



## **AGENDA FOR PLENARY MEETING**

**14<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

**6.30pm- 8:00pm**

**Council Chambers, Dooradoyle,  
Limerick**

**Facilitator: Patrick Fitzgerald**

- 1. Welcome address.**
- 2. Standing Orders**
- 3. Minutes of last Plenary Meeting**
- 4. Matters arising**
- 5. Secretariat Update**
- 6. Update re: Appointment of SPC and LCDC Representatives to LCCC Committees**
- 7. SPC Updates from Representatives**

### **Motion 1**

**David Tobin (tabled at February Meeting)**

That the Limerick Public Participation Network requests that the Corporate Policy Group agree to schedule the attendance of senior local authority representatives at PPN Plenary Meetings on an annual basis. Specifically, that one plenary meeting per year be attended by each of the following:

- The Directly Elected Mayor of Limerick
- The Chief Executive of Limerick City and County Council
- The Príomh Chomhairleoir
- The Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick

Further, that this arrangement be included in the agreed annual work plan between Limerick City and County Council and Limerick PPN in order to strengthen communication, accountability, and collaboration between the local authority and the wider community and voluntary sector.

### **Motion 2**

Patrick Fitzgerald

Given that Plenary Meetings are now hybrid as standard it is proposed that the Plenary discuss whether a recommendation that attendees online have cameras on for the duration of the meeting be included in standing orders.

- 8. AOB**
- 9. Closing remarks**

If you unable to attend in person you can join online by using this Link:

### **Microsoft Teams meeting**

**Join:** <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/389198209060406?p=m5pDv5TKZv5pl8mizR>

Meeting ID: 389 198 209 060 406



### **Appendix 1: Limerick Public Participation Network Plenary Standing Orders**

The purpose of these standing orders is to ensure efficient and effective LPPN Plenary meetings which are aligned with the ethos and purpose of Limerick PPN.

#### **1. Frequency of Meetings**

The Plenary will meet twice a year or as requested in accordance with the Constitution (see section 7.1).

#### **2. Voting Rights and Decisions**

- 1) Only matters on the Agenda will be the business of the meeting in accordance with the Constitution.
- 2) All decisions taken will be in accordance with procedures set out in Constitution.
- 3) Each named Limerick PPN member group/organisation will have one vote.
- 4) Voting will be by show of hands and in accordance with Constitution.
- 5) Decisions will be by simple majority.

6) Voting for election to the Secretariat will be by secret ballot.

#### **3. Attendance at Plenaries**

- 1) All named Limerick PPN member group/organisations – both Full Members and Associate Members – are entitled to be represented at the Plenary.
- 2) Only Full Members have voting rights.
- 3) Limerick PPN member group/organisations can send up to three (3) representatives to the Plenary. Only one of those representatives will have voting and speaking rights. Other representatives will have speaking rights only.
- 4) The Secretariat may invite guest speakers to attend the Plenary.
- 5) The Secretariat may invite strategic partner organisations to attend the Plenary in an observer capacity.

#### **4. Agenda**

- 1) The Agenda will be prepared by the Secretariat. The order of business will be:
  - a) Welcome address by Facilitator
  - b) Housekeeping Duties, Health and Safety
  - c) Adopting Plenary Standing Orders
  - d) Approval of minutes of last Plenary and matters arising
  - e) PPN Activity Report by Secretariat Member
  - f) Finance/Budget Update
  - g) Ratification of Linkage Group elections
  - h) Election to fill any vacancies arising on the Secretariat (Annual General Meeting only).
  - i) Items and Motions submitted for discussion and decision.
  - j) Workshop / Information Session / Guest Speaker as requested by previous Plenary and / or as organised by the Secretariat.

k) Date of Next Meeting

2) Items that member group/organisations want included on the Agenda will be presented to the Secretariat at least eighteen (18) days prior to the date of the meeting. Similar items will be taken as a combined item or motion as directed by Secretariat.

3) The Plenary meeting will be facilitated by a member(s) of the Secretariat or as set out in the Constitution.

## 5. Minutes of the Plenary

1) The minutes of the Plenary will be taken by a member of the Secretariat or Limerick PPN staff.

