

Clare Public Participation Network Report July to September 2024

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INTRODUCTION

Following the local elections, Clare County Council's Strategic Policy Committees are being re-constituted according to the SPC scheme 2024-2029. Please read below for information regarding nominations for Clare PPN representatives on these committees.

We launched our new website after a lot of work going through our archive and migrating the most important elements into a more streamlined site,

We also worked on more training and networking events which will take place in the final quarter of 2024

If you have any questions or comments, please contact 087 1617375 or sarah@clareppn.ie



Environmental 'Think-in' Day

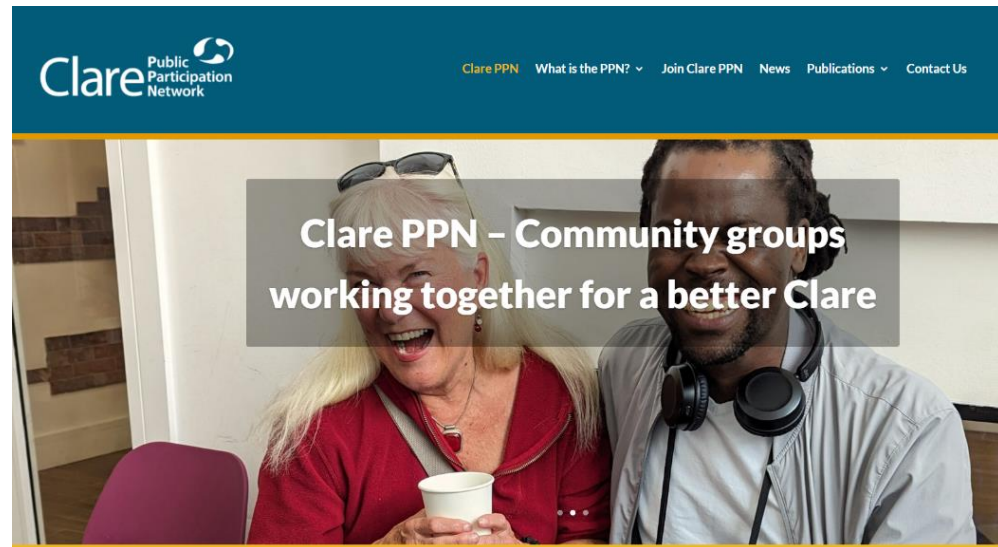
PPN NEWS

Website Launch

Clare PPN is very excited to launch our brand-new website. This platform has been designed to help our member groups to actively engage in local and national policy and decision-making processes. With regular updates on consultations, training, events and funding opportunities we hope it will be useful to our member groups and individuals across County Clare. We will be populating it with our reports and publications over the next few months so that it can be a real resource of information for the community.

It can be accessed at:

www.clareppn.ie



Strategic Policy Committee elections

Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs) are essential elements within Clare County Council, designed to assist in the development and review of policy. These committees consist of elected council members and representatives from various sectoral interests, such as agriculture, community, and business. Their role is to reflect the council's major functions and to provide a structured mechanism for policy formulation. Clare Public Participation Network (PPN) plays a key role in ensuring that representatives from community & voluntary, social inclusion and environmental groups, have access to decision-making processes. Through the PPN, member groups can nominate representatives to the SPCs, ensuring that diverse voices contribute to policy development. Clare PPN facilitates these nominations, aligning with national guidelines, which emphasise transparency and inclusivity. By supporting our representatives through training and resources, Clare PPN strengthens their capacity to engage effectively with policy and decision-making processes. Ultimately, this system allows communities to have a say in shaping policies that directly affect them, contributing to a more inclusive and representative local government.

Clare County Councils [SPC Scheme 2024-2029](#) has allocated 10 representatives over 5 SPCs to Clare PPN. There were at nomination stage at the end of quarter three. Please check back in the final quarterly report of 2024 for information on the successful candidates.

