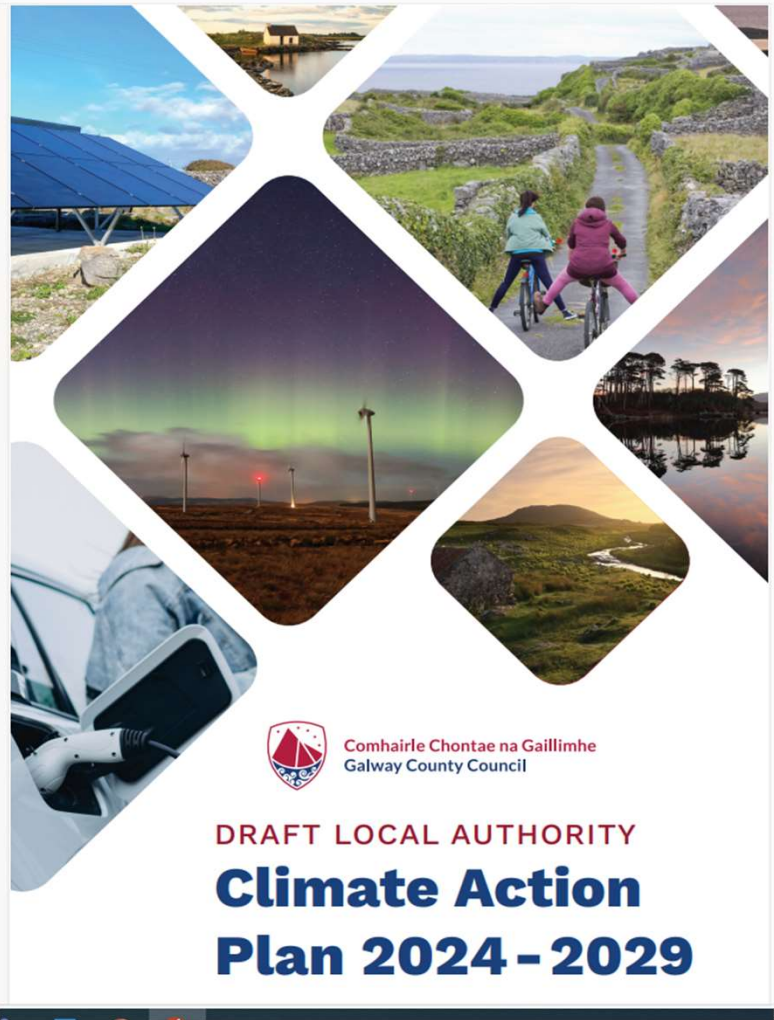
- Government engagement with citizens
- 1. Citizens want to take climate action
- 2. Citizens need support to take action



Climate Action Plan 2023

- roadmap for action
- climate solutions at the centre of development

Galway Co Co DRAFT Climate Action Plan 2024-2029



Agenda



Gaway County Council

CLIMATE ACTION

GNÍOMHÚ AR SON NA HAERÁIDE

Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe

- Community Climate Action Programme
 - Overview of the Climate Action Fund
 - Target groups
 - Funding available
 - Eligible & Ineligible projects
 - Application, evaluation and selection
 - Timeline

Overview of Community Climate Action Programme

Strand 1

Building Low Carbon Communities -
€24m nationally

Galway County €726,000

**“...to support and
empower communities,
in partnership with their
LA, to build low carbon,
sustainable
communities...”**

Strand 2 – closed

Climate Education, Capacity
Building and Learning by
Doing - €5m (An Pobal)

Creative Climate Action - €1m
(Creative Ireland Programme)

Strand 1a

○ Shared Island
Community Climate Action - €3m

What is the Community Climate Action Fund for?

Direct climate action

- Reduce
Greenhouse gas emissions
- Increase
climate resilience
- Assist transition to a
low carbon economy



What is the Community Climate Action Fund?

- 100% project funding (vouched expenditure, 25% upfront funding)
- Funding for Direct Climate Action projects
- Application is an Online application via Submit.com portal.
- Project must be completed in 18 months from letter of offer
- Projects are supported by Galway County Council & are in line with Galway County Council's Climate Action Plan
- **Opening date** December 6th 2023
- **Closing date** February 29th 2024



Project Sizes

Small Scale Projects	Medium Scale Projects	Large Scale Projects
<p>Projects Valued at less than €20,000</p> <p>10% of projects funded will in this bracket</p>	<p>Projects Valued in the range of €20,000 to €50,000</p> <p>40% of projects funded will in this bracket</p>	<p>Projects Valued in the range of €51,000 to €100,000</p> <p>50% of projects funded will in this bracket</p>

- Eligible costs = costs submitted for the sole purpose of implementing the project
- Quarterly reimbursements upon meeting agreed milestones
- Project selection numbers is only an estimate and the final selection may vary

Who can apply?

