

# March 2024

Welcome PPN members to our **March 2024** Newsletter!

*Please Share PPN Monthly Newsletters with all members of your group.*



## Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Phoiblí Chontae na Gaillimhe Public Participation Network Galway County

### In This Issue:

- **PPN News** (+ council news + local news)
- **Focus on: Environment Pillar**
- **An Cúinne Gaeilge**
- **News from the Departments**
- **Consultations**
- **Funding**
- **Training**
- **Notice Board / Events**
- **Supports**

If you have any news you would like to include in next month's newsletter, please email

[administrator@glwaycounty.ppn.ie](mailto:administrator@glwaycounty.ppn.ie) or

[dtuite@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:dtuite@galwaycoco.ie)

**\*Submissions Deadline: 23rd of each month - for following month's issue.**

**Next issue** has a special focus on: **Community & Voluntary** pillar of the PPN.

## PPN News

### GALWAY COUNTY PPN NEWS

#### March Training Series

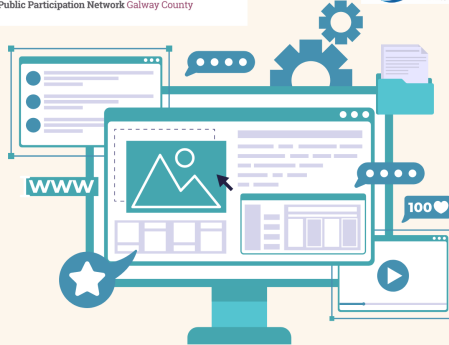
# Digital Marketing for Community Groups

Tuesday, 19th March 2024  
at 7pm

Understand the significance of personalized marketing campaigns driven by data analytics, and learn how to tailor digital strategies to effectively engage with diverse community groups and individuals.



REGISTER NOW!



# Website Design for Your Organisation

Tuesday, 26th March 2024 at 7pm

Learn the fundamentals of creating a website that effectively represents your organization's mission and values. Master the art of visual storytelling through images, fonts, and colours to create a captivating online presence that resonates with your organization's audience.



Register Now!



Please register using the links below. This training is FREE to PPN members. Training is provided by Irvine Training and will be online. The link for the training will be sent out closer to the date.

## Digital Marketing for Community Groups

Tuesday 19th March 2024, at 7-9pm, Online via Zoom.

### What to expect:

Explore emerging trends in immersive storytelling and its impact on creating memorable brand experiences, enabling non-profits to connect with their audience on a deeper level.

Gain insights into the latest advancements in AI and the role in digital marketing for non-profits and community groups in 2024.

Learn about immersive storytelling and how to tailor digital strategies to effectively engage with diverse community groups and individuals.

Register [HERE](#).

## Website Design for Your Organisation

Tuesday 26th March 2024, at 7-9pm, Online via Zoom.

What to expect:

Learn the fundamentals of creating a website that effectively represents your organization's mission and values.

Understand the basics of search engine optimization (SEO) and content management systems (CMS).

Master the art of visual storytelling through images, fonts, and colors to create a captivating online presence that resonates with your organization's audience.

Register [HERE](#).

## March Meetings

### Housing SPC Meeting

**Housing SPC** (Strategic Policy Committee - Galway County Council). PPN Elected Representatives to attend and feedback to PPN. Meeting Friday 01st March 2024 at 2pm.

## PPN Membership Reaches 1300 Community Groups!

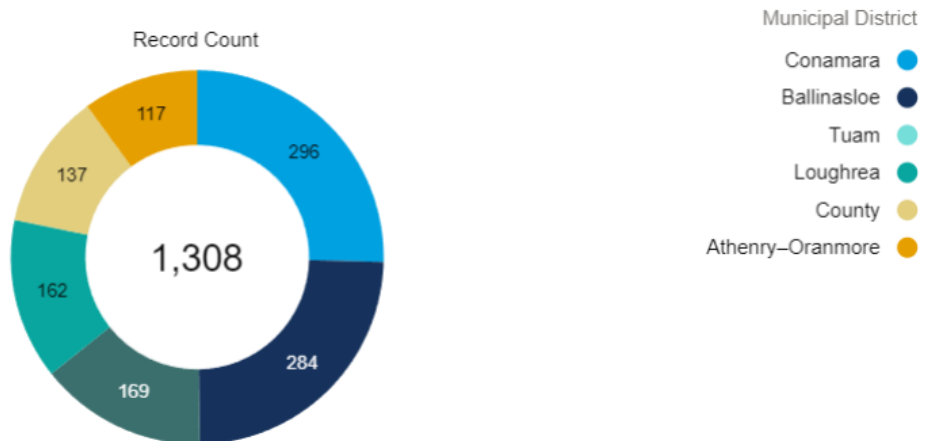
Galway County PPN membership has surpassed 13 hundred registered community groups!

Long may it continue. The PPN staff are always happy to help where we can.

*(Bear with us though, because administering a network this large takes quite a lot of work).*

Learn about what we do in our Information Booklet [HERE](#).

### Groups by Municipal District



[View Report \(Groups by Municipal District\)](#)

## PPN Updates From February

### PPN co-funded a Permaculture Weekend with Celt.org and Alfred Decker

CELT are delighted to share that our FREE PERMACULTURE WORKSHOP with Alfred Decker, Internationally renowned Permaculture Educator and Designer, was booked out on the first day of announcement.

The training took place over the weekend of 9th, 10th, 11th February 2024 in the wonderful eco friendly Slieve Aughty Center, with food available from the on site organic cafe sourcing food from onsite organic gardens - which were also used for Permaculture teaching and discussion purposes.

*The training created a stimulating and inspiring opportunity for community members, exploring together how Permaculture can be more recognised in supporting an environmentally friendly and sustainable way of living.. Following the One Planet Living guidelines, and permaculture design principles can help us transition to a more sustainable way of life and an opportunity to explore the regenerative approach of Permaculture Design.*

To learn about Alfred Decker's work please visit - <https://12pdesign.net/alfred-decker/>  
For information on the work of CELT visit their website - <https://www.celtnet.org/>



---

## PPN Stakeholder Training

The online only self-paced training 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 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](#)



Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Phoiblí Chontae na Gaillimhe  
Public Participation Network Galway County

**Are you registered to access information  
on community funding and training  
opportunities?**

Galway County Public Participation Network (PPN) is calling on all grassroots groups from Parish Halls & Community Centres, Men's and Women's Sheds, Volunteer Youth Clubs and Senior Citizen Groups, to make sure they register with the PPN, so they are informed of upcoming funding opportunities to cover running/energy costs, and other capital grants to purchase equipment and upgrade community amenities and facilities.

**Simply click 'register now' on our website  
<https://www.galwaycountypn.ie/>**

*Galway County PPN is a network of all community and voluntary groups based in County Galway and acts as an information hub between communities and Galway County Council, as well as providing training and capacity-building opportunities for communities.*



Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Phoiblí Chontae na Gaillimhe  
Public Participation Network Galway County

### **An bhfuil do ghrúpa cláraithe chun teacht ar eolas maidir le maoiniú pobail agus ar dheiseanna oiliúna?**

Tá Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Poiblí Chontae na Gaillimhe (PPN) ag iarraidh ar gach grúpa pobail ó Hallaí Paróiste & Ionaid Phobail, Seideanna na bhFear agus na mBan, Clubanna Óige Deonacha agus Grúpaí Seanóirí, a chinntiú go gcláróidh siad leis an PPN, ionas go gcuirfear ar an eolas iad faoi mhaoiniú atá le teacht, deiseanna chun costais reatha/fhuinnimh a chlúdach, agus deontais chaipitil eile chun trealamh a cheannach agus áiseanna agus áiseanna pobail a uasghrádú.

**Níl le déanamh ach clliceáil ar 'cláraigh anois' ar ár suíomh Gréasáin**  
**<https://www.galwaycountypn.ie/>**

*Is líonra é PPN Chontae na Gaillimhe de gach grúpa pobail agus deonach atá lonnaithe i gContae na Gaillimhe. Feidhmíonn sé mar nase eolais idir an pobal agus Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe, chomh maith le sinn cuireann sé deiseanna oiliúna agus forbartha acmhainne ar fáil don phobail.*

When a group registers it becomes part of the Galway County PPN Structure.

Registration is easy and free of charge!

Registered groups receive regular updates, information on funding opportunities and also benefit from advertising their own community activities free of charge.

Register now: <https://www.galwaycountypn.ie/registration-form/>

---

## PPN NATIONAL NEWS

From [Department of Rural and Community Development](#)  
**Public Participation Networks latest news - read more [HERE](#).**

An updated edition of a resource guide aimed at ensuring that marginalised and disadvantaged communities have opportunities to participate in local planning and decision-making has been launched.

**'A Guide for Inclusive Community Engagement in Local Planning and Decision Making'**

Read more [HERE](#). Digital Version of the Guide is [HERE](#).

---

## PPN Supports Provided by *The Wheel*

Link to previous PPN Supports & Training available on Department website [HERE](#)

Our Values



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

**the  
wheel**

Stronger Charities.  
Stronger Communities.

---

## GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL NEWS

# Buggy Buddies Programs Tuam and Athenry



**Buggy Buddies Tuam**

Postnatal-Friendly Exercise Classes  
Mondays 11:30am - 12:30pm  
March 4th, 11th & 18th, April 8th, 15th & 22nd  
Tuam Stars GAA - H54XY05  
€20

Helping you make time for exercise & get back to fitness!

Registration via Eventbrite  
email: [galwayactive@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:galwayactive@galwaycoco.ie) for more details

*\*For health and safety reasons participants must a minimum of 6-weeks postpartum to register*

Logos: HSE, Cúram Sláinte Phobail, Iarthar, Community Healthcare West, SPÓRT ÉIREANN SPORT IRELAND, #WomenInSportIRE



**Buggy Buddies Athenry**

Postnatal-Friendly Exercise Classes  
Wednesdays 10:30 - 11:30am  
March 6th, 13th & 20th, April 10th, 17th & 24th  
Athenry Football Club - H65NY66  
€20

Helping you make time for exercise & get back to fitness!

Registration via Eventbrite  
email: [galwayactive@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:galwayactive@galwaycoco.ie) for more details

*\*For health and safety reasons participants must a minimum of 6-weeks postpartum to register*

Logos: HSE, Cúram Sláinte Phobail, Iarthar, Community Healthcare West, SPÓRT ÉIREANN SPORT IRELAND, #WomenInSportIRE

Galway Sports Partnership are delighted to announce that we will be hosting 2 Buggy Buddies programs starting during Women in Sport week supported by HSE funding!