Clare Traveller CDP steering group/future board

As Clare Traveller CDP approaches the end of its very successful three-year 'pilot project' funding cycle the focus has increasingly been on securing the future of the organisation. Significant work has been undertaken to ensure a smooth transition from being hosted by Clare Local Development Company to becoming a standalone CLG in order to independently pursue core funding in 2025. A CLG board has been nominated and while there is a necessary majority from the Traveller community, it also has representation from Clare PPN, CLDC and other interested stakeholders from the settled community. The constitution is currently at draft stage and board roles and responsibilities training has taken place. Clare PPN is delighted to be part of this phase of development for what has been an incredibly successful project so far.

WORK OVERVIEW

Administration:

- Routine management of finances, banking and invoices
- Processed wages and Revenue returns
- Maintained lobbying register
- Initiated nomination process for LCDC roles
- Initiated nomination process for SPC roles
- Held two secretariat meetings
- Attended 1 resource worker meeting
- Quarterly report submitted to Clare County Council
- Did Wordpress training for new website
- Completed Annual Report
- Represented PPN workers on National Roadmap Implementation Group
- Liaised with auditor to finalise 2023 accounts:
[AVAILABLE TO VIEW HERE](#)

Want to represent your community? Clare Public Participation Network

Notice of elections + call for nominations

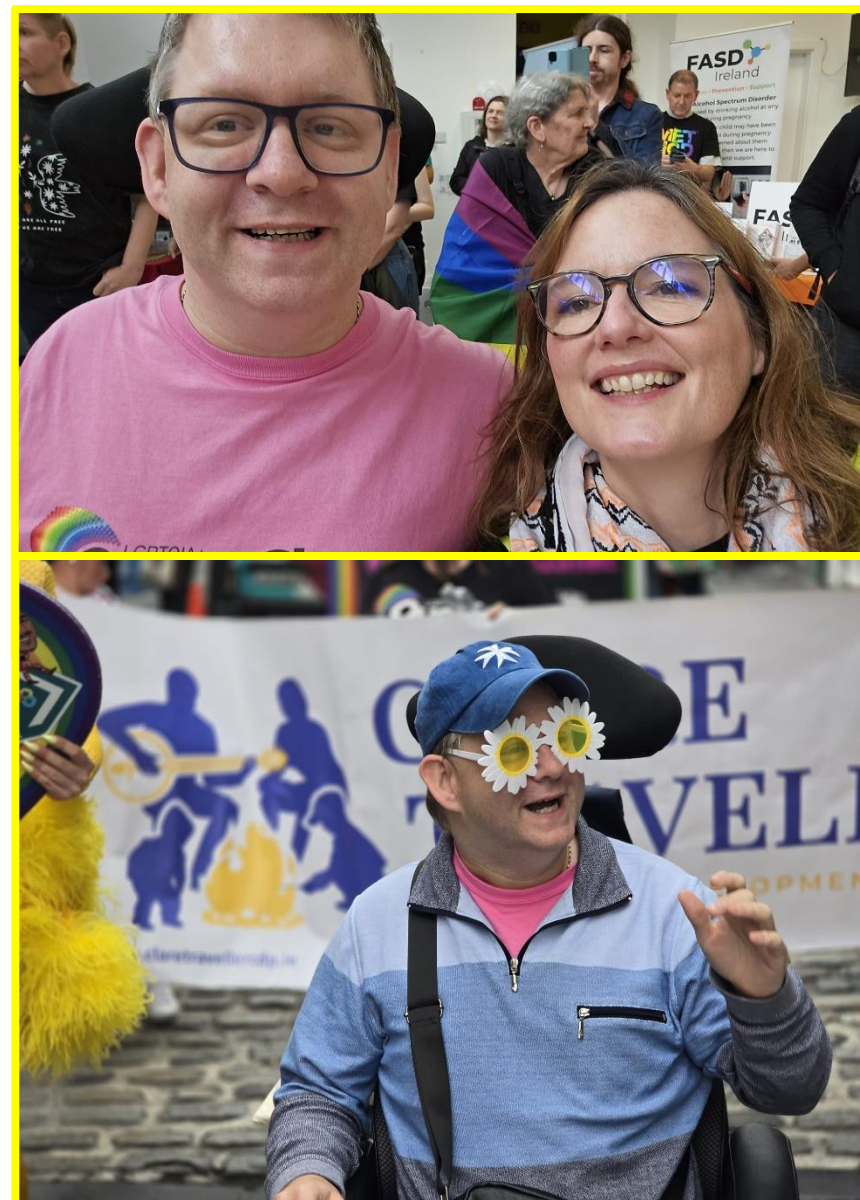
Environmental College

Outreach/Policy Work

- Managed Refugee Fund
- Attended 2 Traveller CDP steering group meeting
- Attended 2 Traveller CDP future board meetings
- Attended board training with Traveller CDP
- Liaised with Clare Oral history on Traveller oral history project
- Use of premises by various community groups
- Provided governance advice to member groups
- Provided board support for member groups
- Attended and supported Quare Clare Pride event
- Had two organising meetings with Connecting Communities training event with Clare Local Development Company and Clare Volunteer Centre
- Attended Quare Clare steering group meetings
- Held Environmental 'think-in' Day

'Thank you for facilitating a most cathartic gathering. I'm so grateful for the opportunity to hear great ideas, supportive facts and constructive insights and feel part of a wider community of care in Clare.'

-MK, environmental 'think-in' participant



PPN Secretariat members and staff at Clare Pride

TRAINING & EVENTS

Environmental 'Think-In' Day