2) The minutes will include a record of those attending, actions arising, and decisions made.

## 6. Conduct at Plenary Meetings

Members always will observe accepted practice while taking part in the Plenary business, including the following:

- 1) Be courteous and speak by addressing the Facilitator
- 2) Only address the meeting in order and as directed by Facilitator
- 3) Always comply immediately with directions of Facilitator
- 4) No cross talk or interruption of any speaker addressing the meeting
- 5) Follow the Agenda and strive to reach effective decisions
- 6) Represent the views of your member organisation
- 7) Put mobile phones on silent as you enter the room of debate (where you have an emergency call please leave the room)
- 8) Be prepared for the Plenary by reading relevant documents etc. received before the meeting
- 9) Business will be conducted by the facilitator/s of the Plenary in keeping with Standing Orders

**Date:** 26th February 2025

**Venue:** Dooradoyle Council, Chambers, Limerick

**Those present:** List at end of the minutes

**Apologies:** List at end of the minutes

**Meeting:** PPN Limerick Plenary meeting

*LPPN = Limerick Public Participation Network*

*LG = Linkage Group*

*LCCC = Limerick City and County Council*

*DRCD = Department of Rural and Community Development*

*SPC = Strategic Policy Committee*

*EDEP = Economic Development Enterprise & Planning*

Agenda item	Detail	Action	Who	When
1. Welcome address.	<p>Patrick Fitzgerald noted it was PPN Limerick first blended meeting and asked for patience as we navigate the system. Welcomed the online attendees and asked the members to please mute and if they wish to contribute to raise hand or type into the chat.</p> <p>The document with the explanation of terms and acronyms as well as the meeting documentation has been put into the chat of the teams meeting.</p> <p>PF confirmed Standing Orders for Plenary meetings and with in person and online attendance noted quorum was confirmed. There is a QR code to view the documents online.</p>			
2. Standing Orders for Plenary	<p>Patrick Fitzgerald confirmed Standing Orders for Plenary meetings and with in person and online attendance noted quorum was confirmed. There is a QR code to view the documents online.</p> <p>Patrick Fitzgerald noted that they are available and that the main point is that only business of the meeting is discussed. Members are welcome to submit motions and questions for the next meeting to us at anytime.</p>			
Agenda item	Detail	Action	Who	When



	<p>As Corporate services stated, SPCs Developed Work programs during January /February. Representatives present who's committees have proceeded with workplans stated that they were useful.</p> <p>4. Plain English guide for new members. A Guide to PPNs document will be developed in 2026. Members in attendance will have Glossary of terms and acronyms available this evening.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This guide is in draft form and will be launched as part of the Upcoming Lifelong learning festival event – PPN's – Participative Democracy in Action.</li> </ul> <p>5. Representatives have been reminded of responsibility to attend PPN Meetings.</p> <p>6. To work with Linda Ledger re: representation on committees and route to advocate for community centres with the PPN.</p> <p><b>7. Motion 1 From Farran Flaherty</b> That the Public Participation Network (PPN) formally request that Limerick City and County Council, in the interest of increasing public participation, commit to public live-streaming of all public meetings and to archiving these recordings in a publicly accessible online repository.</p> <p><b>Motion 2 From Farran Flaherty</b> That the Public Participation Network (PPN) formally request that Limerick City and County Council, in the interest of improved public accessibility, establish and implement a formal process to ensure that all documents relevant to public meetings are uploaded online in accessible, non-proprietary, and screen-reader-friendly formats.</p>	<p>Linda contact Lorraine to organise</p>	<p>to</p> <p>to</p>	
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	<p><b>Motion 3 From Annette Waters</b> That the PPN will stream Meetings for accessibility</p> <p><b>Motion 4 from David Tobin</b> That PPN Limerick will invite LCCC officials to Plenary meetings</p>			
<p>5. Secretariat Update</p>	<p>Patrick Fitzgerald noted PPN Limerick noted upcoming Training available for Community Groups/Manual Handling. Details of the training will be coming soon.</p> <p>Upcoming Events: Lifelong Learning Festival      LCEN/PPN      Limerick City Library      23rd April 2026 20 “Public Participation Networks: Participative Democracy in Action”.</p> <p>Citizen’s Assembly UL ENGAGE/ PPN Garden’s International 30th May 100 An event for citizens to come together and discuss SDG focused actions for Limerick. An opportunity for collective learning and experimentation. Participation and Decision Making.</p> <p><b>Membership</b> Limerick PPN continues to grow and has reached 300 Members. Breakdown of membership is</p>	<p>Presentation</p> <p>Citizens Assembly</p>	<p>LCEN/P PN</p> <p>UL Engage/ PPN</p>	<p>23-04- 2026</p> <p>30<sup>th</sup> May 2026</p>

