

# Clare Public Participation Network Report April to June 2022

## REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

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*Clare Anti-Poverty Strategy session with elected Councillors*

## Introduction

We have been as busy as ever this quarter. The premises in Clonroad Business Park is turning into a vibrant and lively place with the new Traveller CDP finding it's feet and we have met many new people through events and consultations both online and in person. Collaboration and networking with community groups is a huge strength of PPNs and should not be underestimated or undervalued. This is reflected in our work with Quare Clare, the Traveller CDP, the Five Year Anti-Poverty Strategy and the Ukrainian Response. Unfortunately we lost a valued Secretariat member in very sad circumstances. Such an event must give us cause to stop and reflect and to show our appreciation for everyone who engages with our PPN on a voluntary basis.

Please read below for more information

If you have any questions or comments, please contact 087 1617375 or [sarah@clareppn.ie](mailto:sarah@clareppn.ie)

**Clare PPN's Statement on the Government's response to refugees ['All those fleeing war and persecution must be treated equally'](#)**

## PPN NEWS

### 5 Year Anti-Poverty Strategy Update

Our peer research continued in this quarter with focus groups happening in Kilrush, Ennis and Shannon and also with Clare Leader Forum and Clare Traveller CDP's young women's group. These sessions were facilitated by our peer researchers and were very enlightening regarding the gaps in services and the particular difficulties faced by each cohort. The survey for services providers had now closed.

Our researcher Conor McCabe also facilitated a session for elected councillors to discuss the issues that are presented to them from constituents. More than half the 28 sitting councillors attended with representation from each municipal district and the conversation was lively with much consensus on issues.

Now that the research phase has been completed, Conor will be collating the information and the steering group will be getting together to devise the strategy, a draft of which will be presented for discussion later this year. Watch this space.



<h2>JOIN A FOCUS GROUP</h2> <p>Have you, or anyone you know, experienced poverty while living in Clare? What is your experience accessing existing services and supports? What additional services and supports are needed in the county?</p> <p>We want to hear from you to help us in our research for:</p> <p><b>'A 5 YEAR ANTI-POVERTY STRATEGY FOR CLARE'</b></p> <p> <b>Coimisiún na hÉireann um Chearta an Duine agus Comhionannas</b> Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission</p> <p>This project is supported under the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Grant Scheme</p> <p> 087 1617375</p> <p> admin@clareppn.ie</p> <p><b>PLEASE RSVP</b></p>	<h2>JOIN A FOCUS GROUP</h2> <p>Have you, or anyone you know, experienced poverty while living in Clare? What is your experience accessing existing services and supports? What additional services and supports are needed in the county?</p> <p>We want to hear from you to help us in our research for:</p> <p><b>'A 5 YEAR ANTI-POVERTY STRATEGY FOR CLARE'</b></p> <p> <b>Coimisiún na hÉireann um Chearta an Duine agus Comhionannas</b> Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission</p> <p>This project is supported under the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Grant Scheme</p> <p> 087 1617375</p> <p> admin@clareppn.ie</p> <p><b>PLEASE RSVP</b></p>
<p>Clare Public Participation Network</p> <p><b>2PM TO 4PM</b></p> <p><b>MONDAY, 25TH APRIL</b></p> <p><b>COMMUNITY CENTRE, KILRUSH, CO. CLARE (BESIDE THE LIBRARY)</b></p>	<p>Clare Public Participation Network</p> <p><b>2PM TO 4PM</b></p> <p><b>TUESDAY 17TH MAY</b></p> <p><b>CLARE PPN, CLONROAD BUSINESS PARK, ENNIS V95 N62T</b></p>

## Traveller Community Development Project

The recruitment process for the Traveller CDP positions has completed and both workers have started. A representative of Clare PPN was on the interview panel and Clare PPN remains on the steering group with Clare Local Development Company, Women's Collective Clare & West Clare Family Resource Centre. Sharing the premises on Clonroad Business Park has been a great opportunity for us to engage with the Traveller community, including an excellent focus group session in relation to the Five-Year Anti-Poverty Strategy. In June, Clare Traveller CDP held a Traveller Cultural Awareness training session for the steering group and a number of invited service providers.

## Cornelia Wahli



Clare PPN Secretariat and staff are greatly saddened by the recent death of our member and representative Cornelia Wahli. Cornelia was a passionate, knowledgeable and dedicated environmental campaigner. Cornelia was particularly interested in minimising society's use of disposable plastic and of supporting agriculture and the farming community in Clare to embrace organic methods.

She was an elected representative on the board of the public participation network and she sat on Clare County Council's Local Community Development Committee. Through this and her involvement in Clare Environmental Network Cornelia gave hugely of her time and talent on a voluntary basis. She was a fantastic colleague and comrade and we'll miss her greatly. Our sympathies to her family and loved ones.

