



Public Participation Network Limerick

About PPN Limerick

PPN Limerick 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

PPN Membership

Now stands at 263 members. PPN Limerick membership continues to grow and you can check out all our members [on the Membership directory](#) on the PPN Limerick website. Register to join [HERE](#)

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PPNL/ MAYOR JOHN MORAN MEETING



Many thanks to the Members who attended our meeting with Mayor John Moran on the 30th of May.

We appreciate the Mayor's update, his support of PPN Limerick as well as his understanding of the value of participative democracy.

The full gallery of pictures taken on the evening can be viewed [HERE](#)



UPDATE - UL CITIZEN'S ASSEMBLY



On the 1st of May 9 academic teams from the University of Limerick presented their Projects to an eager audience at the elegant Gardens International venue. The project proposals come from all departments of the University and may be related to teaching, research, or any kind of collaborative project, but all project proposals must:

- Address an identified Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)
- Explain how the project will develop civic engagement
- Demonstrate the potential positive impact for Limerick

.The three Winners of UL Citizens Assembly were:

ARISE- Activity and Recreation in an Inclusive Sensory Environment

PRIME – Progression Risks/Resilience in Marginalised Environments

Future on the Hill: Growing Resilience, Wellbeing & Confidence Together in Southill

Details of these, and the other projects can be viewed in this [EVENT BROCHURE](#).

INVASIVE SPECIES WEEK/ NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY WEEK

Free - In-person - Biodiversity Week Events in Limerick

·Friday 16th May 9pm-12pm Bats of Bruree [here](#)

·Saturday 17th 11 am – 1pm Awesome Pollinators on the Sallybank/Corbally Wildflower Meadow [here](#)

·Saturday 17th 11.30-13.00 - Irish Wildlife Trust Limerick Branch led Biodiversity Event in Curraghchase [here](#)

Biodiversity Photography Competition

·Ireland's Environmental Network Biodiversity related Photography Competitions – Photos must be taken in May 2025 Details [here](#)

FREE - ONLINE Events

Nesting Up Close

·The Organic Centre Friday 16th May – All Day – opportunity to view birds nesting online with experts online Details [here](#)

Green Bathing

·Forest Friends Friday 16th May – All Day – online – drop into a guided immersive walk under a tree canopy Details [here](#)

Insights from the Irish Stoat Survey

·Vincent Wildlife Trust, Thursday 22nd May 7pm-8pm – online – Details [here](#)

Invasive Species Week Event

· Wednesday Wed 14th May 19:00 – 20:00 Limerick City and County Council is also encouraging Community Groups to attend the online webinar by the National Biodiversity Data Centre/ Kildare County Council Invasive Species Week <https://shorturl.at/erKza>

UPCOMING TRAINING



ROCHTAIN
DEMOCRATISING ADVOCACY



Political Communications and Advocacy Skills Workshop

The Irish Council for Civil Liberties (ICCL) with support from St.Stephen's Green Trust are delighted to offer a **free** online political communications and advocacy workshop on **Tuesday May 20 , 18:00-20:00**

This workshop is aimed at PPN members in the Munster area and will cover topics such as;

- *Understanding the political system*
- *Knowing when and how to effectively communicate with TDs and senators*
- *How to research and present information on your causes to enhance political impact*
- *Understanding your lobbying obligations*

To register for this free event please click [here](#). More information on Rochtain can be seen by clicking [here](#).

ssgt | st.stephen's green trust

 Irish Council for Civil Liberties
FOR ALL OUR RIGHTS, NO EXCEPTORS

Click [HERE](#) for more information

Click [HERE](#) to Register

!UPCOMING! Election for PPN Limerick Representative Seats

PPN Limerick Representative Vacant Seats – May 2025				
Committee	Community/ Voluntary Pillar	Environment /Conservation Pillar	Social Inclusion Pillar	No. of seats
Climate Action Biodiversity & Environment		2 Vacant		4
Economic Development Enterprise, Tourism & Planning		1 Vacant		4
Community, Leisure, Arts, Heritage & Culture	1 Vacant	1 Vacant		7
Home & Social Development	2 Vacant			5
Travel & Transportation	1 Vacant			4
Local Community Development Committee		1 Vacant	1 Vacant	4
PPN Limerick Secretariat		2 Vacant	1 Vacant	10

We will be opening Nominations for available seats on Limerick City and County Council Committees and PPNL Secretariat on the **23rd of May**. Please keep an eye on our communications for further details including nomination forms.

