

Plenty of news and updates this month!



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### PPN MEMBERSHIP NOW 149 MEMBERS

Limerick PPN membership continues to grow and we would like to welcome the new members who have joined in March and April.

[Membership directory](#)

[Registration form](#)

### PPN WEBSITE

Visit the [Limerick PPN website](#) where you can view the latest Fundingpoint Local Access Digest, a bimonthly publication with funding information for non-profits across Limerick

[Funding opportunities](#)

Or find out more about

[Linkage Groups](#)



### About Limerick PPN

Limerick PPN is a network of community, voluntary, social inclusion and environmental groups/organisations, working together for a better Limerick through public participation in local democratic structures.

Visit [our website](#) for more information

Email: [ppn@limerick.ie](mailto:ppn@limerick.ie)



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## Welcome to MyPoint

Thanks to the Business Improvement Team of Limerick City and County Council for delivering two online information sessions on MyPoint on 28<sup>th</sup> April. MyPoint is the online public consultation portal used by Limerick City and County Council. Using this site you can participate in public consultations, public surveys and view statutory notices.



**United Nations**

World Environment Day  
5 June

### Dates for your diary: PPN events for United Nations World Environment Day

- 1. Introduction to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** delivered on Zoom by Development Perspectives on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 7-9pm. This is an action of the Limerick PPN Climate Action, Biodiversity and Environment Linkage Group in partnership with Development Perspectives. Details to follow.
- 2. Focusing on the Environment in your Community Work:** In this online information session, we will focus on the eligibility form and explore the reasons behind the environmental standards that a group should meet if they wish to join the PPN Environmental Pillar – delivered by the Irish Environmental Network on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June 7-8pm. This is in partnership with Limerick City and County Council and the IEN. Details to follow – this will be of particular interest to volunteer-led groups in Limerick who wish to join the Environment Pillar.

## PPN elections

**Details of the elections for the vacant seats on the PPN Secretariat, the Joint Policing Committee and the Home and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee are available on the PPN website.**

**Deadline for nominations is 2pm Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April!**

### SalesForce Chatter Groups

Salesforce Chatter is the online discussion space for PPN Linkage Group members where they can communicate and share ideas or information with other members. A login button is on each Linkage Group page on the PPN website:



You can also view a [short video](#) on how to set up and use Salesforce Chatter.

#### Remember:

1. email the PPN staff with any queries about Chatter
2. check your notifications settings for each Chattergroup you are a member of – otherwise you may not be in the loop about what is happening

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## Series of training sessions with Social Justice Ireland

We are delighted to have teamed up with Social Justice Ireland to run the following online sessions this year. Details to follow and registration will be on Eventbrite.

1. **Social Analysis** – Wednesday June 16th 7pm - 9pm
2. **Communications and Advocacy** – Wednesday July 14th 7pm - 9pm
3. **Representation for the PPN – incl. Local Authority structures** – Wednesday August 25th 7pm - 9pm
4. **Local Authority Budgets and making pre-budget submissions** – Wednesday September 22nd 7pm - 9pm

**[We like the podcast from Social Justice Ireland on PPNs and deliberative democracy! To listen, just click on the link.](#)**

### Directly Elected Mayor for Limerick

In 2020, Limerick PPN elected Cillian Flynn (of GOSHH) to sit on the Implementation Advisory Group on the Directly Elected Mayor for Limerick. Limerick PPN also organised eight online public consultations on the role.

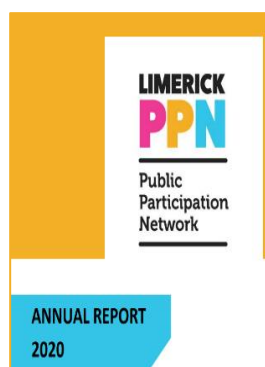
The news now is that government has given the go-ahead to draft legislation for a Directly Elected Mayor for Limerick.

**[Details of the government's plans are available on Limerick.ie.](#)**

## 2020 annual report

We want to **thank the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Michael Collins**, for launching our 2020 annual report at the April PPN members' meeting and writing the foreword in the report.

The annual report is on the [PPN website](#)



## Incoming and outgoing Secretariat members

**Patrick Fitzgerald and John Buttery** were elected to the Secretariat in October 2019. Both recently resigned from their role. Limerick PPN Secretariat, on behalf of all the PPN membership, say **thanks and best wishes** to both John and Patrick – they will be greatly missed and they leave a super legacy.

**Aidan Hogan, Sean Kelly and David O'Brien** were all recently elected by PPN members in the Environment Pillar, Community Pillar and Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District. **Welcome!**

## PPN Resource Worker

Limerick PPN Secretariat, on behalf of all the PPN membership, wish Mo Foley Walsh the very best as she leaves Limerick City and County Council at the end of May to progress to a new role in public service.

Limerick City and County Council have worked closely with the current and last PPN Secretariat to revitalise Limerick PPN to become what it is today - this includes assigning Mo to the role of Resource Worker in July 2019 and hosting Limerick PPN. In the coming weeks, Limerick City and County Council will be advertising for a new Resource Worker on behalf of Limerick PPN.

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## Limerick PPN Linkage Groups

**One of the most exciting developments over the last number of months is the growth and strengthening of our Linkage Groups.**

Linkage Groups are at the heart of Limerick PPN. To briefly explain Linkage Groups:

1. Linkage Group members nominate, elect and support PPN representatives on Council committees (formal elections for PPN representatives are done in a way to ensure that each PPN member group/organisation has one vote only in an election)
2. Linkage Group members discuss and debate the matters relevant to the Council committee, to inform the representative(s), and where relevant to prioritise and develop policy positions

In terms of **accountability and transparency**, a Linkage Group and its PPN representatives have access to a number of supports including templates, Salesforce Chatter and a dedicated website. In terms of **social inclusion**, a Linkage Group enables people to bring their voices to discussions regardless of experience, education or background (once they are with a PPN member group/organisation!). In terms of **deliberative democracy**, a Linkage Group enables PPN representatives to be informed and empowered. The Linkage Group is not about members or representatives having “one voice”, but it is about being as informed and inclusive as possible – this is the exciting challenge and opportunity for us all.

The success of our Linkage Groups is down to the vision, generosity and commitment of PPN representatives on the different Limerick City and County Council committees, Linkage Group meeting facilitators and notetakers, and PPN members – take a bow everyone!

**Details of our eight Linkage Groups are available on the [PPN website](#).**

### Some updates

#### Climate Action, Biodiversity and Environment Linkage Group



Thanks to Caillum Hedderman (Ballybricken 46th Scout Group) and Helena Kelly (Garryowen Residents Association) in this Linkage Group who facilitated the Limerick PPN Climate Conversation on 30<sup>th</sup> March. This conversation is part of a national conversation organised with Public Participation Networks by the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications.

#### Travel and Transportation Linkage Group



Invited Jason Taylor, Planning Advisor in the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government to present at a recent Linkage Group meeting on DMURS, the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets

#### Community, Leisure and Culture Linkage Group



Invited David Conway, CEO of Limerick 2030, present at a recent Linkage Group meeting on the vision and progress of Limerick 2030

#### Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Linkage Group



A busy Linkage Group on Chatter with the four PPN representatives actively working with Linkage Group members to consider and explore policy matters relevant to the Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) which has already met three times this year.

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