## Funding for engagement with marginalised communities

Clare, Fingal, Galway City and Wicklow will undertake pilot programmes to support participation and engagement by marginalised and disadvantaged communities in the Local Economic and Community Planning (LECP) process which is currently underway in each local authority area. Clare PPN worked closely with Clare Co. Co. to secure this funding and will seek to enshrine socio economic rights in the LECP. A second event later this year will review the pilots' experience and focus on sharing learnings to encourage discussion on the opportunities for engagement, and how they are best embedded in consultation processes.

## WORK OVERVIEW

### Administration:


- Management of finances, banking and invoices
- Processed wages
- Produced quarterly report
- Maintained member group contact list
- Maintained lobbying register
- Maintained and published Secretariat minutes
- Held 5 pre-meetings with reps
- Held 3 secretariat meetings
- Completed interim IHREC report
- Prepared for Departmental audit
- Processed new memberships
- Submitted annual report

### Communications:

- 3 newsletters circulated by email and on social media
- Circulation of grants schemes and event notices
- Maintained website (newsletters, reps reports) and social media
- Circulated anti-poverty survey to relevant organisations
- Requested and received answers to PQs from sitting Clare TD

### Submissions/public consultations this quarter:

- Cliffs of Moher Strategy: (see in events)
- Changing Places Building Regulations: (online portal submission)
- Climate Conversations: <https://clareppn.ie/notes-from-climate-conversations-workshop-23rd-june-2022/>



**CLIMATE  
CONVERSATIONS**

23rd June  
7.00pm to 8.30pm  
on Zoom

An online workshop to seek your input, opinions and expertise on Climate Action and to review the Government's Climate Action Plan

## Outreach/Policy Work

- Prepared information document for Clare Leader Forum's meeting with Pat Dowling
- Liaised with Clare Co. Co. on pilot community engagement project
- Liaised with HSE, CLDC & WC FRC on Traveller CDP steering group
- Assisted Ballyvaughan Ukrainian Response with funding application
- Attended numerous Ukrainian Response meetings
- Assisted with ToR for Ukrainian Response Group
- Secured insurance for Ukrainian Response Group
- Sat on interview panel for Traveller CDP
- Attended two Traveller CDP Steering Group meetings
- Held five Anti-Poverty Strategy peer research sessions
- Attended Cliff of Moher Strategy Consultation for Clare PPN
- Facilitated meeting regarding Clare Mining Licence
- Assisted Clare Leader Forum on Brussels trip
- Attended Clare Leader Forum film premier
- Rep attended Clare Older People's Council meeting
- Meetings with Clare Youth Service re Clare Pride
- Attended and facilitated Quare Clare LGBTQ meetings
- Submitted parliamentary questions to TDs
- Held 5 peer research events

## Training/Events:

- Attended 'Traveller Cultural Awareness' training
- Attended Far-Right Watch training
- Clare PPN reps attended 'Women in Politics'
- Organised Quare Clare Solidarity gathering
- Attended Quare Clare Easter lunch



*Clare PPN Secretariat members and reps at Clare Leader Forum's film premier*



*Traveller Cultural Awareness Training – June 2022 with Clare Traveller CDP*

*Figure 1 Traveller Cultural Awareness Training*

## EVENT REPORTS

### Cliffs of Moher Strategy PPN consultation

The consultants for the Cliffs of Moher 2040 Strategy, Haley Sharpe Design, requested a meeting with Clare PPN member groups in May, to present a Phase Two consultation document for comment and discussion. This face-to-face meeting at Ennistymon Digital Hub was attended by groups from North and West Clare whose feedback will be vital in finalising the Strategy

### Quare Clare events

Clare PPN organised a solidarity gathering for Quare Clare to pay our respects to Aidan Moffitt and Michael Snee and to stand with our community against homophobia and transphobia. Ní neart go cur le chéile. Quare Clare also had an Easter lunch in Killaloe and is working on the very first Clare Pride (after last year's was postponed due to Covid restrictions).

### Climate Conversations Workshop

Clare PPN hosted a workshop (see poster on page 4) to seek member groups input, opinions and expertise on climate action and to review the Government's Action Plan. The conversation notes were collated and submitted to the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications and can be viewed here:

<https://clareppn.ie/notes-from-climate-conversations-workshop-23rd-june-2022/>



## ENGAGEMENT

### Membership by college:

Clare PPN currently has 359 member groups:

Community and Voluntary College 284

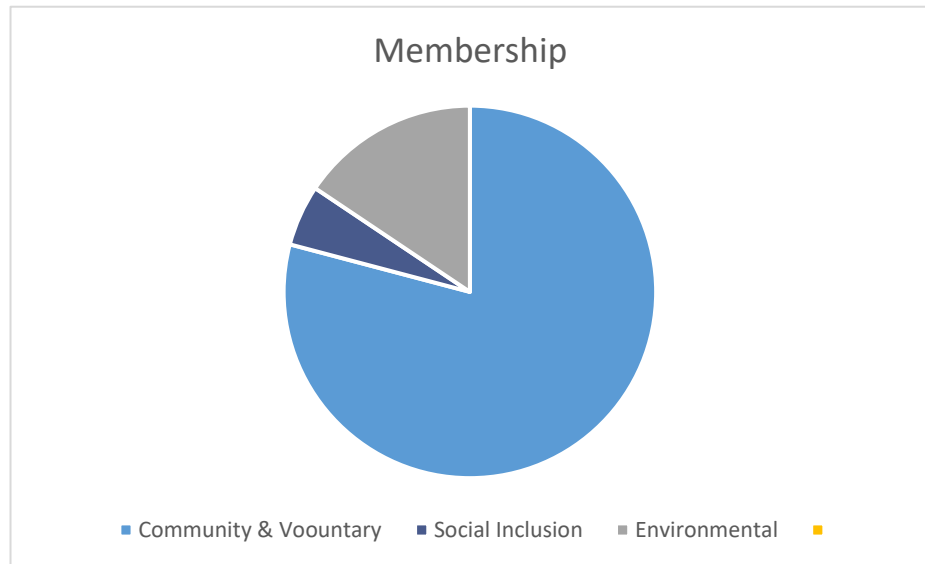
Environmental College 19

Social Inclusion College 56

### Social Media:

Twitter followers 1,538

Facebook followers 2,241



*'The urgency of action seems not to be understood. It is a crisis that need action right now, not more policies. Climate Action Plan is here, needs to be acted on. Climate change is an existential threat. The opportunity for consultation is welcome but there is a concern that in developing the "perfect" solutions we delay implementing any solutions while the problem gets worse every day. There must be some hope and a way to keep it positive while promoting urgency (we can't give the impression that all is lost or that is it too late)'*

*Climate Conversations Workshop - June 2022*



Appendix One:

**Clare PPN mass communications with members – April to June 2022**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Subject line</b>	<b>Recipients</b>	<b>Reason</b>
13/04/2022	1. PPN training videos; 2. Workshop on making LECPs sustainable'	Reps	Training notice
21/04/2022	April 2022 Newsletter	All contact	Newsletter
26/04/2022	Cliffs of Moher Strategy	All contact	consultation notice
03/05/2022	PPN reps experience	Reps	consultation notice
05/05/2022	It's me.....again (reps reports)"	Reps	Reports reminder
09/05/2022	A training workshop on the Environmental Sensitivity Mapping webtool	Env pillar	Training notice
09/06/2022	Anti-Poverty Strategy focus group session, Shannon, 16th June at 2pm	Shannon MD	consultation notice
09/06/2022	Two environmental events in August - seeking your feedback	Env pillar	event notoces
16/05/2022	LAST CALL: Cliffs of Moher Strategy consultation - Wednesday 18th May	All contact	consultation notice
16/05/2022	FOCUS GROUP REMINDER - tomorrow 17th May - Clare Anti-Poverty Strategy	Social Inclusion pillar	consultation notice
25/05/2022	Research request on participatory democracy	Reps	consultation notice
26/05/2022	May 2022 Newsletter	All contact	Newsletter
14/06/2022	Secretariat update	Secretariat	update
14/06/2022	Shannon Anti-Poverty Strategy peer research meeting	Shannon MD	consultation notice
16/06/2022	Clare PPN Invites you to take part in Climate Conversation 2022 Thursday 23rd June 7pm	All contact	consultation notice
20/06/2022	Minutes of Clare PPN Enviro College/CEN meeting, 15th June 2022	Env pillar	minutes circulation
20/06/2022	Notice of Summer Plenary Meeting, Wednesday, 13th July 2022 – 7pm to 9pm	All contact	plenary notice
20/06/2022	Climate Conversations Reminder - Thursday 23rd June at 7pm	Env pillar	consultation notice
21/06/2022	Good morning!	Secretariat	meeting notice
23/06/2022	June 2022 Newsletter	All contact	Newsletter

## Appendix Two:

### Clare PPN income & expenditure – April to June 2022

<b>Financial report</b>	
Wages	26,002.94
Travel and expenses	365.49
Rent and Rates	-
Telephone and postage	366.08
Printing & Office	149.12
Online communications	51.63
Heat & Light	206.79
Insurance	198.82
Bank charges	86.21
IT	117.00
Equipment	-
Marketing, promo, advertising	-
Projects & events	10,283.59
Meeting expenses	62.00
Maintenance	169.05
	<hr/> <b>38,058.72</b> <hr/>

## Contact us

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