Municipal District	2026	2025	Pillar	2026	2025
Adare Rathkeale	34	31	Social Inclusion	67	65
Newcastle West	43	39	Community	223	208
Cappamore-Kilmallock	63	61	Environment	10	10
Metropolitan	160	152			
<b>Total</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>283</b>		<b>300</b>	<b>283</b>

Patrick Fitzgerald noted nominations were not ratified at full council in January and will be on the agenda for the next full council.

The Following are our Nominees and remaining Vacant Seats.

We have 7 vacancies across the SPC's. Propose to seek nominations in the coming months, before the next Plenary in May.

Our ratified nominees from November should be on the agenda for the March Full council meeting and we have been speaking to members as well as corporate to advocate that there be no further delay to our appointments.

PPN Limerick will submit to the National annual report when requested.

<p><b>6. SPC Representation Updates</b></p>	<p>David Tobin gave a positive update about Travel and Transportation SPC</p> <p>David met a lady called Elaine a resident from Boher, Co. Limerick. The discussion was about not having a bus stop in Boher and today the Bus is running with numerous Public and Commercial routes coming in and out from Limerick City Centre. David was able to point Elaine in the right direction in order to start the process. Lorraine said well done to David Tobin.</p> <p>Brian Thompson gave an update on Economic Development, Enterprise, Tourism and Planning Strategic Policy Committee SPC. Brain Thompson read out Statement of Outcomes that he completed from 9<sup>th</sup> of February meeting. His submissions regarding a Taking in Charge document is noted at that SPC.</p> <p>Mark Ryan asked if every representative that attends an SPC would complete a statement of outcomes after each SPC.</p>	<p>All Agreed</p>		

	<p>David Tobin read motion on behalf of Farran Flaherty</p> <p><b>Motion 1 From Farran Flaherty</b></p> <p>That the Public Participation Network (PPN) formally request that Limerick City and County Council, in the interest of increasing public participation, commit to public live-streaming of all public meetings and to archiving these recordings in a publicly accessible online repository. All agreed</p> <p>Mark Ryan noted you can request an invite through Corporate.</p> <p><b>Motion 2 From Farran Flaherty</b></p> <p>That the Public Participation Network (PPN) formally request that Limerick City and County Council, in the interest of improved public accessibility, establish and implement a formal process to ensure that all documents relevant to public meetings are uploaded online in accessible, non-proprietary, and screen-reader-friendly formats.</p> <p>Brian Leddin noted PPN Limerick should endorse council meetings, The meetings should be transparent. Endorse proposal, publicly and advertise it.</p> <p>Pat Fitzpatrick noted Blended transparently, We should have our camera on and should support the motion.</p> <p>Linda Ledger (LCDC) noted everything should be public as it is very closed/ private.</p> <p>David Tobin pointed out that they are closed for stamping of the final approval.</p> <p>Noreen Waters asked why private should be public as it is public money.</p> <p>It was suggested whether SPC's could be streamed online.</p> <p>Mark said the matters being discussed there as they include policy being developed and ongoing items.</p>	Press Release		
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	<p>Brian Leddin noted agreement with Mark Ryan. Advised to keep simple first and hopefully council will accept.</p> <p>Seán Mc ilpatrick noted to streamline meetings no technology issue it is funding issue. Mayor saying his giving funding.</p> <p>Brian Thompson noted we will have to be careful broadcasting potential risk for online abuse.</p> <p>Linda Ledger (LCDC) noted everything should be public as it is very closed/ private.</p> <p>David Tobin noted that committees are closed for final stamping of the final approval for projects.</p> <p>Noreen Waters asked why private should be public as it is public money.</p> <p>Mark Ryan noted you can request an invite through Corporate for Full council meetings. Mark said the matters being discussed at SPC's are ongoing.</p> <p>Eileen Irwin noted at the PPN / Mayor meeting attendees were not given time to ask questions.</p> <p>Patrick Fitzgerald stated that another meeting could be suggested and that we could have the format noted with more time for questions.</p> <p><b>Motion 3 From Annette Waters</b></p> <p>That the PPN will stream Meetings for accessibility. All agreed that it was working well this evening and should continue as an option.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>Cameras on during meetings.</u> During this discussion the matter of people having cameras off during the meeting was discussed. It was suggested that those attending online should be</li> </ul>	<p>Send request for PPNL / Mayor meeting</p>		
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asked if they would have their cameras on during the meeting, particularly when they were contributing to the discussions.