Community Organisation Eligibility

Community organisations meeting the requirements listed below are eligible to apply to partner with the Local Authorities to implement a project under this Programme, they:

- Must be a **not-for-profit** organisation
- Must be located in the operational area of the Galway County Council Local Authority
- **Must be registered** with a PPN or connected with other collectives such as the Wheel, Tidy Towns and /or a community group with Articles of Association or a Constitution, which hold an AGM, and for which approved minutes are available.
- Must submit a completed application form on or before the specified closing date February 29th 2024
- Only one application per organisation may be submitted

Who cannot apply?

- Private individuals
- Commercial undertakings (including sole traders)
- Schools
- National community and environmental organisations

Ineligible Costs include;

- Audits and feasibility studies costs
- Staffing and training costs

Application process

- Submit online application via Submit.com portal
- For Small, Medium and Large, 3 quotes for any purchases of goods for the project (1 quote for monies less than €3k)
- Can leverage with other funding sources, provided its not duplicate funding. e.g. SEAI, LEADER, An Pobal, Tidy Towns, Town and Village Enhancement etc.

- 25% payment upfront (if required by a group)

Quarterly drawdown invoices to GCC.

- Funding only available for costs incurred after project selection



Preparing your Application

Preparation:

What do you want to do?

Why is your project needed?

What are the funding programme's objectives & selection criteria – representation of more than 1 theme in a project will elevate your application

Ask questions to experts in the area of your project eg Biodiversity Officer, Heritage Officer, Energy Officer, Active Travel Team, Climate Action Team

Costs:

Understand what is eligible

Prepare a realistic and accurate budget (5%-10% contingency monies)

Follow quote guidelines

Completing your form:

Refresh on the programme's objectives and selection criteria

Be clear, descriptive, Provide supporting information

Amount	Quotes Required	How
<€3,000	2	Via Online application
€3,000 - €50,000 (Goods/Services)	3	Via online application
€50,000 to €100,000 (Works/ Works Related Services)	3 on application If approved, e-tenders will be required	Via online application.

How will projects be evaluated, selected and approved?

1. Evaluation:

All applications will be reviewed and assessed by an independent evaluation committee against the evaluation criteria to determine that the project is suitable for funding. In order to be considered for funding, the project needs to achieve at least 50% and meet the minimum requirements

2. Selection:

Following evaluation, it will then decide the final selection of projects taking account of:

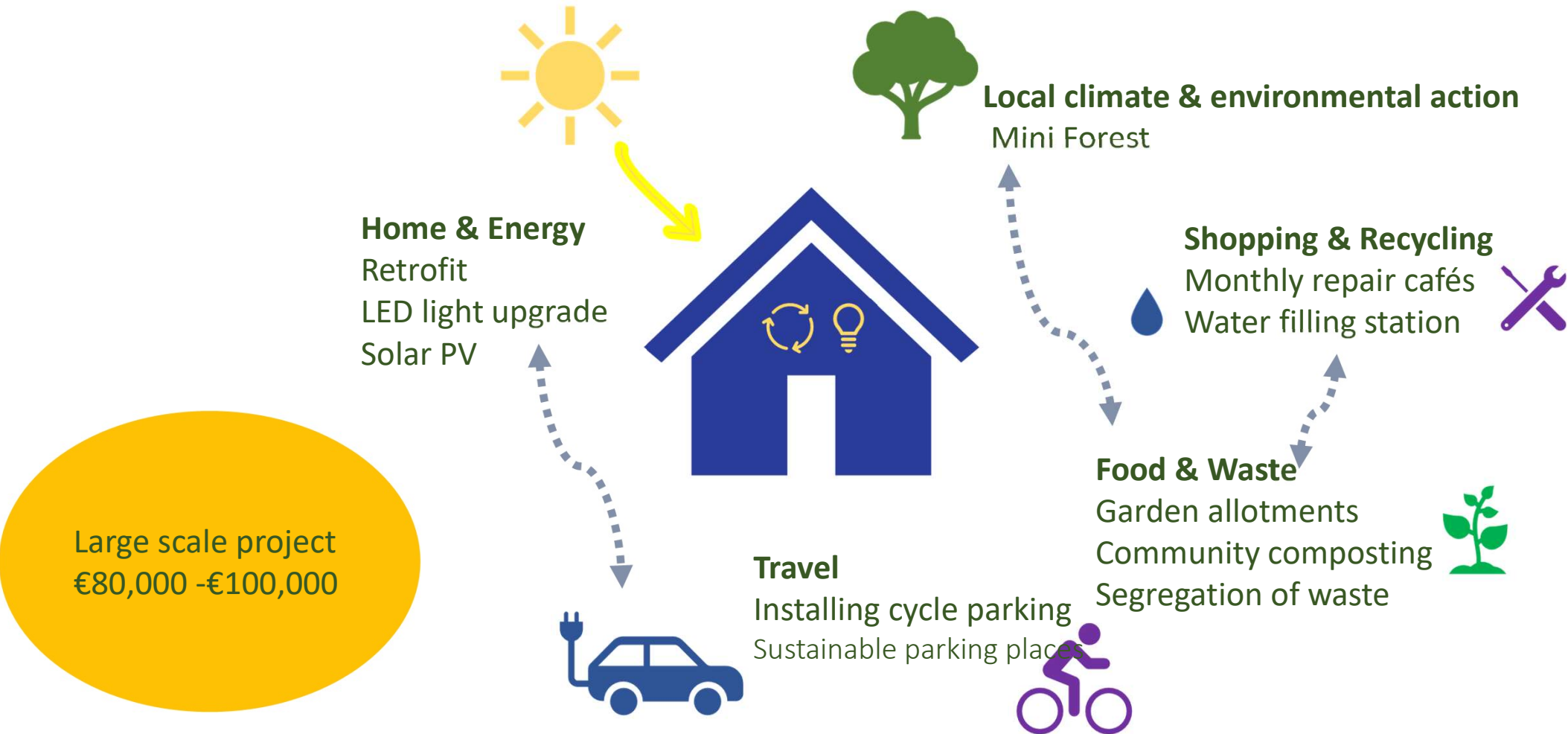
- The desirability to fund a variety of different projects and across multiple themes
- The geographical distribution of projects
- The contribution of the projects to the climate action objectives of GCC

3. Approval:

The Minister of the Environment, Climate and Communications will decide what projects are approved and any specific conditions of funding.

Selection Criterion for Strand 1	Weighting	Min. Required
Relevance and Impact	30%	15%
Innovation and Scalability	20%	10%
Value for Money	20%	10%
Achievability	10%	5%
Partnership Approach	10%	5%
Governance Agreements	10%	5%
	100%	50%

Example: Community group building and grounds



Approximate timeline



Application form

- Describe your project in detail;
 - Outline how the project is relevant to the purpose of the grant
 - to shape and build low carbon communities
 - Outline how many of the five programme themes your project will address and how you will address them
 - Address as many themes as possible
 - Who can my group partner with in the community?
 - Outputs
- What are the climate and environmental benefits of your project?
How will it contribute to Ireland's climate and energy targets?
How will it help built a low carbon community & protect your community?



Jargon buster

- Climate neutral

can buy verified carbon credits to offset emissions

- Low Carbon

based on energy sources that produce low levels of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions

- Climate resilient

society low-carbon and

equipped to deal with the realities of a warmer world

- Net zero is Carbon neutral

replacing greenhouse gas intensive activities with others **and**

keeping a balance between any leftover greenhouse gas emissions and adsorption

Theme 1: Community/energy

These projects aim to reduce the climate impact of buildings in communities by using less energy, utilising renewable energy and avoiding heat loss.

- This can include
 - Small community renewable energy projects (solar, hydro, wind)
 - Retrofitting community buildings
 - LED community lighting
 - Community EV charging point(s)



Theme 5: Local Climate & Environmental Action

- We are interested in projects that take a holistic approach to managing the local environment, including in relation to climate action

This can include for example

- Mini forests
- Forest schools
- Dispersed orchards
- Community gardens
- Roof gardens
- Pollinator projects
- Energy gardens
- Climate resilience projects



Theme 3: Food and Waste

- Projects that reduce food waste
Including;
- Developing community gardens to promote local food production
- Allotments
- Food markets
- Community composting facilities
- Community supported farming
 - local business food pledges
- Community fridges
 - reduce GHG and redistribute food



