

**Minutes of Clare PPN Secretariat/Clare County Council PPN Liaison Meeting**  
Tuesday, 26 January 2021, via Zoom

**Agenda:**

Clare PPN Work Plan 2021  
Clare Co Co/Clare PPN SLA 2021  
Update from PPN resource workers and secretariat network meetings  
PPN User Guide  
AOB

**Present:**

Bernadette Haugh (Clare Co Co)  
Deirdre Power (Clare Co Co)  
Sarah Clancy  
Sarah Ferrigan  
William Hederman  
Mary O'Donoghue  
Tracy Watson  
Dermot Hayes  
Monica McKenna  
Kay Murphy  
Fionnuala Collins  
Elaine D'Alton  
Padraic Hayes  
Damon Matthew Wise Âû

**Apologies?**

**Minutes:** William H

**Clare PPN Work Plan 2021**

Sarah Clancy outlined some plans outside of regular PPN activities:

- Reconvene Clare PPN Migrant Forum
- LGBTQ+ Project with CWN/Rape Crisis Mid-West/SICAP
- Traveller Board Recruitment Project with CLDC/HSE

Bernadette: Council's Rural Directorate tasked with a strategy relating to migrants. She will keep Sarah C updated.

- All agreed to approve Work Plan.

**Clare Co Co/Clare PPN SLA 2021**

- All agreed to approve the Service-Level Agreement 2021.

### **Discussion on difficulty recruiting new PPN Reps:**

Reps feel they are not being listened to, and they don't understand the council process. There is great untapped expertise among PPN Reps/community that Council needs to recognise. Suggested that Council is lacking in relevant training. Council has not embraced idea of real partnership and needs a culture change. Not about individuals – it's a council-wide issue.

Bernadette H responded:

There has been much change in LA personnel. She agreed with need for:

- training within LA,
- a culture change with LA
- better communication
- more joined-up thinking.

She suggested using existing structures better: SEO (senior executive officer) structure could be used to improve communication. Role of PPN needs to be restated and underpinned. Management would value that.

She expressed hope for a better way forward. We could wait for the national review of PPNs, or alternatively do an internal Clare assessment of issue. She also suggested another meeting mid-year, similar to this one.

### **PPN User Guide**

Sarah C offered to send Bernadette & Deirdre a list of suggestions from it. Bernadette welcome this. She said:

- Council is amenable to a live stream of meetings and is looking into it.
- Council management could attend a webinar about the PPN.
- She offered to present a webinar about the Council structure which PPN people could attend.

Finally, It was agreed to schedule a meeting in the first quarter.

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### **Secretariat & staff discussion**

General welcome for Bernadette's engagement and her offers.

Agreed to build PPNs relationship with council – but always mindful that this does not mean failing to speak out when necessary.

Need to be aware of Council's rules, policies and duties so that we can hold them to these.

Agreed that approach should be: Get Bernadette to introduce PPN to key Council personnel with whom we can communicate directly rather than funneling all problems through her.

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ENDS