This is a specifically tailored program for new parents in the Tuam and Athenry areas. The sessions will take place outdoors or indoors depending on the weather. Please join us for a cuppa and a chat after the sessions.

**\*Note you must be at least 6 weeks postpartum and have medical clearance to take part in this program\***

**Tuam** Location: Tuam Stars GAA Club H54XY05  
Dates: Mondays 4th, 11th & 18th March, 8th, 15th & 22nd April  
Time: 11:30am-12:30pm Cost: €20  
Register: [Buggy Buddies Tuam Tickets, Mon 4 Mar 2024 at 11:30 | Eventbrite](#)

**Athenry** Location: Athenry Football Club H65NY66  
Dates: Wednesdays 6th, 13th & 20th March, 10th, 17th & 24th April  
Time: 10:30am-11:30am Cost: €20  
Register: [Buggy Buddies Athenry Tickets, Wed 6 Mar 2024 at 10:30 | Eventbrite](#)

If you have any queries please contact us at [galwayactive@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:galwayactive@galwaycoco.ie)

---

**Astronomy Week & Engineers Week**  
Starts 8th & 9th March

**March in Tuam Library**  
093 24287  
tuam@galwaylibrary.ie

We will be closed 16th, 29th, 30th March for the Bank Holiday

**Crafty Corner**  
1st March  
11-12.30  
Bring your craft work & meet for a chat

**World Book Day**  
7th March  
Library dress up & afternoon storytime

**Library Crafts**  
14th March  
St Patrick's badges  
28th March  
Easter Bonnets

**Storytime for toddlers**  
Every Wednesday  
11am  
All Welcome

**Happy Easter**

**Digital Drop-in**  
Every Friday 3pm  
Drop in with any queries about digital library resources

**Breastfeeding Group**  
14th March  
10.30am

**Young Adult Book Club**  
Saturday, 2 March  
3pm

**Age Action Computer Classes**  
Every Wednesday  
11am  
Contact Library

**Community Connects**  
5th & 19th March  
11-12.30  
Tea & chat & info sessions  
All Welcome

**Soundbites Music Session** 28th March 1pm  
Tuam Library

## National Broadband Plan

The [National Broadband Plan \(NBP\)](#) aims to ensure that every home, school and business in Ireland – regardless of how remote or rural – has access to high speed broadband.

This is being achieved through a combination of **Commercial investment** across the country ( the **blue areas** of the Broadband Map)

a **State Intervention** in those areas where commercial operators acting alone are unlikely to invest ( the **Amber Areas** of the Broadband Map) NBI are the company appoint to deliver these services. NBI has set up a [website](#) with information on their service delivery plans, they have a section where persons can be kept up to date with projected delivery dates of service in their area using their Eircode and email address.

The [National Broadband map](#) which is available on the [Gov.ie Interactive Map](#) site identifies locations and premises as being AMBER or BLUE, you can search this map using your Eircode, *if you don't know your Eircode you can use this [Eircode Finder tool](#).*

The Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment (DCCAE) is actively monitoring the rollout of high-speed broadband in the BLUE areas so as to ensure the accuracy of the Map. If your house or business is in a BLUE area and you do not have access to high speed broadband, please follow the steps outlined below:

Check if your premises is located in an amber or blue area by either:  
Entering your Eircode or Entering your address in the search box or Zooming in on the map.

If your premises is in a BLUE area: You can run a line speed check using [www.speedtest.net](http://www.speedtest.net) or similar speed test web sites, If your speed checks are consistently below 30Mbps, you need to:

Check with ALL operators in your area to see if you can get high speed broadband.

If you cannot get a high speed broadband service, you need to contact the Department through the dedicated portal <https://secure.dccae.gov.ie/forms/NBP-Customer-Service.aspx> . Include your Eircode, a copy of your line speed check results and confirmation of the operators you have contacted.

The Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment (DCCAE) will then correspond with you directly on the NBP and how it is envisaged a high speed Broadband service is envisage to be delivered to your Eircode.

### **Wireless broadband**

A full list of licenced **Wireless** broadband suppliers for County Galway can be found on the [ComReg website](#), by typing Galway into the search bar and pressing search.

### **Mobile phone signal–**

Persons can check the expected mobile coverage in their area by reviewing the coverage maps on the [ComReg website](#) by typing your Eircode or address into the search bar and pressing search, this web site provides a map of the expected mobile coverage ( e.g. 3G,4G) in their area.

Mobile signal as shown on the **ComReg** website can differ from what is available on the ground due to the topography of the surrounding land and when measured indoors.

If poor mobile signal is main experienced indoors, you may wish to consider a mobile repeater, this is an electronic device that can be used to improve indoor coverage of mobile phone services like calls, texts and data, more information mobile repeaters can be fund [here](#).

### **Contacting the Department of Communications**

The Department of Communications has put in place a system to allow members of the public to contact them directly for queries relating to broadband and its delivery. Due to nature and extent of the information required, and GDPR guidelines, this is now the recommended channel for raising queries of this nature and can be accessed via the link below.

<https://secure.dccae.gov.ie/forms/NBP-Customer-Service.aspx>

---

**Any household waste electrical items**, batteries or energy saving light bulbs accepted, large or small! From Fridges to Phones, Laptops to Electric Lawnmowers, Toys to Power Tools, and everything in-between, WEEE recycle anything with a plug or battery!

For further information contact WEEE Ireland <https://www.weeeireland.ie/contact/> or 012999320.

Electrical, battery and lighting waste can also be recycled throughout the year at civic amenity sites in Tuam, Clifden and Ballinasloe with full details at:

<https://www.galway.ie/en/services/environment/wasteandlitter/civicamenitysites/>

---



# YOUR VOICE MATTERS AND YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT

Galway County Council are updating the Electoral Register. It is your responsibility to ensure your details are correct.

[checktheregister.ie](http://checktheregister.ie)

If you are already registered to vote you should check the Electoral Register to confirm and update your details by providing your PPSN, Eircode and Date of Birth.

If you are not registered to vote you can now register online. To update your details or to register go to [checktheregister.ie](http://checktheregister.ie).

For further information or hard copy forms please email [electors@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:electors@galwaycoco.ie) phone 091-509310 or visit:

Galway County Council  
Áras an Chontae,  
Prospect Hill,  
Galway  
H91 H6KX

checktheregister.ie QR Code



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland

## The registration process has changed. What's different?

- **Registering to vote for the first time is now possible online at [www.checktheregister.ie](http://www.checktheregister.ie)**  
Use of PPSNs facilitates identity checking meaning that now, most people won't have to visit a Garda station to have forms witnessed.
- **16- and 17-year-olds will be able to pre-register to vote**  
Introduction of a pending electors list enables those 16 and 17 to pre-register and be automatically registered when they turn 18.
- **You must be living full time in the State to be eligible to vote**  
We will ask you your nationality in your application as this may affect which elections you can vote in.

An Irish citizen	You are eligible to vote in all elections and referendums
An EU citizen	You are eligible to vote in European and local elections
A British citizen	You are eligible to vote in Dáil and local elections
All other	You are eligible to vote in local elections

### Want to register to vote?

Apply at [www.checktheregister.ie](http://www.checktheregister.ie) Choose this if you:

- Have your PPSN and Eircode available
- Are aged 18 or over and living in Ireland
- Are aged 16 or 17 and want to pre-register

### Some cases require a form

Select [www.checktheregister.ie/en-IE/forms](http://www.checktheregister.ie/en-IE/forms) Choose this if you:

- Don't have a PPSN
- Want to update your citizenship
- Want to apply for a special or postal vote
- Want to make a third-party request for a change to the register

### Already registered but need to update details?

Select [www.checktheregister.ie/en-IE/search](http://www.checktheregister.ie/en-IE/search) Choose this if you:

- Have your PPSN and Eircode
- Need to confirm your details
- Need to update your address



## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Volunteer Galway Events

Volunteer Galway events - Read more below:

<https://volunteergalway.ie/volunteer-galway-events/>

## The Wheel's National Summit for Charities, Community Groups and Social Enterprises

# SUMMIT 2024

Learning from the Past  
Looking to the Future

29 May, Croke Park, Dublin

We are excited to announce that [registration is open for The Wheel's National Summit for Charities, Community Groups and Social Enterprises](#), taking place on 29 May 2024 at Croke Park, Dublin.

The full programme and speakers will be announced soon. [Register now](#) to secure your place and avail of the special 2-for-1 offer.



## Insurance Survey - Charity, Community and Voluntary Sector

The Alliance for Insurance Reform is undertaking sectoral surveys (charity, business, tourism, sport, hospitality etc.) to ascertain its member's current situation. This will enable the Alliance to speak with greater authority on the issue of rising costs and unavailability of insurance for many organisations.

We would love to ask members to **complete the survey below**. It has only 6 questions and will take less than a minute to complete.

[Take the survey here](#)

Cairn Community Games

# We're All In

Proud sponsors of Cairn Community Games



We are thrilled to be announcing our official partnership and sponsorship of Cairn Community Games.

As you may be aware Community Games aims to provide opportunities for children and young people aged 6 to 16 years to develop active healthy lives and minds in a safe environment through experiencing a wide range of sporting and cultural activities.

Just as Community Games brings young people together from all types of backgrounds, Cairn has always been committed to creating sustainable, thriving communities in new developments we are delivering throughout Ireland. Every year up to 160,000 young people participate in the games with the 10,000 volunteers who make this possible in over 430 locations in every county in the Republic of Ireland.

We are proud to be investing €3 million into Community Games over a four-year period. Our investment will reinforce the continued strength and longevity, positively impacting communities across Ireland.

Integral to the Cairn investment is a joint commitment with Community Games to increase participation by 10% to 176,000 young people by 2028, enhancing diversity and inclusion, and raising awareness within new audience groups.

We look forward to young people in your area participating in the games and hope we can count on your support for Cairn Community Games as we seek to enhance the number of those participating in this wonderful competition.

Contact information: [michael.stanley@cairnhomes.com](mailto:michael.stanley@cairnhomes.com)

---



Grúpa Oidhreachta agus Seandálaíochta Iorras Aithneach

## Lá Eolais in Ionad Cuimhneacháin na nImirceach Cárna



Dé hAoine 8ú Márta 2024



10AM

Oscailt agus Fáilte.