Climate Action Fund for Communities Information Sessions

Online Climate Action Fund Webinar, December 11th , 7pm-8.30pm

Free 1 day workshop, Claregalway Hotel, January 13th 2024, 10am-4pm

on the Climate Action Fund Themes with Denise Feeney, Community Climate Action Officer and Aoife Munn, Environment Consultant and Horticulturist



Theme 2: Travel

- Projects which contribute to emissions reductions related to travel
- This can include
 - Reductions in carbon footprint in services
 - Improving access to cycle ways
 - Cycle parking
 - facilitate the use of Community Electric vehicles
 - Safe and active travel routes to schools
 - Specific carparking at GAA Clubs for cars pooling
 - Sustainable car parking spaces
- Link in with The Active Travel Teams in GCC





Gaway County Council

CLIMATE ACTION

GNÍOMHÚ AR SON NA HAERÁIDE

Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council



Rialtas
na hÉireann
Government
of Ireland

Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040

Denise Feeney

Galway Community Climate Action Officer

climateactionfund@galwaycoco.ie

www.galwaycountycouncil/climateaction.ie

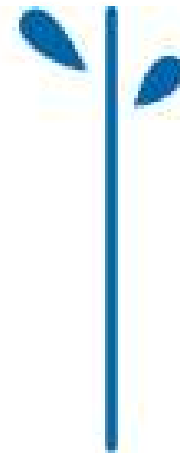
Ph: 087 4762558

Clann Credo



COMMUNITY LOAN FINANCE

FOUNDED 1996



**FINANCING
COMMUNITY
AMBITION**

Galway County PPN

Tracey Hannon, Regional Manager West/North

28 November 2023



Clann Credo

- €200 million investment in 2,200 community, voluntary and sporting clubs over 27 years
- Term loans, Working Capital, Bridging loans against grants/fundraising
- Social Finance seeks a social return in addition to financial return
- We Use Sustainable Development Goals as part of our assessment of social dividend e.g. 3) Good Health and Well Being 11) Building Sustainable Communities 13) Climate Action
- Social Impact Fund/Climate Action Fund/Sports Fund/Youth Fund

Loan Application

- Regional Contact
- Information required
 - Organisation Details – structure, committee, management
 - Company/Treasurer's Report/Financial Statement – 2 years
 - Projected Accounts – 3 years
 - Description of project to be undertaken
 - Project Costs involved and Funding
 - Decision and letter of offer issues

Loan Purpose

- Funding required for capital equipment
- Upgrade of existing facilities
- Purchase of Property or Land
- Bridging Facilities against approved grants
- Term loans

Clann Credo Funding

- Bridging finance against approved grants (SEAI, LEADER, Local Authority, Sports Capital, BIM FLAG). Grant payments issued on proof of payments.
- Term loan to finance the shortfall in funding.
- Interest rate 7.45% term loan 8.5% bridging loans
- Loan Value up to €1,000,000
- No personal guarantees
- No penalty for early repayment

Selection of Galway Based Organisations

- The Emigrants Commemorative Centre Carna/Iona Cuimhneacháin na nImirceach
- Mullagh Community Centre
- Mullagh GAA
- Loughrea Family Resource Centre
- Maree Oranmore FC
- Clarinbridge Playground
- Skehana Development Company
- Comhar Cuigheal Leitir Mealláin Teo
- Clifden Arts Festival
- Mountbellew Heritage and Tourism Network