We are particularly eager to fill our Vacant Seats on Environmental Pillar so encourage members of those groups in the Environmental Pillar to share the information next week with their wider membership.

**LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
DRCD REQUESTS ASSISTANCE TO IMPROVE HOW LCDC'S CONNECT
WITH YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY**



As part of their efforts to enhance the awareness and understanding of the work of Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs), the Department of Rural and Community Development is developing a communications campaign to run later this year.

Through the survey below they wish to gather initial insights through your engagement.

Survey Link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DHPJ9W5>

Your feedback will play a crucial role in shaping future communication strategies and ensuring LCDCs can better serve their communities.

Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2025 - Project Development Measure & Main Scheme

The Minister for Rural and Community Development, Dara Calleary, recently announced details of the 2025 Town and Village Renewal Scheme designed to support the revitalisation of rural towns and villages by focusing on stimulating town centre economic and social regeneration.

Limerick City and County Council is now seeking Expressions of Interest from town/village community groups who may have suitable projects for consideration under the Project Development Measure or the Main Scheme.

Information in relation to the Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2025 is available at: www.limerick.ie/town-village-renewal

Expression of Interest forms for either the Project Development Measure or the Main Scheme must be completed online via the following link: <https://mypoint.limerick.ie/applications>

Please note the closing date for the submission of completed Expression of Interest forms on MyPoint is 12 noon on Friday 16th May 2025.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the Rural Development Department at TownAndVillageRenewal@limerick.ie or by phone on 061-556008.

Community Safety Fund 2025; Funding Call

Please see below details in relation to The Community Safety Fund;

The open call for the Community Safety Fund will run from Monday 07 April 2025 until 5pm on Friday 16 May 2025.

Funding Call has opened for 2025, details about the grants and criteria can be found at this link: gov.ie - Community Safety Fund 2025: Funding Call

The Local Community Safety team want to encourage all staff to share the Community Safety Fund details with any community groups, voluntary groups or NGO's that you engage with to help increase awareness. Official social media accounts can be utilised to share details.

Who is Eligibility?

- Existing community safety initiatives
 - NGOs and community organisations working on issues relevant to community safety and youth justice
 - Individual organisations, or consortiums involving two or more organisations where the lead partner is a community organisation, not-for-profit, social enterprise or similar with a remit relevant to community safety and/or youth justice
- What types of initiatives or projects are eligible for funding?
- Applications may be for once-off initiatives or short to medium term projects limited to two years. Project activities must be additional to the usual business of the applicant organisation and should complement but not replace mainstream structures or funding streams at local level
 - Allowable expenditure includes salaries as part of a wider proposal once costs are apportioned in relation to the overall proposal, would not duplicate existing roles and are for a defined and temporary duration
 - Applications will not be accepted for the creation or support of long-term positions
 - Duplication of funding is not permitted
 - Applications for capital funding costs; e.g. high value items (vehicles, fixed assets) and infrastructure/building schemes will only be considered if they are integral to the proposal itself and appropriately apportioned; lower value items, for example equipment, will be considered on the same terms

Any additional queries regarding the Community Safety Fund should be directed to Communitysafetyfund@justice.ie

Invitation to Consultation Event on Our Rural Future 2026-2030

The Department of Rural and Community Development will be holding a series of consultation events to inform the development of a new rural development policy for the period 2026-2030.

This future policy is a commitment in the Programme for Government and will build on the achievements of the current Our Rural Future 2021-2025 policy as we seek to fulfil our vision for a thriving rural Ireland.

We would value the input of your PPN to a discussion around the opportunities and challenges of importance for rural Ireland. I therefore invite you to nominate a representative to attend the consultation event most convenient to them.

Details regarding these events are set out in the table below. The first four events focus on specific themes and invites to these are being issued to a wide range of rural stakeholders and delivery partners. The remaining two meetings are also open to the public and more general in focus.

Participants should register via the relevant Eventbrite link as soon as possible as places are limited.