10.15AM

Gníomhaíochtaí agus pleananna Grúpa Oidhreachta agus Seandálaíochta Iorras Aithneach *le Kiaran Ó Maoileáin*

11.15AM

Crannóga Chonamara *le Richard Long*

12.15IN

Conamara, Fianaise na Staire, an Introduction to 8000 Years of History and Archaeology *le Michael Gibbons*

1.15IN

Tae agus Sóláistí

Fáilte Roimh Chuile Dhuine

**Focus on: Environment Pillar**

Annual Online Gathering of Community Growers, 2nd March



## CGI & SOCIAL FARMS & GARDENS NI

# 3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL **ONLINE GATHERING** SATURDAY MARCH 2ND, 11am-1pm



Growing Resilience Across Ireland  
#GRÁIreland



Community Gardens Ireland are a voluntary, independent, inclusive group that works with all agencies and groups that promote environmental awareness and support community gardening and food growing in all parts of the island of Ireland.

Next month, **Community Gardens Ireland & Social Farms & Gardens Northern Ireland** are together organising our 3rd annual online gathering and forum! The event starts at **11am on Saturday 2nd March**.

This free event takes place online and will include speakers from allotments, community gardens & groups across Ireland.

This is always an incredibly popular event and is the largest online event for anyone interested in allotments, community gardens and community growing across the island of Ireland.

The 2024 theme is **Food Education** and the link to find out more information is here:

<https://cgireland.org/3rd-annual-online-gathering-of-community-growers-2nd-march/>

The event is Online via Zoom.

---

**Glenamaddy Community Garden**



# GLENAMADDY COMMUNITY GARDEN



**Date: Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2024**

**VENUE: Ballyhard, Glenamaddy, Co Galway F45FK57**

**Time: 10.30am to 12.30pm**

Enrolment of new members. This is an exciting year for Glenamaddy Community Garden with the development of a new Sensory Garden and Woodland area alongside our existing Vegetable Garden and Greenhouse. We welcome anyone with an interest in gardening or those who would like to join a fun group and help out as a volunteer.

*Email me if you need any further information prior to the day. [Connelly.bernie@gmail.com](mailto:Connelly.bernie@gmail.com)*

***New Members Welcome!***

Spring is in the air and the daffodils are peeping up! The Glenamaddy Community Garden members are planning for the year ahead with exciting developments in the New Sensory Garden and woodland area.

We need new members - If you have any interest in gardening and want to meet like minded people, we will have a **Registration day** on **Saturday 2nd March** 2024 at **10.30am**.

We meet each Saturday morning from 10.30 to 1pm, we would love you to come and join our enthusiastic group at Ballyhard Glenamaddy F45FK57.

Contact details: Bernie Connelly - [connelly.bernie@gmail.com](mailto:connelly.bernie@gmail.com)

---

***REGISTER AS A "GREEN DOG WALKER"***



leave only pawprints. ®...

# Green Dog Walkers®



A friendly way to tackle dog fouling issues



Sign the pledge for you and your pal!



Green Dog Walkers® is a project initiated in County Galway by Galway County Council.

If you wish to sign this Pledge, please fill out the attached acceptance form and email to...

e: [environment@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:environment@galwaycoco.ie)

Environment Section  
Galway County Council  
Áras an Chontae  
Prospect Hill  
Galway H91H6KX

t: 091 509 510

Keep your copy of the Pledge for future reference.



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe  
Galway County Council

# Green Dog Walkers®

## Pro-actively changing attitudes about dog fouling in Co. Galway

Educating and influencing the behaviour of dog owners regarding dog fouling will be to the fore as Galway County Council launch the “Green Dog Walkers Scheme” as an addition to its on-going Anti-Dog Fouling Campaign. The campaign continues to emphasise that dog fouling is the responsibility of the dog owner/walker and that they must clean up after their dog.

Dog owners and dog walkers in Co. Galway are invited to register as “Green Dog Walkers” in this scheme.

The Green Dog Walkers scheme is a positive, pro-active, non -confrontational, friendly way to change attitudes about dog fouling in Co. Galway. The programme has been rolled out in many parts of Ireland and has proven very successful. The scheme consists of dog owners and dog walkers committing to clean up after their dog, and to being a friendly reminder to other dog walkers to clean up after their dog, while at no time being aggressive or confrontational about the issue. An information leaflet about the scheme and a pledge form are available.

### What does it mean when you sign up?

When you sign up to the scheme you will be sent a complimentary Green Dog Walkers high-viz vest and a ‘doggie bone’ poop-bag dispenser with a roll of bags.

By signing up to the scheme you have ‘Taken the Pledge’ to always clean up after your dog, to carry extra doggie bags and to gladly give others a bag for their dog if they ask for one. By wearing the Green Dog Walkers high-viz vest you are indicating that you are a responsible dog-owner participating in and supporting the Green Dog Walkers scheme, and a contact for others who might want information about the scheme.

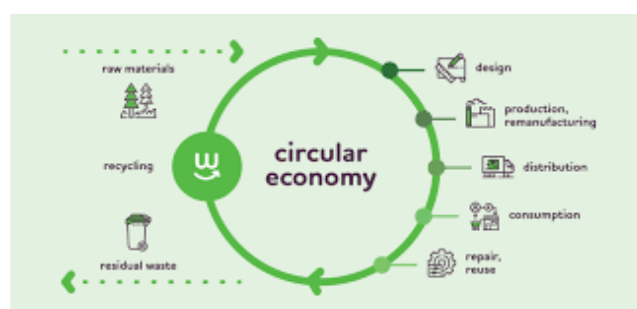
We encourage everyone to support the campaign as this will make it more effective. Higher participation will lead to a greater impact in tackling the dog fouling problem in our county. Most dog owners are very responsible but there are instances of dog fouling on our streets and in green spaces, and it is detrimental to the health of all. It is very upsetting for the public when the dog waste goes on shoes, wheelchairs or buggies!

### Want to join the Green Dog Walkers scheme?

Fill out [Application Form](#) and email to [environment@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:environment@galwaycoco.ie) or download [Green Dog Walkers](#) and post to

**Environment Section**, Galway County Council, Áras an Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway, H91H6KX

091509510



### Circular Living

Circular living keeps products and material in circulation through processes like improved efficiency, maximising use, conserving, preventing waste, maintaining, sharing, reusing, repairing, remanufacturing, upcycling, recycling, composting and making these actions the norm.

As we embrace Circular Living materials never become waste and nature is regenerated. we are reducing waste, conserving precious resources, spending less, and contributing positively the environment.

<https://www.mywaste.ie/circular-living/>



FREE VAPE AND E-CIGARETTE RECYCLING FREE VAPE AND E-CIGARETTE RECYCLING IN THE WEEE IRELAND BLUE BATTERY BOX COLLECTION SYSTEM IN SHOPS, ELECTRICAL RETAILERS, AND LOCAL AUTHORITY CIVIC AMENITY SITES. FULL DETAILS AT [Free Vape & E-Cigarette Device Recycling - WEEE Ireland](#)

---

## *Two Anti-Litter Poster Competitions*

See below details of 2 Anti - Litter poster competitions Galway County Council are running for residents within its functional area.

All schools in the County have been invited to take part in the schools competition, details of which are attached. Please encourage your local school to take part.

The second competition is for individuals and groups such as youth groups, scouts, cubs, artists, etc. of all age groups who wish to take part. School children can take part in both competitions if they wish. The details of this competition is at

<https://www.galway.ie/en/news/name,47768,en.html>.

# SCHOOLS ANTI-LITTER POSTER COMPETITION 2024

Closing date for entries is Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024

GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL IS INVITING STUDENTS WITHIN ITS FUNCTIONAL AREA TO PARTICIPATE IN AN ANTI-LITTER POSTER COMPETITION AS PART OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL'S 2024 ANTI-LITTER PROGRAMME

IN DESIGNING YOUR POSTER, YOU MUST CONSIDER ONE OF THE FOLLOWING THEMES:

1. ROADSIDE LITTER
2. BEACH LITTER
3. STOP LITTERING NOW!
4. KEEP GALWAY LITTER FREE
5. ANTI-DOG FOULING



LOADS OF PRIZES!

## AGE GROUPS

### PRIMARY SCHOOL

1st, 2nd, 3rd, and highly commended prizes will be awarded to Junior Infants, Senior Infants, 1st Class, 2nd Class, 3rd Class, 4th Class, 5th Class, and 6th class.

### SECONDARY SCHOOL

1st, 2nd, 3rd, and highly commended prizes will be awarded to 1st Year, 2nd Year, 3rd Year, 4th Year, 5th Year and 6th Year.

## OVERALL WINNER

One overall winner in the Primary School and the Secondary School categories WILL WIN A VOUCHER FOR A BIKE!

## AWARDS CEREMONY

An awards ceremony will be held in Áras an Chontae, County Buildings, Prospect Hill, Galway in May 2024 (Date TBC) where all winners will receive their prizes and view the other winning entries.

## HOW TO ENTER

Please forward posters by post or deliver to Galway County Council, Áras an Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway H91H6KX before 4pm Wednesday 27th March 2024 marked "F.A.O. Mark Molloy, Poster Competition".

## TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. Closing date for this competition is Wednesday 27th March 2024. Entries submitted after the closing date will not be included.
2. Posters must be no bigger than A3.
3. More than one entry from a class is welcome.
4. Entrants must include Name of student, School name, School contact email, and Class on back of poster.
5. Submitted posters may be used in future anti-litter campaigns in the county.
6. Winners will be chosen from all entries received in each section.
7. Judging of the competition entries will take place after the closing date. All decisions made by the Judging Panel are final.
8. The winning schools will be contacted directly.
9. Unsuccessful entries will not be contacted regarding the outcome of the competition.

You are providing your information to the Environment Department, Galway County Council, who will administer and judge the competition. The winners' names will be published online and highlighted across social media channels or print media. The Winner must agree to the use of their name, image, and entry in any publicity material. Any personal data relating to the winner, or any other entrants will be used solely in accordance with current data protection legislation and Galway County Council privacy statement at

<https://www.galway.ie/en/services/environment/privacystatement/>

No information will be disclosed to a third party without the entrant's prior consent.



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe  
Galway County Council



# ANTI-LITTER POSTER COMPETITION 2024

GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL IS INVITING RESIDENTS IN ITS FUNCTIONAL AREA TO PARTICIPATE IN AN ANTI-LITTER POSTER COMPETITION

IN DESIGNING YOUR POSTER, YOU MUST CONSIDER ONE OF THE FOLLOWING THEMES:

1. ROADSIDE LITTER
2. BEACH LITTER
3. STOP LITTERING NOW!
4. KEEP GALWAY LITTER FREE
5. ANTI-DOG FOULING

Closing date for entries is Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024



## AGE GROUPS

1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes and runner up prizes will be awarded to 6 and under, 8 and under, 10 and under, 12 and under, 13-18, and over 18.