Moanbaun Sports Development

Thank You

Contact Details

- Tracey Hannon, Regional Manager

Mob 087 6488390 email tracey@clanncredo.ie

Elina Kovale, Social Finance Executive

Mob 083 467 0108 email elina@clanncredo.ie

Galway
Volunteer
Centre



volunteer centre

Ionad d'Obair Deonacha na Gaillimhe

GALWAY

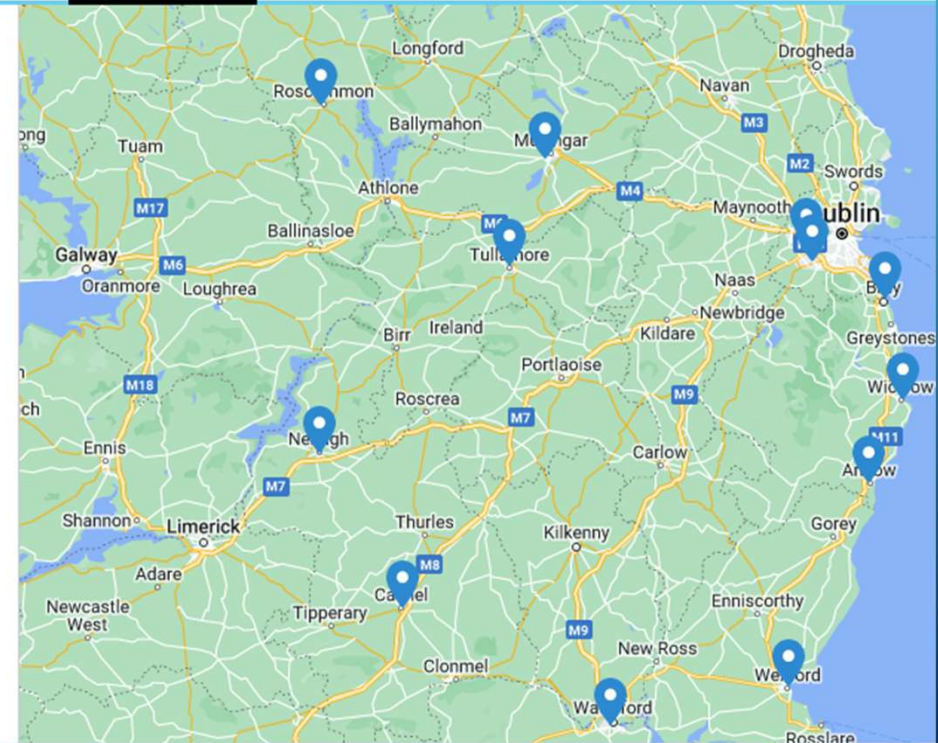
Galway Volunteer Centre – How can we support your organisation?



Find a Volunteer Centre

Find the contact details for your local
Volunteer Centre below

Select a county ▾



www.volunteer.ie

Do you know your local volunteer centre?

1. Nope never heard of you!

2. I've heard of you but never used the services

3. Yes, I use my local volunteer centre

Volunteer
Referrals

Training

Community
Volunteers
Team

How can we support you?

Register &
Advertise
volunteer roles

IT Triage
support

Garda Vetting



Finding and Keeping Volunteers

A Guide to Volunteer Management for Volunteer Involving Organisations



Garda Vetting Training

Volunteer Policy – The Fundamentals

Join us for an hour long, bite-sized training session where we will discuss the basics of the how, why and what of a volunteer policy for your organisation



Department of Social Protection
Department of Health





Volunteer support and supervision techniques

Ensuring volunteers are happy in
order to help retention and
encourage good performance



Enterprise, Trade and
Employment

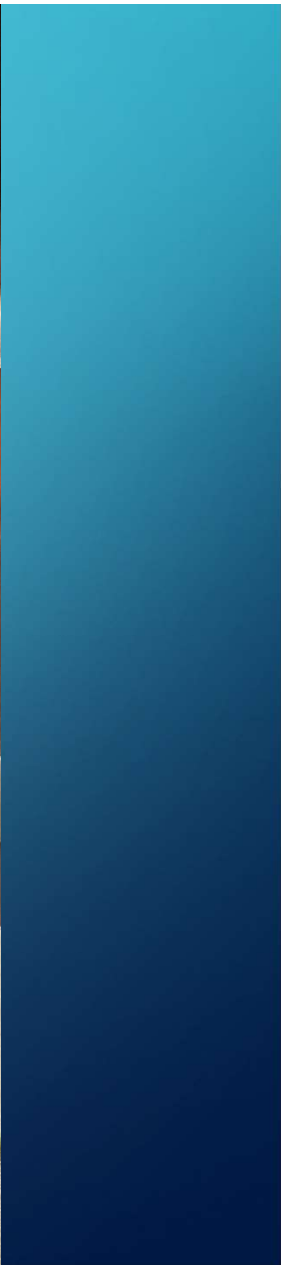
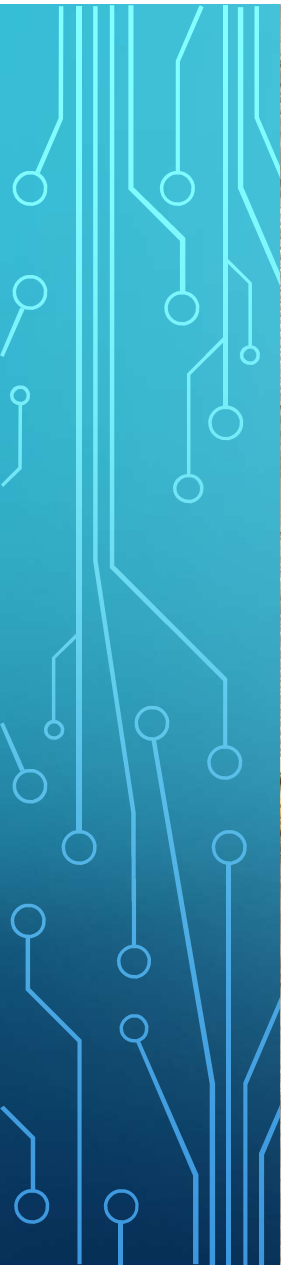