This created a conversation where some members felt that people may not be comfortable with being on screen and this was not an issue, but others felt that it was a curtsy/ etiquette matter that be routine.

Confidentiality and transparency regarding who was attending the meeting was also put forward.

PF stated that we did not have longer to discuss this but that he would have it on agenda for the next meeting.

#### Motion 4 from David Tobin

That PPN Limerick will invite LCCC officials to Plenary meetings. This motion will be referred to the next meeting.

David clarified the wording of his original submission to Administration and read it as following:

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That the Limerick Public Participation Network requests that the Corporate Policy Group agree to schedule the attendance of senior local authority representatives at PPN Plenary Meetings on an annual basis. Specifically, that one plenary meeting per year be attended by each of the following:

- The Directly Elected Mayor of Limerick
- The Chief Executive of Limerick City and County Council
- The Príomh Chomhairleoir
- The Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick

Further, that this arrangement be included in the agreed annual work plan between Limerick City and County Council and Limerick PPN in order to strengthen communication, accountability, and collaboration between the local authority and the wider community and voluntary sector.

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	<p>Lorraine apologised, noting that the agenda she had displayed was an earlier draft version with holding text, stating that the minutes would reflect the clarification.</p> <p>This discussion was wide ranging with differing viewpoints. It was noted that the ppn meetings are plenary business. It was countered that having officials come to meetings would be good route to gain direct updates.</p> <p>LB pointed out format of Worker Meetings where the Department would attend meetings for a defined period of time and then withdraw.</p> <p>It was also posited to limit invitations for specific matters and not have as routine. Meeting time ran out with further discussion deferred to the next plenary meeting.</p>			
7. AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Noreen Waters asked why her second item submitted was not on the agenda. Lorraine acknowledged that two items had been submitted but reminded that Lorraine had discussed this with her and the second item; relating to whether limerick city and county council would be reinstating the GO car initiative in Limerick, following its withdrawal because of stated anti-social behaviour, had been referred as appropriate to the Travel and Transportation SPC by Representative David Tobin on the 18<sup>th</sup> of February, 2026. David confirmed this; citing the Councils reply that the existing service provider in limerick (Go Car) were part of an original pilot project in the city. They have removed their share cars from the public streets only for operational reasons. That they initiated enquiries with a service provider in the market with the intention of re-establishing a pilot project for 2026.</li> </ul>			

8. Closing  
remarks

PF thanked all members for attending the first Plenary of 2026.

