

Clare PPN Secretariat meeting,

Tuesday 6th April, 2021

Minutes

Present:

Sarah Clancy

Elaine D'Alton

Sarah Ferrigan

Padraic Hayes

William Hederman

Monica McKenna

Kay Murphy

Mary O'Donoghue

Tracy Watson

Damon Wise Â

Caoimhín Ó Tuathail (observer)

Apologies:

Fionnuala Collins

Dermot Hayes

AGENDA:

- Update on work and finances
- Update on Traveller Funding Application
- Update on IHREC Funding
- Webinar with SCC May 6th
- Update on LGBTQ Clare
- Plan for first 2021 Plenary Meeting set date – invitation.

- Consideration of MOU between directors of Clare PPN CLG and Clare PPN Secretariat – draft attached.
- Discussion on Clare PPN’s Strategic Plan- consideration at this meeting or further meetings.
- AOB

- **Update on work and finances**

Sarah Ferrigan went through the work plan. Available here:

<http://clareppn.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Work-report-for-Clare-PPN-January-to-March-2021.pdf>

- **Update on Traveller Funding Application**

Clare PPN has applied, with Clare Women's Network, CLDC & HSE, to the Dept of Regional & Community Development, for funding for a Traveller Support organisation for Clare. If successful, this will mark a huge change, as there is very little infrastructure for the Traveller community.

Note: Clare PPN staff also took part in a meeting of another group, including Sinn Féin TD and councillor in Clare. Calling for Local Traveller Accommodation Committee to meet again, hasn't met since early 2019.

50% of people presenting as homeless in Clare are Travellers.

- **Update on IHREC Funding**

Interested members of our social inclusion college had a meeting on April 6. Plan to apply to IHREC for funding re an anti-poverty strategy for Clare. Of all the County strategies, none of them have a target of reducing poverty.

- **Webinar with SCC May 6th**

Stop Climate Chaos is running a series of workshops to equip people to make effective submissions on the Government Climate Action Plan 2021. As part of the series, at the suggestion of Clare Environmental Network, Clare PPN will host a workshop on the subject of public participation in climate and other consultations and

how this could improve. Speakers will include Sean McCabe, Executive Manager, Climate Justice Centre; and Theresa O'Donoghue.

- **Update on LGBTQ+ Clare**

Short-term project led by members of LGBTQ+ Community and backed by Clare PPN, Clare Women's Network, CLDC & Rape Crisis Midwest, and funded by Department of Rural and Community Development and Clare County Council. Survey in March had great response. Read about the survey results here:

<http://clareppn.ie/lgbtq-survey-results/>

Next steps include a press release and then events including a social event, either on zoom or outdoors.

- **Plan for first 2021 Plenary Meeting**

Agreed to hold next plenary in week of 10th May.

Suggestion to invite Minister Heather Humphreys to speak at our next plenary. This is relevant as there is an important new strategy for Rural Development. Other suggestions include Ministers Pippa Hackett or Joe O'Brien.

Caoimhín noted there has been much interest in the strategy. He offered to pass on a request from Clare PPN for Humphreys or another minister to attend.

- **Consideration of MOU between directors of Clare PPN CLG and Clare PPN Secretariat**

Needs two signatures. Agreed that Sarah Ferrigan will sign on behalf of CLG and Dermot Hayes will sign on behalf of Secretariat (as these two people are each not in the other group). Please read the MOU if you have not already.

- **Discussion on Clare PPN's Strategic Plan**

Much of our work is mandated, so our Strategic Plan has a limited scope.

As a start, we took the existing Strategic Plan and added our Wellbeing Vision Statement and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Good discussion had on the Plan.

Agreed to reference our Wellbeing Vision Statement throughout the Plan.

Agreed to include that Clare PPN will support all Clare PPN Representatives and ensure they are heard and their input taken seriously by Clare County Council.

Suggestion to ask our Council liaison staff for their input.

You can send suggested changes, before Thursday 15th April, to Sarah Ferrigan at admin@clareppn.ie. A draft Strategic Plan will be circulated to Clare PPN members before the next plenary in week of 10th May, and will be adopted at the plenary.

- **AOB:**

— PPN rep **Cornelia Wahli** will be making a 5-minute presentation at the next LCDC meeting. PPN staff have worked with her to produce the slides. Includes a recommendation that there be a separate agenda item for the LCDC on climate action at every meeting.

— We need to organise a submission soon on the **Climate Action Plan**.

— Damon asked for a petition to be circulated on behalf of **Autistic Adults Ireland** re the Dossiers story raised on RTE Prime Time:

<https://my.uplift.ie/petitions/justice-for-the-48-autistic-people-who-were-barred-from-gaining-essential-services>

— Caoimhín: The **‘Blended Learning’** scheme of combined training for PPNs, local authorities etc, is open. Accepts 5 or 6 people from each PPN. There will be a second round in September and more next year.

- **Next meeting: Tuesday, 4th May**

ENDS