## OVERALL WINNER

One overall winner will be selected from all entries.

## AWARDS CEREMONY

An awards ceremony will be held in Áras an Chontae, County Buildings, Prospect Hill, Galway in May 2024 (Date TBC) where all winners will receive their prizes and view the winning entries.

## HOW TO ENTER

Please forward posters by post or deliver to Galway County Council, Áras an Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway H91H6KX before 4pm Wednesday 27th March 2024 marked 'F.A.O. Mark Molloy, Poster Competition'.

## TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. Closing date for this competition is Wednesday 27th March 2024. Entries submitted after the closing date will not be included.
2. Posters should be no bigger than A3.
3. Entrants must include Name, Address, Group if applicable, Age category and phone contact number on back of poster.
4. If under 16, phone number must be of parent / guardian / or group leader.
5. Submitted posters may be used in future Anti-Litter campaigns in the County.
6. Judging of the competition entries will take place after the closing date. All decisions made by the Judging Panel are final.
7. The winners will be contacted directly.
8. Unsuccessful entries will not be contacted regarding the outcome of the competition.

LOADS OF PRIZES!

You are providing your information to the Environment Department, Galway County Council, who will administer and judge the competition. The winners' names will be published online and highlighted across social media channels or print media. The Winner must agree to the use of their name, image, and entry in any publicity material. Any personal data relating to the winner, or any other entrants will be used solely in accordance with current data protection legislation and Galway County Council privacy statement at

<https://www.galway.ie/en/services/environment/privacystatement/>

No information will be disclosed to a third party without the entrant's prior consent.



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe  
Galway County Council

## An Cúinne Gaeilge



An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán  
Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaelacht, Sport and Media

Seachtain na Gaeilge!

# Tráth na gCeist Boird



## TÍGH PHLUNKETT

DÉ SATHAIRN, 2 MÁRTA, 7.30 I.N.

IONTRÁLA: €5 AN DUINE  
(4 AG GACH BORD LE D'THOIL)

AG TACÚ LE:

"Croí - Fondúireacht Chairdiaeh Iarthair na h-Éireann



Seachtain na Gaeilge!  
(urraithe ag Conradh na Gaeilge)

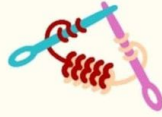
# OÍCHE CHEOIL SA PHOBAL



Dé Domhnaigh  
10ú Márta, 3.30 i.n.  
Tí Jeaic, An Hooker Bar  
Eanach Mheáin.



# TÁ ÁTHAS AR CHOISTE SÓISIALTA CHAMUIS I GCOMHAR LE GLÓR NA NGAEL TÚS A CHUIR LE CLUB CNIOTÁLA.



Ar mhaith leat deis scil nua a fhoghlaim, do chruthaitheacht a chothú, agus ceangal a dhéanamh le pobal na háite, saor in aisce



TOSNÚ AR AN  
LUAIN 4/3/2024  
@ 7-8 I.N

SCOIL NA  
MAIGHDINE  
MUIRE GAN  
SMÁL,  
CAMUS



Ní mór duit do ábhar cniotála a thabhairt  
leat!!



Glór  
na nGael

Moltar clárú roimh é le  
coistesoisialtachamuis@gmail.com

## Siompóisiam Eacnamaíoch

de chuid

Coiste Comhairleach Plean Gníomhaíochta  
Iorras Aithneach

Achmhainní & Riachtanais áitiúla

### Téamaí an Lae

- Gnó nua a fhorbairt
- Cianobair
- Fostaíocht agus Oiliúint
- Turasóireacht
- Earnáil na Mara
- Fuinneamh in-athnuaite
- Na Meáin Cumarsáide
- An Ghaeilge & Cultúr



IONAD CUIMHNEACHÁIN  
NA NIMIRCEACH CÁRNA.

26 ÛMÁRTA  
10.00 R.N. - 2.00 I.N.

BÍGÍ  
LINN SA  
CHOMHRÁ!



Tuilleadh eolais: Eithne 0874019989



# FOLÚNTAS

Oifigeach Pleanála Teanga

**Post lán-aimseartha ar conradh**

Fáilteofar roimh iarratais ó dhaoine leis an taithí agus na cáilíochtaí seo a leanas:

- Ardchaighdeán líofachta i labhairt agus scríobh na Gaeilge – riachtanach.
- Duine cumasach, fuinniúil go bhfuil suim, taithí agus cáilíochtaí aige/aici i gcur chun cinn na Gaeilge agus i bhforbairt pobail.
- Scileanna ríomhaireachta den scoth
- Eolas agus taithí ar bhainistiú airgeadais
- Cur amach ar na meáin shóisialta
- Taithí ag obair mar bhall d'fhoireann
- Scileanna maithe idirphearsanta, cumarsáide agus eagrúcháin

Pá: €36,236 - €51,750 (ag brath ar thaithí)

Tá na mionsonraí a bhaineann leis an bpost le fáil ach teagmháil a dhéanamh le Forbairt Chonamara Láir ag: 087 3294478 [fclteo@conamaralair.ie](mailto:fclteo@conamaralair.ie)

Tá cóip de Phlean Teanga Chonamara Láir ar fáil ar: [www.conamaralair.ie](http://www.conamaralair.ie)

Ba chóir iarratas mar aon le C.V. a sheoladh chuig: An tOifigeach Forbartha, Forbairt Chonamara Láir Teo., Teach an Údaráis, Carna, Co. na Gaillimhe, H91X07X nó [fclteo@conamaralair.ie](mailto:fclteo@conamaralair.ie) roimh 14 Márta 2024 @ 4.00in

# News from the Departments

## Department of Rural and Community Development

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



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

### A Guide for Inclusive Community Engagement in Local Planning and Decision Making

An updated edition of a resource guide aimed at ensuring that marginalised and disadvantaged communities have opportunities to participate in local planning and decision-making has been launched.

Read more [HERE](#).

### Our Rural Future: Minister Humphreys announces largest ever expansion of Ireland's National Walks Scheme

From [Department of Rural and Community Development](#)

Published on 28 February 2024. Last updated on 28 February 2024

The Walks Scheme was launched in 2008 to facilitate the development and maintenance of key walking trails by private landholders. The scheme is administered by 20 Local Development Companies (LDCs) who deliver the scheme in their area on behalf of the Department.

Among the new Walks Scheme trails being announced today are:

**Lúb Dún Fearbhaí, Inis Meáin, Co. na Gaillimhe**

Further details of the Walks Scheme can be found at:

[gov.ie - The Walks Scheme and Rural Recreation Officers \(www.gov.ie\)](#).

Read more [HERE](#).

## Department of The Environment, Climate and Community

<https://www.gov.ie/en/organisation/department-of-the-environment-climate-and-communications/>



An Roinn Comhshaoil,  
Aeráide agus Cumarsáide  
Department of the Environment,  
Climate and Communications

### Call for organisations and groups to be Sustainable Development Goal Champions



# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



The Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications is now seeking Expressions of Interest for participants in the **2024-25 Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Champions Programme**.

As part of the 2024-2025 programme, a number of organisations and groups from across the country will be appointed 'SDG Champions' to help raise awareness of the importance of the SDGs as the cornerstone of a fair, prosperous and sustainable future for all. As Champions, they will show through their own actions that everyone in society can make a contribution to the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#).

The SDGs, also known as the Global Goals, were adopted by the United Nations in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people could enjoy peace and prosperity. There are 17 SDGs, covering areas such as poverty, shelter, education, health gender equality and clean energy. They are all integrated, recognising that action in one area will affect outcomes in others, and that development must be mindful of social, economic and environmental sustainability.

Already, 34 organisations and groups, large and small, have become SDG Champions, including for example Musgrave, The GAA, ECO-UNESCO, University of Galway, Ballyhoura Development, and Chambers Ireland. Last year, over 80 organisations applied to take part in the programme, from which 26 were chosen as champions, demonstrating the commitment of Irish society to help ensure that we achieve the SDGs.

Applications are sought from all organisations and groups who would like to act as an advocate for the SDGs and a good practice example of how to promote and achieve the goals.

**Applications will be accepted in written or video format up to 5:00pm on Monday, 1 April, 2024.**

For further information on the SDG Champions Programme, and how to apply, please go to [gov - Expressions of Interest sought for participants of the 2024-2025 Sustainable Development Goal \(SDG\) Champions Programme \(www.gov.ie\)](#).

## Consultations

### LOCAL CONSULTATIONS

#### **Athenry Local Area Plan 2024-2030**

Notice of Draft Ministerial Direction in the matter of Section 31 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) - Athenry Local Area Plan 2024-2030.

Deadline: 14 Mar, 2024, 4:00pm.

Read more [HERE](#).

---

## Residential Zoned Land Tax Annual Draft Map - 2024

**This consultation asks you to consider the draft maps and make your submissions on five separate points:**

Proposal to remove full land parcel

Proposal to remove part of land parcel

Proposal to include lands

Submission regarding date on which a site first satisfied the relevant criteria

Landowners seeking land-use zoning (For Landowners only)

The point(s) regarding inclusion and exclusion of lands will remain open for submissions until **April 1st 2024**.

All submissions to these questions will be published within 10 working days of their receipt.

The point in relation to Landowners seeking land-use zoning will remain open for submissions until **May 31st 2024**

**Deadline: 31 May, 2024, 4:00pm.**

Read more [HERE](#).

---

## NATIONAL CONSULTATIONS

### Opinions sought on the role of the culture sector in climate action

From [Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media](#) Published on 1 March 2024 Last updated on 1 March 2024.

**Minister Martin announces public consultation as part of the development of the Culture, Creativity & Climate Policy Framework.**

Catherine Martin, Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, has today launched an online survey seeking views of members of the public to help in the development of Ireland's new Culture, Creativity and Climate Policy Framework.

The online consultation is open until **5pm on Friday, 22 March 2024**.

Read more [HERE](#).

---

### Public Consultation on Climate Action Plan 2024

From [Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications](#) Published on 12 February 2024 Open for submissions from 20 February 2024 Submissions closed 5 April 2024 Last updated on 21 February 2024.

If you wish to make a submission or observation on [Climate Action Plan 2024](#), the Annex of Actions, or the SEA Environmental Report or Natura Impact Statement, you can do so on the online consultation platform [here](#).