Galway Community Volunteers











Register a Volunteer Role

Post a Volunteering Opportunity

I-VOL is the national searchable database of volunteering opportunities in Ireland and is owned, managed and administered by [Volunteer Ireland](#), the [network of Volunteer Centres](#) and Volunteer Information Services in Ireland .

In order to register your volunteering opportunity/ies with us, your organisation must be already registered on I-VOL. Click [here](#) if you are not already registered. In order to proceed, you will need your key/password that was provided to you on your initial registration. If you do not know this, you can use the retrieve key function.

Volunteer Opportunity - General Details

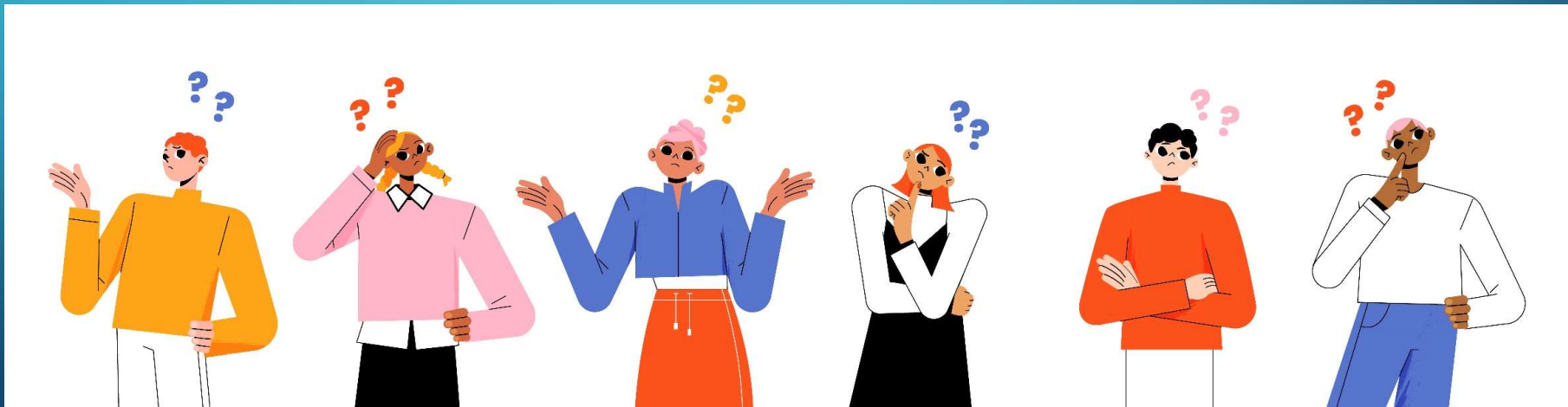
Enter your Organisation Key/Access Code*
Forgotten your organisation key? [Click here](#)

VCI-

Organisation name*

Name of Contact Person for this Role*

Role Descriptions: 'Task before Ask'



Crafting Role Descriptions

- Clear, catchy title
- Brief overview of the organisation – assume nothing
- Clearly identified tasks – bullet point form
- Timing – per week/month? How long for each shift?
- Location?
- Are specific skills/language ability/attributes required or preferred?
- Is there a trial period?
- Are expenses reimbursed?
- Is training provided?
- What's the application process?
- What are the benefits for the volunteer?
- Contact person – commit to the process

Thank you!

www.volunteergalway.ie

info@volunteergalway.ie

liz@volunteergalway.ie

**Nollaig Shona agus
Athbhliain faoi Mhaise
Daoibh!**

**Merry Christmas and a
Happy & Healthy New
Year!**