## Attendees

<b>PPN member group/organisation</b>	<b>Pillar</b>	<b>Municipal District</b>	<b>Name of Secretariat member</b>
<b>Secretariat members</b>			
1. Glin Going Strong Club	Community	Newcastle West	Patrick Cummins
2. Limerick Community Education Network	Social Inclusion	Limerick Metropolitan	Patrick Fitzgerald
3. BGM Community Support Services Centre	Community	Cappamore-Kilmallock	Declan Hehir
4. Northside Family Resource Centre	Social Inclusion	Limerick Metropolitan	Mark Ryan
5. Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Autism School	Community	Cappamore-Kilmallock	Eileen McMahon
<b>PPN member group/organisation</b>	<b>Pillar</b>	<b>Municipal District</b>	<b>Name of representative(s) who attended</b>
1. Limerick Pedestrian Network/ Limerick Cycling Campaign	Community/Environmental	Limerick Metropolitan	Dave Tobin
2.			Ben O' Sullivan
3. Step Forward Disability Group	Community	Cappamore-Kilmallock	Martha Potter
4. Limerick Migrant Forum	Social Inclusion	Limerick Metropolitan	Vadivel Raj
5. Tait House Community Enterprise CLG	Social Inclusion	Limerick Metropolitan	Michael Quilligan

6. Limerick Cycling Campaign	Community	Limerick Metropolitan	Pat Fitzpatrick
7. St. Mary's Adult Education Group CLG	Community	Limerick Metropolitan	Brian Thompson
8. Kilmurry Arts & Heritage Centre	Community	Limerick Metropolitan	Marian Hurley
9. Step Forward Disability Group	Social Inclusion	Cappamore-Kilmallock	Maureen Browne
10. Limerick Cycling Campaign	Community	Limerick Metropolitan	Farron Flaherty
11. St. Munchins Community Centre	Community	Limerick Metropolitan	Linda Ledger
12. Thomondgate Residents Association	Community	Limerick Metropolitan	Tanya Dunworth
13. Thomondgate Residents Association	Community	Limerick Metropolitan	Kelly Dunworth
14. Community Crisis Response Team	Community	Adare-Rathkeale	Kayla Cooley
15. Tournafulla Tidy Towns	Community	Newcastle West	Jennifer Burgess
16. Mungret Regional Football Club	Limerick Metropolitan	Community	Tony O Byrne
17. An Taisce	Environment	Limerick Metropolitan	Brian Leddin
18. An Taisce	Environment	Limerick Metropolitan	Seán Mc ilfattrick
19. An Taisce	Environment	Limerick Metropolitan	Darragh Boyce
20. Ballybricken Bohermore GAA Club	Community	Cappamore-Kilmallock	Ann Moloney
21. Limerick Seniors Forum	Community	Limerick Metropolitan	Noreen Waters
22. Meadowbrook Residents Corbally	Community	Limerick Metropolitan	David Buckley
23. St Patrick's Men's Shed	Community	Limerick Metropolitan	Terence Hickey
24. Womensshed Limerick Dooradoyle /Raheen	Community	Limerick Metropolitan	Mary Moloney
25. Womensshed Limerick Dooradoyle /Raheen	Community	Limerick Metropolitan	Marie Storan
26. Southside Women's Group	Social Inclusion	Limerick Metropolitan	Geraldine Minogue

27. Emerging Limerick Filmmakers	Community	Limerick Metropolitan	Pete Moles
<b>Apologies</b>			
28. Tournafulla Tidy Towns	Community	Newcastle West	Jennifer Jean
29. Farran Flathery	Community		
30. Women's shed Limerick Dooradoyle /Raheen	Community	Limerick Metropolitan	Annette Murphy
31. Foynes and District Community Council	Community	Adare-Rathkeale	Sean Kelly
<b>Also in Attendance</b>			
Caroline O'Reilly LPPN Support Worker		PPN Limerick	
Lorraine Broderick LPPN Resource Worker		PPN Limerick	

**Record of the meeting taken as a fair and accurate reflection of the discussion and adopted at subsequent plenary meeting:**

**FACILITATOR: Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Print Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Matters Arising from February 2026 Plenary Meeting

1. Survey circulated regarding opinions on the MOU before signing.
2. IPA (Institute of Public Administration) training will be sought following elections.
3. Press release issued supporting streaming and archiving all public meetings.
4. To work with Linda Ledger re: representation on committees and route to advocate for community centres with the PPN.
5. Write to corporate and meet with Director of Services Brian MCarthy of Community Department regarding appointment of representatives.
6. Seek Nominations to fill vacant Seats on LCCC Committees.
7. Request meeting with Mayor for the end of the year.