Alternatively, submissions can be made by email to [ClimateActionPlan@decc.gov.ie](mailto:ClimateActionPlan@decc.gov.ie) or by post to: Climate Action Plan 2024 Public Consultation Climate Action Plan and the Public Sector Division, 3rd Floor Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications 29-31 Adelaide Road, Dublin 2, D02 X285

The closing date for submissions is **5.30pm Friday, 5 April 2024**

Read more [HERE](#).

---

### Survey: Ecological Sensitivity Analysis of the Celtic Sea

Update from Professor Louise Allcock regarding the current Ecological Sensitivity Analysis of the Celtic Sea, the MPA Advisory Group would like to invite you to participate further in the project by means of a short questionnaire survey seeking your views and perspectives on the Celtic Sea and marine protected areas.

You will find this online survey by clicking on the link below:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Survey\\_EcoSensitivityAnalysisCelticSea](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Survey_EcoSensitivityAnalysisCelticSea)

This survey is anonymous, it should only take about 10 minutes to complete, and we very much welcome and appreciate your input to this aspect of the project. Please note, the online closing date is **Friday March 15th at 6pm**

From: Marine Environment Section, DHLGH (on behalf of the MPA Advisory Group)

In 2023 this subset of experts completed an ecological sensitivity analysis of the western Irish Sea. The reports and other outputs from this work are available through the following link: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/e00ec-marine-protected-areas/>.

## Public Consultation on the Autism Innovation Strategy

The Autism Innovation Strategy aims to address the bespoke challenges and barriers facing autistic people and to improve understanding and accommodation of autism within society and across the public system. The Strategy contains actions that will be undertaken across Government to better support autistic people and their families. The duration of the Strategy will be 18 months.

The Autism Innovation Strategy will complement and enhance wider action on disability by focusing on areas where there are bespoke needs for autistic people.

Read more [HERE](#).

---

## Research on energy vulnerability by UCC researcher



Project title - The role of lived experiences in public policy: exploring the inclusion of energy vulnerability perspectives

Briefing document

Thank you for considering participating in this research project. The purpose of this document is to explain to you what the work is about and what your participation would involve, enabling you to make an informed choice.

The purpose of this study is to investigate the experiences of energy vulnerability in Ireland. Energy access is critical for maintaining good health and social well-being in the home. However, vulnerable groups face high costs and insufficient energy to meet their daily needs. In light of the current energy crisis, there is a growing interest in understanding how the energy vulnerable experience and cope with limited energy access. However, most policies aimed at the energy vulnerable have relied on evidence based on quantitative data, which fails to account for lived energy experiences and thus fails to effectively address the problem of energy vulnerability. This research aims to document the experiences of energy vulnerability in Ireland to help to inform and improve public policy. You will be asked about your lived energy experience, such as your energy use, energy needs, challenges and daily activities.

If you choose to participate, you will be asked to participate in a one-to-one interview with the researcher, complete a survey and keep a diary for at least a month. This interview will be audio recorded and is expected to take 30-40 minutes to complete.

Participation in this study is entirely voluntary. There is no obligation to participate, and should you choose to do so, you can refuse to answer specific questions, decide to withdraw from the interview or not keep a diary, or complete the survey. Once the interview, survey, and diary keeping have been concluded, you can withdraw up to two weeks from the completion of interviews and surveys and submission of diaries.

All the information you provide will be kept confidential and anonymous and available only to the researcher and supervision team. If there is a risk of harm, the researcher will provide contacts to reach out to. Once the interview is completed, the recording will immediately be transferred to UCC-Supplied Microsoft Products like OneDrive and Teams storage platform and wiped from the recording device.

The researcher will transcribe the interview, removing all identifying information. Once this is done, the recording will also be deleted, and only the anonymized transcript will remain. This will be stored on a UCC-Supplied Microsoft OneDrive and Teams using the researcher's UCC credentials. Any physical documents, such as consent forms, will be converted to electronic format. Any physical documents will be held in locked cabinets in the offices of the researcher's department. The data will be securely stored for a minimum of ten years.



The information you provide may contribute to PhD thesis, research publications and/or conference presentations.

We do not intend to cause any distress to participants. Some of the topics broached in the interview, however, are of a sensitive and personal nature. Should you wish to do so, you can choose not to answer questions or to bring the interview to an end at any time. At the end of the interview, I will discuss with you how you found the experience and how you are feeling. Should you experience distress arising from the interview, the contact details for support services provided below may be of assistance.

St Vincent de Paul – Phone: +353 1 884 8200 | Email: [info@svp.ie](mailto:info@svp.ie)

Money Advice and Budgeting Service – Phone: +3538 1 807 2000 | Email: [helpline@mabs.ie](mailto:helpline@mabs.ie)

This study has obtained ethical approval from the UCC Social Research Ethics Committee.

If you have any queries about this research, you can contact me, Claudia Hihetah, at Mobile: +353 87 261 6958 | Email: [chihetah@ucc.ie](mailto:chihetah@ucc.ie)

Claudia Hihetah ([chihetah@ucc.ie](mailto:chihetah@ucc.ie)), a doctoral researcher in UCC, is conducting research which aims to document the lived experiences of energy vulnerability in Ireland in order to help inform and improve policy. She is eager to interview people with disabilities to hear about their experience. I have copied below a couple of paragraphs from her, and attached is her research brief. She's really happy to hear from you with any queries you might have, and she'd be grateful if you would circulate info about her project to disabled people who might be open to participating.

This study aims to investigate the experiences of energy poverty in Ireland. Energy access is critical for maintaining good health and social well-being in the home. However, vulnerable groups face high costs and insufficient energy to meet their daily needs. Most policies aimed at tackling energy poverty have relied on evidence based on quantitative data, which fails to account for lived experiences and thus fails to address the problem effectively. This research aims to document the experiences of energy vulnerability in Ireland to help inform and improve public policy. You will be asked about your lived experience of energy vulnerability, such as your energy use, energy needs, challenges and daily activities.

If you choose to participate, you will be asked to participate in a one-to-one interview, complete a survey or keep a diary for at least two weeks. The interview will be audio recorded and is expected to take 30-40 minutes to complete. Participation in this study is completely voluntary. There is no obligation to participate, and should you choose to do so, you can refuse to answer specific questions or decide to withdraw from the study prior to completing any of the activities. You do not have to complete all the activities. All information you provide will be confidential, and your anonymity will be protected throughout the study.

Lisa Fenwick  
DFI Community Development Officer  
086 4670810  
[lisafenwick@disability-federation.ie](mailto:lisafenwick@disability-federation.ie)

## Funding

Town and Village Renewal Scheme (TVRS) 2024 – Project Development Measure (PDM)





Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe  
Galway County Council



Rialtas  
na hÉireann  
Government  
of Ireland

Tionscadal Éireann  
Project Ireland  
2040

Ár dTodhchaí  
Tuaithe  
Our Rural  
Future



## Town and Village Renewal Scheme (TVRS) 2024 – Project Development Measure (PDM)

**Expressions of Interest (EOI)** are now sought by Galway County Council, from Business Representative Groups, Community and Voluntary Groups for the 2024 Town and Village Renewal **Project Development Measure**. (PDM).

Number of Expression of Interest for the Project Development that can be shortlisted for further application are:

3 applications up to a maximum of €50,000 at a grant rate of 95%

The purpose of this Measure is to assist Local Authorities and Approved Applicants to contribute to a pipeline of significant, well-developed projects which might be subsequently progressed to construction stage subject to the availability of further funding. Expressions of Interest must be sought by the Local Authority, who can then put forward a maximum of three applications to the Department of Community and Rural Development for consideration and approval.

Funding may be awarded for costs such as detailed design, planning, procurement, professional fees, assessments and other development costs.

**Expression of Interest (EOI's) for the Project Development Measure can be submitted ONLINE only to Galway County Council Grant Schemes and must be received by 5.00pm on Friday March 15th 2024.**

Queries may be submitted to the Community & Rural Development Unit, Galway County Council by emailing: [tandv@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:tandv@galwaycoco.ie).  
Tel: 091-378850/091-509396/091-509334.

### Online Information Session

**Tuesday March 5th at 1.30pm to 2.00pm**

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 345 059 941 186

Passcode: 3ZHxnF

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

---

## Rural toolkit guide to EU funding and support opportunities

The Rural toolkit-European Commission's **long-term vision for stronger, connected, resilient and prosperous rural areas in the EU**.

The **Rural toolkit** is the comprehensive **guide to EU funding and support opportunities for rural areas** in the European Union. It aims to help local authorities, institutions and stakeholders, businesses and individuals to identify and take advantage of existing EU funds, programmes and other funding and support initiatives, and to foster development in rural territories.

Read more: <https://funding.rural-vision.europa.eu/?lng=en>

---

## International Protection Integration Fund 2024

[International Protection Integration Fund 2024 Part A](#)

## International Protection Integration Fund 2024 Part B

Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth: International Protection Integration Fund 2024

€1,500,000 will be made available to community based organisations to carry out integration projects at a national, regional or local level to support the integration of International Protection Applicants.

Grants of €30,000 to €100,000 will be allocated to successful Scheme A integration initiatives.

Grants of €2,000 to €10,000 will be allocated to successful Scheme B integration initiatives.

**Deadline: 12 pm on 6 March 2024**

---

## Communicating Europe Initiative

The Communicating Europe Initiative provides funding to voluntary organisations, educational bodies and civil society groups and bodies for projects intended to deepen public awareness of the role that the European Union plays in our daily lives, and improve the quality and accessibility of public information on European issues, at local, regional or national level. Projects should communicate European issues, the role of the European Union and Ireland's place in Europe.

Read more [HERE](#).

**Deadline: 11 March 2024**

---

## Community Foundation Ireland: Children's Groups invited to apply to RTÉ Toy Show Fund

Groups working with and supporting children are being invited to apply for funding from the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal.

Following the success of the appeal during the Late Late Toy Show more than €3.6 Million is being made available under two grant rounds.

Read more [HERE](#).

Deadline 14th March 2024.

---

## Rural Action Awards Scheme



The Rural Action Awards Scheme, is aimed at supporting rural communities celebrate their own achievements:

Rural community-based organisations in Northern Ireland, or the border region of Ireland have the opportunity to apply for and be in with a chance of securing £1000 or €1000 towards their chosen community project

The scheme is open to constituted rural community-based organisations including charities, not for profit community groups, sporting and cultural organisations, heritage groups, Parent Teacher Associations, youth groups/clubs and social enterprises.