There will also be a consultation event as Gaeilge in late June. If you would like to register your interest in this event, or if you have any questions related to any of the events, please email rural.consultation@dracd.gov.ie.

Our Rural Future 2026-2030 Consultation Events

Public Consultation Meeting	Cork	16 June 2025 6.30pm – 9pm	Charleville Park Hotel, Charleville	Register here –
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Consultations/Grants

The Department of Climate, Environment, Energy have just launched the public consultation on Ireland's implementation of the Aarhus Convention and the Pollutant Release Transfer Register (PRTR) Protocol available [here](#).

DECC encourages your organisation to participate in this public consultation. This process will inform Ireland's National Implementation Reports on the Aarhus Convention and PRTR Protocol 2025. The Department has prepared draft National Implementation Reports to outline the implementation of the Aarhus Convention and PRTR Protocols in Ireland. To inform the final documents, comments are invited from stakeholders, members of the public and other interested parties. DECC invites you to further disseminate information about the public consultation process and requests that you promote these public consultations through your organisation's website and social media forums, where possible.

Aarhus Convention

The Aarhus Convention lays down a set of basic rules to promote citizen's involvement in environmental matters and improve enforcement of environmental law.

Its provisions are broken down into three Pillars: Access to Information on the Environment, Public Participation in Environmental Decision-making and Access to Justice.

Ireland ratified the Aarhus Convention on 20th June 2012.

PRTR Protocol

The PRTR Protocol seeks to reduce the burden of pollution and waste by establishing publicly accessible national pollutant registers. The Protocol requires each of its Parties to establish and maintain a publicly accessible national PRTR that meets certain requirements which are set out in the Protocol. The Irish PRTR, which was launched in 2007, is maintained by the Environmental Protection Agency and is available at <https://www.epa.ie/our-services/compliance--enforcement/whats-happening/pollutant-release-and-transfer-register/>

Comments on the draft document should be submitted by email or received by post no later than the 7th April 2025.

Email: Aarhus-decc@decc.gov.ie or Post:

The Aarhus Unit,
Department of Climate, Environment and Energy,
Tom Johnston House,
Haddington Road,
Dublin,
D04 K7X4

For more information on the Aarhus Convention, please go to:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/b3b1a-aarhus-convention/>

SDG NATIONAL STAKEHOLDER FORUM



The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) National Stakeholder Forum scheduled for June 11th has been deferred and will now take place on 9th September 2025.

Venue: Tuesday, September 9th in Croke Park, Dublin.

Theme: Preparations for Ireland's Third SDG National Implementation Plan

A second Forum will be held in Cork City in December 2025,
Date and venue to be confirmed.

Rethink Ireland's Hi Digital Fund

RETHINK IRELAND

Rethink Ireland, in partnership with the Vodafone Foundation, SmartSimple, private donors and the Department of Rural and Community Development have partnered together to address the digital skills gap among Ireland's ageing population.

We invite applications from projects and organisations that innovatively work to empower Ireland's older adults to enhance their digital literacy, as well as improve social inclusion and quality of life through the use of technology, to ensure that no one is left behind as we transition to a more digital society.

The fund offers a package of cash grants and non-financial supports for up to five projects to help them expand and increase their social impact.

This includes:

- Up to five awards of up to €70,000.
- The non-financial supports include:
 - a place on Rethink Ireland's Accelerator Programme.
 - business and capacity-building supports designed in consultation with successful projects on topics such as strategic planning, maximising your impact, communications, and fundraising.
- Access to Rethink Ireland's networks.

Join our upcoming application clinic on Tuesday 13th May 2025 at 3pm. This one-hour webinar will provide information on fund eligibility, the application process and offer an opportunity to answer any questions you have. [Register here](#) for the application clinic.

You can apply to the Hi Digital Fund via this [online application](#). Applications are open from Monday, 14th April 2025 to Friday, 23rd May 2025 at 1pm. The full list of eligibility criteria can be found [here on our website](#) as well as details on how to submit your online application. We would encourage you to complete and submit your application well before the deadline in case of any technical issues.

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.

To register, please complete the Registration Form at the following link :

[Register for Training | Social Justice Ireland](#)