## STATEMENT

**25th March 2026**

At the Plenary Meeting of the Public Participation Network Limerick (PPNL) held on 26th of February 2026, members present voted to formally request that Limerick City and County Council (LCCC) commit to live streaming all public meetings and archiving the recordings in a publicly accessible online space.

Members agreed that this step would in principle strengthen transparency and make it easier for the public to follow the work of the Council and engage with local decision-making.

This position also expresses the network's support for the upcoming motion by the Mayor of Limerick, John Moran, which will be considered at the Full Council meeting scheduled for the 30th of March and proposes that full Council meetings be recorded.

Public Participation Network Limerick (PPNL) is a network of community, voluntary, social inclusion and environmental organisations operating across Limerick city and county. The network enables community groups to be represented in local decision-making processes, including Limerick City and County Council committees and public consultation processes.

PPN Limerick currently has 26 representatives sitting on Limerick City and County Council committees, with nine vacancies to be filled through upcoming elections.

Members of PPN-registered groups can join linkage groups and become more involved in the work of the network by contacting [ppn@limerick.ie](mailto:ppn@limerick.ie).

Patrick Fitzgerald, current facilitator of PPN Limerick, said:

"The motion and discussion at our Plenary Meeting is a great example of how the PPN works in practice. It shows the collaborative nature of the network and the importance of giving community members a real voice in decisions that affect their communities."

Mayor of Limerick John Moran added:

*"It is very positive to have the support of the PPN for this upcoming motion. Given the broad membership of the network across the city and county, it reflects a strong public interest in improving processes in local government. I want to particularly acknowledge and thank the PPN for taking the initiative to support this motion and for their leadership on issues of transparency and accessibility."*

**13.05.2026**

**Re: Appointment of PPN Limerick Representatives to LCCC Strategic Policy Committees and the Local Community Development Committee.**

**To Each Elected Member of Limerick City and County Council.**

Limerick PPN is aware that the appointment of nominees, as listed in the attached report, was deferred at both the January and March Full Council meetings. We note the query raised by the Members at the March meeting relate to two separate matters:

- 

The geographic representation of the PPN nominees and

- 

The means of selection of nominees from the PPN.

In order to assist you as Elected Members in your considerations, we are happy to respond to the request.

Geographic Spread

Limerick PPN currently consists of 303 member groups from across the city and county, of which 161 (53%) are based in the Metropolitan District and 142 (47%) across the County.

Across all committees, there are 26 representatives ratified by the PPN, including those not yet formally appointed. Of these, 18 (69%) are based in the Metropolitan District and 8 (31%) across the County.

In relation to the LCDC representatives, there are five community and voluntary sector positions. Including the pending appointment, this results in two representatives from the County and three from the Metropolitan area. This broadly reflects the overall distribution of PPN membership.

It is also important to note that many Metropolitan-based organisations provide services across both the City and County. On that basis, we believe the current distribution reflects both the membership base of the PPN and the countywide nature of many organisations' work.

#### Selection Process

The criteria guiding the PPN in selecting nominees are informed by the Limerick Adopted SPC Scheme 2024–2029.

Section 5 outlines that, following adoption of the scheme, the Council writes to the PPN Secretariat requesting the selection of representatives in line with the relevant pillars: Community and Voluntary, Social Inclusion, and Environmental.

These requests are made on a pillar basis. There is no requirement within the adopted scheme relating to geographical distribution, although the PPN actively encourages nominations from all areas of Limerick.

The PPN operates in line with its Constitution, which is informed by the National PPN Handbook and guidance from the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht.

Our processes are transparent, robust, and aligned with both national guidance and the Council's own framework for community and voluntary representation. We are satisfied that the nominations were made through the appropriate PPN process and in accordance with the relevant requirements.

We hope this addresses the concerns raised and that the PPN representatives can now be appointed by the Elected Members of Limerick City and County Council, allowing us to continue working collaboratively with the Elected Members and staff of Limerick City and County for the better of all area of Limerick City and County's towns, villages and rural areas.

We also welcome continued engagement with elected members across all areas of the city and county in supporting participation within the PPN.

Kind regards,

Patrick Fitzgerald

On behalf of Limerick PPN Secretariat