3 recipients chosen at random.

Read more [HERE](#).

Deadline 20 March 2024.

---

## DISABILITY AND PARTICIPATION AWARENESS FUND WORTH €3.5M OPENS FOR APPLICATIONS

Minister of State with Special Responsibility for Disabilities, Anne Rabbitte, has launched the next iteration of the Disability and Participation Awareness Fund, designed to support people with disabilities to participate in community life.

**Deadline:** 5pm on Friday, 5 April.

Read more [HERE](#).

---

## ‘CHILDREN’S PROMISE’ GRANTS PROGRAMME REOPENS FOR 2024

The ‘**Children’s Promise**’ grants programme is a funding programme within Katharine Howard Foundation (KHF). KHF particularly focuses on prevention and early intervention initiatives, to support the best life outcomes for young children. This grants programme is a collaboration with Community Foundation Ireland.

**Deadline:** 1pm on 21 March.

Read more [HERE](#).

---

## Housing Adaptation Grant

The Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability is a grant for people with a physical, sensory, mental health or intellectual disability.

It provides funding so you can improve how you enter and move around your home.

Read More [HERE](#).

## Galway County Council Grants

**Housing Aid for Older People**

Read more [HERE](#).

**Housing Adaptation Grant**

Read more [HERE](#).

---

## Training

---

**Insurance Information Series - Session 3 - Negotiating my Premium and Understanding my Policy**

# Empowered

An insurance information series courtesy of the Alliance for Insurance Reform



## Need Help With...



**Understanding**  
your insurance  
policy?



**Negotiating**  
your premium?



**Knowing how**  
to manage risk?



**Dealing**  
with a claim?



If you would like to attend,  
please register at:  
[brian@insurancereform.ie](mailto:brian@insurancereform.ie)

Join the Alliance for Insurance Reform's monthly information sessions and get the practical knowledge you need.

### SESSION FOCUS:

#### SESSION 3

**"Negotiating Your  
Policy &  
Understanding Your  
Premium"**

*Fintan Kennedy,  
Agile Risk Solutions*



Zoom Session on  
**Tuesday, 12th March**  
at 10 am 2024





# SDG Advocate Training

Sustainable Development Goal Advocate Training 2024

**CALLING ALL ADULT AND COMMUNITY EDUCATORS!**



**Are you a positive  
changemaker  
contributing to a  
more sustainable  
world?**

**Are you looking for an opportunity  
to develop your knowledge and  
skills in Global Citizenship  
Education?**

Do you want to join Ireland's network of Active Citizens and create long-lasting positive change at a local and global level by contributing to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals

**Join the SDG Advocate Training 2024**

**Closing date for applications: March 15th 2024**



See more information and application form at  
[www.developmentperspectives.ie/advocate.html](http://www.developmentperspectives.ie/advocate.html)

Supported by **CONCERN** & **trócaire**  
worldwide

## Development Perspectives SDG Advocate training

Discover this year's opportunity to join the Development Perspectives SDG Advocate training. It's a great chance for people interested in developing skills and taking on a project to make positive change in their work or volunteering environments.

This year's project is open to anyone in the Adult and Community Education Sector who is passionate about sustainability and interested in joining a group of diverse, creative and innovative people to further their GCE skills and contribute to achieving the SDGs in Ireland.

For further information and application form below:

<https://developmentperspectives.ie/advocate.html>

## Ability Programme, Irish Wheelchair Association

### The Ability Programme:

Providing holistic, person-centred Coaching to enable a person to become an independent jobseeker or employee. Funded by the Dormant Accounts Fund and administered through Pobal, Ability is a FREE service, and Ability is an employability and job-seeking skills programme for people aged 18 and over with a physical disability who want to get closer to work and progress on their career journey.

Participants will have access to a range of areas such as:

**Coaching** is a process that supports and empowers people to get to where they want to be and to achieve the outcomes they want in their life and their career. A person-centred approach will be used to support each Ability Programme participant. A detailed career progression plan will be developed with the aim of bringing people closer to the labour market and ultimately supporting people gaining meaningful employment.

**Ability Connect:** Sessions where participants meet each other and discuss interesting topics such as Social Inclusion, Social Connectedness, Benefits of working, Motivation Techniques.

**Employability Skills Training:** Workshops and support with completing CV and cover letter, job interview skills and preparation training, job interview practice, approaching employers, job-searching training.

**Personal Development Training:** Self Confidence Skills, Goal Setting, Motivation skills.

**Employer and Participant Employment Support:** Support and coaching for the participant starting in the new job or work placement. On entering employment, participants will receive check ins from their Job Coach. Job Coach provides continued support and follow up meetings with both participant and employer.

If any participants are interested in joining the Ability Programme, please find my contact details are below or they may like to visit the website [www.iwa.ie](http://www.iwa.ie)

if you would like us to organise a meeting to discuss the Ability Programme or if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

**Susan Broderick**, Ability Programme Job Coach, Western Region, Irish Wheelchair Association  
**Mobile: 085 8019493 Email: [susan.broderick@iwa.ie](mailto:susan.broderick@iwa.ie)**

**The Ability Programme** is a service supporting adults with physical disabilities who want to improve their job-seeking and employability skills. Our aim is to provide holistic, person centred coaching to enable a person to become an independent job-seeker or employee. The programme offers one-to-one support to help participants develop their own step-by-step career progression plan. It is open to anyone with a physical disability in the Republic of Ireland.

#### What the Participant Will Receive

A person-centred approach will be used to support each Ability Programme participant. A detailed career progression plan will be developed with the aim of supporting people progress on their employment journey. One to one career coaching, group training sessions and confidence building will be provided.

#### Why Join The Ability Programme?

If you join our programme your Job Coach will focus on your ability and your goals. The programme will help you identify your pathway into further education, training or employment while working with you to become a confident, independent job-seeker or employee. Confidence building will also be provided.

## Ability Individual Member Process

A step-by-step guide on how to use The Ability Programme



#### Initial Meeting

At a meeting at your convenience we will identify how The Ability Programme can help you develop your own personalised career progression path.



#### Implementation

We will provide you with personalised coaching to help identify what training and assistance may be required for you to progress along your chosen career/education path. Employability training will also be provided.



#### Support

Our expert panel are always available to support you to access information relating to how your benefits and entitlements may be affected following employment.



#### Review

We will deliver continued support and follow up meetings with both you and your new employer.

## The Ability Team

The Ability Programme consists of one Programme Manager and two Job Coaches.



## Expression of Interest

If you are interested in **The Ability Programme**, or wish to learn more about our services, please return to the address below.

Name:

Address:

Tel:

Mobile:

Email:

## Vision and Mission

### IWA VISION

Irish Wheelchair Association (IWA) has a vision of an Ireland where people with disabilities enjoy equal rights, choices and opportunities in how they live their lives, and where our country is a model worldwide for a truly inclusive society.

### IWA MISSION

Irish Wheelchair Association (IWA) works with, and on behalf of, people with physical disabilities to drive positive change in Ireland through the influencing of public policy, the provision of quality services and enabling accessibility to all aspects of society.

**PEOPLE** are at the heart of everything that we do and this is enshrined in all of our values.

### Data Protection

IWA take the privacy and security of individuals and their personal information very seriously and take every reasonable measure and precaution to protect and secure the personal data that we process.

IWA are providing you with this Fair Processing Notice to inform you that IWA will process your personal and special category data in accordance with European and Domestic Data Protection Legislation.

IWA have a legitimate interest to do so for the purposes of providing the quality services offered by IWA, in an effort to drive positive change in Ireland through the influencing of public policy, to enable accessibility to all aspects of society and to comply with regulatory and legislative obligations.

IWA will use this data for the purposes of administering our relationship with you as a person who avails of IWA services, for the duration of your engagement with us and up to a period of 7 years after your engagement expiry date and to provide you with information about our services.

We will not, without your knowledge supply your data to any third party except where such a transfer is a necessary part of the activities that we undertake as an organisation, for example updating our funders or to facilitate services provided on our behalf by our GDPR compliant third parties. You have the right to obtain information about the data that we hold on you and to complain the Data Protection Commission about any concern you may have.

For further information, please see our Privacy Policy, which is located on our website, or contact our Customer Care Department at [customercare@iwa.ie](mailto:customercare@iwa.ie) or 01-8186485 for a hard copy of the IWA Privacy Policy.

Irish Wheelchair Association  
Blackheath Drive, Clontarf, Dublin 3  
Eircode: D03 AW62  
Tel: 01 818 6400 • Email: [info@iwa.ie](mailto:info@iwa.ie)

[www.iwa.ie](http://www.iwa.ie)



# Ability Programme

Providing holistic, person centred coaching to enable a person to become an independent job-seeker or employee



Eilias na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland



government supporting communities



clár na geisíní diúltacha  
the dormant accounts fund

The Ability Project was approved by Government with support from the Dormant Accounts Fund

## Training in Mental Health Peer-Support



Is there a **Mental Health Peer-Supporter** available in your club or association?

Cycle Against Suicide's **free\*** online Mental Health Peer-Support Training equips the everyday person with the step-by-step tools to give mental health support to their peers.

Train in Mental Health Peer-Support with Cycle Against Suicide to:

- Gain a better understanding of what peer-support is and its role in maintaining good mental health within our communities.
- Learn how to use peer-support if someone in your club, association or community needs mental health support.



**Become Your Club/Association's Mental Health Peer-Supporter!**

For dates and times of training, or to express interest email: [training@cycleagainstsucide.com](mailto:training@cycleagainstsucide.com)

Or register directly online with this QR code or at:

[www.cycleagainstsucide.com/community-buddy/](http://www.cycleagainstsucide.com/community-buddy/)



"It's OK not to feel OK, and it's absolutely OK to ask for help."

\* Offered free of charge to any community volunteer who is over 18 and a non-healthcare professional, such as volunteers of local community clubs or associations, sports clubs, book clubs, arts clubs, Tidy Towns, Men's Sheds, parents' associations, residents' associations, and any group dedicated to engaging in their community's health and wellbeing.



Training in Mental Health Peer-Support for all the community clubs and associations.

This training is offered free to all community volunteers in a drive to bring Peer-Support to the heart of communities as a critical part of mental health awareness and suicide prevention.

**Course:** Cycle Against Suicide's *free\** Mental Health Peer Support Training

**Delivery:** Online via Zoom from 7-10pm on 4 evenings over 2 weeks

**Training Dates:**

**March 2024:** Tues 12th, Thurs 14th and Tues 19th, Thurs 21st

**April 2024:** Mon 8th, Wed 10th and Mon 15th, Wed 17th

**May 2024:** Mon 13th, Wed 15th and Mon 20th, Wed 22nd

**To Register:**

**email:** [training@cycleagainstsucide.com](mailto:training@cycleagainstsucide.com)

**or online at** [www.cycleagainstsucide.com/register-to-become-community-buddy/](http://www.cycleagainstsucide.com/register-to-become-community-buddy/)

\*free to over-18s, non-healthcare professionals who volunteer in a community club and association.



# HopeSpace

Children's grief support service



Visit [HopeSpace.ie](http://HopeSpace.ie)  
for more info



## Strategies for Supporting Grieving Adolescents Talk

Free public talk for parents, teachers, health and social care professionals, youth workers, sports club coaches and all who support adolescents struggling with the loss of a loved one.

**Location:** Galvia Suite, Connacht Hotel, Old Dublin Road, Galway

**Wednesday 20 March 2024 at 7.30 pm**

### Keynote Speaker

Dr Mairead Brennan, Chartered Senior Clinical Psychologist, Cancer Care West, offers psychotherapeutic intervention for all family members for end-of-life and bereavement.

### Panel for Q and A

Orla Jackson, Acting Principal, Presentation College, Headford, Co Galway

Vinny Flannery, Clinical Manager for Jigsaw Galway / Roscommon.

Breda Fallon, Retired Teacher and Member of the HopeSpace Board of Trustees

### Topics

What is normal grieving?



Factors that influence an adolescent while grieving

The impact of various types of loss on the adolescent

The different ways grief can affect adolescents – signs to watch out for

How to know when help is needed

Practical ways to support a grieving adolescent

How to help adolescents to build resilience

Building confidence in communicating with grieving adolescents

Please book in advance by emailing [support@hopespace.ie](mailto:support@hopespace.ie)

or on <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/strategies-for-supporting-grieving-adolescents-free-public-talk-tickets-725624722077?aff=oddtcreator>

HopeSpace provides a free one-to-one support service for bereaved children and adolescents. Contact [support@hopespace.ie](mailto:support@hopespace.ie) or telephone 091 342566.

HopeSpace is reliant on the generosity of donors. Please consider donating at <https://www.hopespace.ie/fundraising>. We appreciate the support of Galway Rural Development and SICAP

---

## FREE Creative Workshops in Galway - Starts 23 March!

Helium Arts are an award-winning Irish children's charity that aims to improve the well-being of children and young people living with **lifelong physical health conditions** by providing **free creative workshops in-person** and **online**, tailored to different age groups from **ages 6-16**.

### Why?

We support children to realise their potential. Beyond lifelong health conditions. We use creativity and art to **build community**, spark **friendships**, unlock **skills and new interests** that can help children to **overcome adversity**.

We believe that **creativity empowers children to feel confident, worthwhile and respected and this helps them to become more prepared and capable in daily life**.

We conducted an independent evaluation report on the impact of our work in the community last year, and the results are amazing:

**93% of parents indicate that Helium Arts had improved their child's physical health & well-being.**

Supported conditions include **diabetes, epilepsy, cystic fibrosis, allergies, heart conditions, asthma, spina bifida, juvenile arthritis, rare or complex conditions** and many more.

[Register your interest to participate in our workshops.](#)

**Registrations are now OPEN for our FREE Spring Workshops in Galway and online.**

### Ages 6-8

1) [Online Spring Saturdays](#)

Every Saturday from 6 Apr - 11 May

### Ages 8-12

1) [In-Person Spring Saturdays](#)

Starts 13 April!

3) [Online Spring Saturdays](#)

Every Saturday from 6 Apr - 11 May

### Ages 13-16

1) [In-Person Saturday Meet Ups -Starts 23 March!](#)

All of our in-person workshops are supported by professional artists, volunteers and on-site medical care.

---

## Certificate in Enterprise and Community Development

Level 6 Certificate in Enterprise and Community Development – ATU Donegal and EQUAL Ireland

We are pleased to announce the commencement of our online ATU Certificate in Enterprise and Community Development starting April 3rd, 2024. We feel this course may be of interest to you or your members as it is tailored for adult learners engaged or interested in Business, Social Enterprise, or Community Development, offering a Level 6 qualification accredited by ATU Donegal.

At EQUAL Ireland, a registered charity since 2001, our mission is to empower communities by providing accessible opportunities for adults to obtain university qualifications. Partnering with ATU and TUS, our programs cater specifically to adult learners who, despite being out of education for some time, bring valuable experience from their roles in community or social enterprise practice, business, or advocacy for their colleagues.

### Information Sessions

If you're interested in learning more, we invite you to reach out to us at [evin@equalireland.ie](mailto:evin@equalireland.ie) or [eddie@equalireland.ie](mailto:eddie@equalireland.ie) to schedule a call. Additionally, we're hosting Zoom information sessions on Wednesday evenings at 6 pm on March 6th, 13th, and 20th, where you can meet us and have your questions answered.

Zoom link for Information sessions: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86345780184?pwd=NEwxaEI4dnphU2hxemZaMUJ2MFdmQT09>

Meeting ID: 863 4578 0184

Passcode: 381140

### Here are some FAQs about the program:

**When are the workshops?** The workshops are held part-time online on Wednesday evenings from 6 to 8:30 pm.

**How much does it cost?** The program fee is €750, payable in instalments over 6 months.

**When does it start?** The course starts online on Wednesday, April 3rd, 2024.

**The closing date for completed applications is Friday, March 22nd, 2024.**

**Read more [HERE](#).**

---

## The Wheel Training

Find information about The Wheel training here: <https://www.wheel.ie/training>

---

## PPN Stakeholder Training

The online only self-paced training 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 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](#)

---

## PPN Supports Provided by *The Wheel*

Link to previous PPN Supports & Training available on Department website [HERE](#)

---

### The Wheel - Training for PPN Members / The Wheel Members

Galway County PPN are signed up to The Wheel. PPN Members can access some free trainings provided by *The Wheel*.

**Community Groups can sign up with *The Wheel* to access their free training/services.**

**Information on Trainings available at <https://www.wheel.ie/training>**

---

### FREE Digital Literacy Courses with NCBI

Dereck Carolan, technology Trainer for NCBI, can help and support communities, specifically people with low sight or no sight and their families.

Website: <https://www.ncbi.ie/supporting-you/technology/ncbi-labs/>

Services Offered

- Group training courses, projects, and talks that will enable the low-vision and no-vision community to access their local area.
- Technology assessments and demonstrations.
- Technology clubs and webinars.

To discuss further how we can work together moving forward. Please feel free to contact: **dereck.carolan@ncbi.ie** or **086 608 6771**.

---

### Information on Springboard Courses

[www.springboardcourses.ie](http://www.springboardcourses.ie) providing **11,000 free or heavily subsidised college courses for unemployed, self-employed or returners to work.**

Courses are free for the unemployed, previously self-employed and returners to the workforce.

For others, 90 per cent of the course fee is funded by the Government, with participants required to contribute just 10 per cent of the fee. **Helpline – 1800 303 523**

The Springboard+ system will open for course applications on Wednesday 7th June.

Experienced guidance counsellors will be available to advise potential Springboard+ and HCI Pillar 1 participants on their options on the freephone Springboard+ helpline.

Candidates who wish to participate in Springboard+ 2023 or HCI Pillar 1 courses will find full details on the approved courses on [www.springboardcourses.ie](http://www.springboardcourses.ie). Applications are now open.

---

## Notice Board / Events

---

**Bealtaine 2024 Registration is Open!**



# BEALTAINÉ FESTIVAL MAY 2024

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

bealtaine.ie



The Bealtaine Festival team is calling out nationwide for **individuals and organisations of all sizes to join in the celebration**, to plan and register events to take place in their regions in May 2024. Events can range from music and choral performances to visual art, theatre, writing workshops, dance, literature, circus, discussions on ageing diversity, film screenings, storytelling and much more.

Find out more about how to get involved on the Bealtaine website here: [Bealtaine Festival - Celebrating the Arts & Creativity as we age.](#)

---



## Connecting with Men

**Date:** Wednesday 06<sup>th</sup> of March 2024

**Time:** 9:30am – 4:30pm

**Venue:** Ard Ri House Hotel, Milltown Rd, Tuam, Co. Galway H54V267

### Aim of the Workshop

The aim of this workshop is to assist a broad range of practitioners and service providers to explore the world of males, and to develop practical strategies for effectively engaging with them around health and wellbeing issues. It focuses on the engagement process (i.e. **WHY** and **HOW** to build relationships with men) rather than offering a new or revised health programme (i.e. **WHAT** to offer them).

### Objectives of Workshop

The key objectives for this workshop are to:

- Reflect upon how to create a 'safe space' for working with men.
- Gain a common understanding of what men's health is and why it is important.
- Explore how gender influences the values and attitudes that men develop in relation to their health, and how this influences their health behaviours.
- Identify some of the determinants that shape health outcomes for men.
- Reflect on participants' own value base, experience, skills, attitudes towards and expectations of men.
- Explore what a 'male friendly' health programme or service looks like in practice.
- Signpost participants to further sources of help, advice, guidance and support.

### Who Should Attend?

This workshop will be of interest to a broad range of service providers, Male, Female, and practitioners who wish to connect in more meaningful ways with men.

### Cost

The 'Connecting with Men' workshop is free for all participants.

### Further Information

For further information or to book a place, please contact: Mary Kearney on 094 9042233 or Email:

[HealthandWellbeing.CHO2@hse.ie](mailto:HealthandWellbeing.CHO2@hse.ie)



7<sup>th</sup> AMDAF

# WOMEN

## ROUNDTABLE 2024

### & Intercultural EPIC Award

Theme:

Culture Cafe: Women United for Global Progress & Recognition



SATURDAY

**MARCH 9TH**

THE WEST WING,  
TUAM. H54 F660

2 - 6PM

**PANEL | AWARD CEREMONY | EXHIBITION | RAFFLES | PRIZES | DINNER | DANCE**

This Event is sponsored by the International Decade for People of African Descent Fund



*Convener:*

Islammiyah Kadejo  
Peace Commissioner

AMDAF President/Founder



An Roinn Leanai, Comhionannais,  
Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Oige  
Department of Children, Equality,  
Disability, Integration and Youth



For Award Nominations:  
Send Name & Bio to  
[info@amdofireland.com](mailto:info@amdofireland.com)

The AMDAF Women Roundtable is a platform dedicated to empowering and connecting women of all ages from diverse backgrounds. Our event aims to foster networking opportunities and promote the exchange of ideas among women leaders and entrepreneurs.

Event details:

Date: **Saturday March 9th**

Time: 12noon to 5pm

Venue: Tuam, Co. Galway

If you are interested in participating or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us at [info.amdaf@gmail.com](mailto:info.amdaf@gmail.com)





# Corrib Shores: These are our People



**FREE**

## Oughterard Courthouse

Opening Friday 15th March from **4.30pm to 9.30pm**  
Join us at **8pm to hear about these amazing people**

16th to 18th March 2024

**11am to 4.30pm**

An exhibition celebrating  
unsung contributions of people  
to life and society

The exhibition demonstrates how the local 'everyday heroes' chosen by the communities were those that promoted the Irish heritage of music and lore, pride of place, and also demonstrated adventure and an awareness of creating betterment.





6 March 2024

KYLEMORE ABBEY,  
CONNEMARA, CO. GALWAY

# KEEPERS OF THE SACRED FLAME

## BRIDES OF CHRIST

WOMEN AND  
MONASTICISM  
IN MEDIEVAL AND EARLY  
MODERN IRELAND



Martin Browne OSB, Tracy Collins, Bronagh McShane, Colmán Ó Clabaigh OSB Editors

A one-day symposium at Kylemore Abbey focussed on the history of nuns and female monasticism, to mark the launch of *Brides of Christ: Women and Monasticism in Medieval and Early Modern Ireland* (Four Courts Press, 2023)

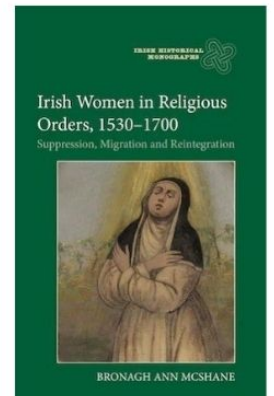
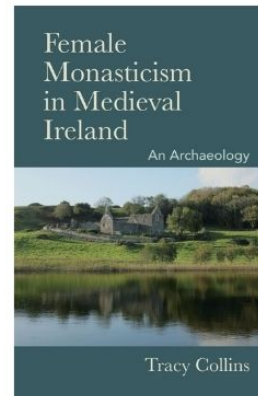
### PROGRAMME & SPEAKERS

#### Symposium

Dr Tracy Collins, National Monuments Service  
Dr Bronagh Ann McShane, Trinity College Dublin  
Professor Amy Mulligan, University of Notre Dame  
Dr Colmán Ó Clabaigh OSB, Glenstal Abbey  
Professor Deirdre Raftery, University College Dublin

#### Book Launch

*Brides of Christ: Women and Monasticism in Medieval and Early Modern Ireland* by former abbess, M. Máire Hickey OSB, Kylemore Abbey.



FREE EVENT:

PROGRAMME & REGISTRATION

AT EVENTBRITE



Further information: [development@kylemoreabbey.ie](mailto:development@kylemoreabbey.ie)

[www.eventbrite.com/e/6-march-symposium-keepers-of-the-sacred-](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/6-march-symposium-keepers-of-the-sacred-flame-tickets-806857862587?aff=oddtcreator)

[flame-tickets-806857862587?aff=oddtcreator](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/6-march-symposium-keepers-of-the-sacred-flame-tickets-806857862587?aff=oddtcreator)





---

***Lunchtimes with ConTempo***, Tuesday 5 March at 1:10pm in St Nicholas' Collegiate Church, Lombard St, Galway

Entry to the concert is FREE, all are welcome. Donations are gratefully accepted, but not required. No booking necessary, walkups are welcome.

*Lunchtimes with ConTempo* take place on the first Tuesday of the month. Galway Music Residency is proudly supported by the Arts Council of Ireland, University of Galway (Education Partner) and Galway City and County Councils. For further information, visit [www.galwaymusicresidency.ie](http://www.galwaymusicresidency.ie)

---

# Save the date!

# Hello

HOW ARE YOU?



# Say Hello on May 15<sup>th</sup>

Say **Hello** and ask: **How are you?**



Save the date for this year's 'Hello, How are you?' campaign. Put it in your diary now and start planning your event. More details to come.



© Mental Health Ireland

[www.HelloHowAreYou.info](http://www.HelloHowAreYou.info)

e: [info@HelloHowAreYou.info](mailto:info@HelloHowAreYou.info)



# Supports



## What does HopeSpace do?

We support children and young people (4-17 years old) from Galway City and its environs who are negatively impacted by grief caused by bereavement.

## How does HopeSpace support these children?

We provide a free one-to-one listening service, in a confidential, warm, caring and supportive environment in Galway City. A trained volunteer helps children verbalise and address their concerns, helping them cope with their newfound circumstances.

## How does HopeSpace help?

- **Provides** a critical early intervention service
- **Helps** children to express emotions around grief
- **Improves** coping skills and self-esteem
- **Facilitates** positive parent-child relationships
- **Encourages** parent-child communication
- **Reduces** parental stress and worry

HopeSpace, Unit 16, The SCCUL Enterprise Centre,  
Castlepark Road, Ballybane, Galway, H91 RH32

As a listening service we do not provide counselling, advice or diagnosis.  
HopeSpace CLG (T/A HopeSpace) Registration No.: 707197 / CHY No.: 22970

Get in touch via  
phone, email or  
direct message us on  
Facebook or Instagram

T: 091 342566  
E: [support@hopespace.ie](mailto:support@hopespace.ie)



@hopespacegalway



**Dementia Inclusive Social Club**

Friday 2pm-4pm

 Location:  
Lackagh Parish & heritage centre  
H65 PY96

 JOIN US

We are free and open to those looking for a calm, supportive environment for relaxed tea and chat.

 To book please Contact: **Theresa 087 698 5819**

Our Club is a social gathering where people can access information and support, meet other people as well as to exchange ideas and experiences.

For more info: [www.alzheimer.ie](http://www.alzheimer.ie)  
The Alzheimer Society of Ireland, National Office,  
Temple Road, Blackrock, Co.Dublin Charity Number: CHY7868



The Dementia inclusive social club was set up in Lackagh last December.

We are hoping to get people with the early stages of Dementia (with a family member) to come to the club.

They can have a chat and a cup of tea or coffee with other families that are in the same situation.

We can play music, game of cards, do some colouring, do some knitting or crochet etc.).

The club would cover the catchment area of Carnmore Cross, Claregalway, Turloughmore, Lackagh, Ballyglunin, Corrofin, Abbeyknockmoy, Monivea.

It is on every Friday in the Lackagh Parish & Heritage Centre, H65 PY96.

Anam Cara are there to help and support bereaved parents.

Services Offered:

**Galway Face to Face** meetings

**Online meeting** for Anam Cara Galway and Mayo.

If you know any bereaved parents who would like to join either of these meetings please get them to contact us on:

**085 288 8888** or [info@anamcara.ie](mailto:info@anamcara.ie).

As always Anam Cara offer their services free of charge for as long as needed.



Talk by Tony O' Reilly who stole 1.75million from work to fund his gambling addiction



# OPEN YOUR EYES TO THE DANGERS OF GAMBLING



Martin Dunne  
Counsellor &  
Psychotherapist,  
Galway Problem  
Gambling  
Support

Tuesday 14th  
November,  
Anglers Rest  
Hotel  
7.30pm



**National Learning Network**  
Investing in People, Changing Perspectives

Do you suffer from Anxiety?  
Is it affecting your quality of life?  
Are you unemployed?  
Would you like help?

If the answer to the above questions is YES and you feel you need help. You should consider doing:

**THE FRESHSTART PROGRAMME**

FRESHSTART is a Personal development programme that will TEACH YOU how to get on with your Life. You will also get the chance to attain a QQI Major award.

To learn more Email: [dave.scully@nlm.ie](mailto:dave.scully@nlm.ie)  
Or Call (091) 781265 and leave a message.

**FRESHSTART**  
*Some things cannot be learned ONLINE*

# Can We

# Help?



Age Action's Care and Repair does small DIY jobs, free of charge, for older people to help them maintain their homes and their independence.

Age Action's Care and Repair prioritises carrying out jobs in the homes of older people who are being discharged or have recently been discharged from hospital. If someone is coming out of hospital, no matter where they live, we would support them to make sure their home is safe.

**Care and Repair can remove trip hazards, install handrails, replace toilet seats or move a bed downstairs to make sure the home is ready for their return.**

If you require work done in your home to make it safer after a stay in hospital we can help.

If you are a professional working with older people who would benefit from this service you can download a referral form from [www.ageaction.ie](http://www.ageaction.ie).

For all other queries about Care and Repair please contact us using these numbers:

**Age Action national line: 0818 911 109**

**Age Action in Dublin: 01 4756989**

**Age Action in Cork: 021 2067399**

**Age Action in Galway: 091 527831**

**Email: [careandrepair@ageaction.ie](mailto:careandrepair@ageaction.ie)**

**Age Action**  
Age Equality

care+  
repair



Read more about Positive Ageing and supports for older people - Click the links below:

<https://www.copegalway.ie/senior-support-service/positive-ageing-week/>

<https://www.galway.ie/en/services/communityenterpriseeconomicdevelopment/inclusion/agefriendly/>

## Age Friendly Newsletter

All Age Friendly Ireland newsletters are available on their website - click link below:

[www.agefriendlyireland.ie](http://www.agefriendlyireland.ie)

## Alone Partnership Newsletter

**ALONE** is a national organisation that enables older people to age at home.

To read the latest newsletter from **Alone**, just click the link below and click in the top corner of the Newsletter to change the page... to read click [HERE](#).

Link to Alone website here: <https://alone.ie/>

# Happy Spring from the PPN Team!

Follow us on Social Media for the latest updates - click the round buttons below !



- Website: [www.galwaycountypn.ie](http://www.galwaycountypn.ie)
- Social Media Tag: [#Galwaycountypn](#)
- Facebook: [GalwayCountyPPN](#) | Twitter: [GalwayCoPPN](#)

**Mobile:** 087 360 3379 | 087 233 0720

**Email:** [administrator@glwaycountypn.ie](mailto:administrator@glwaycountypn.ie)

or [dtuite@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:dtuite@galwaycoco.ie)

**Newsletter Submissions Deadline: 23rd of each month** - for following month's issue.

**Next issue** has a special focus on: **Community & Voluntary** Pillar of the PPN



**Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Phoiblí Chontae na Gaillimhe**  
**Public Participation Network Galway County**



Designed with BEE