The Clare Climate Action Think-in was a very well attended and engaging gathering of environmental campaigners from across Clare and even a few from as far as Limerick. The event served as a social and networking day for individuals committed to climate action and biodiversity protection.

The day kicked off with coffee, tea, and treats, providing a perfect opportunity for informal chats and networking. This was followed by a welcome and introductions session, where participants had the chance to get to know one another. One of the key sessions, facilitated by William Hederman, focused on the group's current climate and biodiversity priorities. This discussion offered valuable insights into the critical issues facing the environment today with lots of common ground on some pressing local issues (Ennis Data Centre, East Clare mining licences, water quality etc.) Agnes O'Shaughnessy from CLDC led a practical workshop on how to engage in available supports for local climate action.

After lunch, there was a change in the original program. Unfortunately, Vicky Donnelly was unable to attend, but we were very fortunate to have Dr. Conor McCabe, a well-known researcher, join the session instead. Dr. McCabe led the discussion on statistics and how they relate to poverty and just transition. The conversation was enlightening and challenging. The final session of the day, run by Clare PPN explored how we can continue to make environmental actions a priority within our work and emphasised the importance of representation.

The event bore fruit as nominations were received from many attendees in subsequent weeks for representative roles and feedback was overwhelmingly positive.

Clare climate action think-in

Hosted by Clare PPN

Annual social & networking day for environmental campaigners

Saturday 14th September

Clare PPN offices, Clonroad Business Park, Ennis V95 N62T

~ **Programme** ~

10.15 Coffee/tea, treats and chats	1.00 Lunch and networking
10.45 Who is who and what is what? Welcome and introductions	2.00 'Strategies to win': Facilitated think-in with Vicky Donnelly, an educator with Financial Justice Ireland and who designed and delivers the Campaign Strategies and Tactics module on the Masters in Public Advocacy and Activism at NUI Galway.
11.15 Your current climate and biodiversity priorities - focus group discussion facilitated by William Hederman	3.30 Clare PPN & Climate & biodiversity activism: How can we be of service? What would make Clare PPN environmental representative roles worthwhile?
12.15 What could support you in your work/activism? Help us co-create a funding application for a programme of supports and training for those involved in climate action in Clare. With Agnes O'Shaughnessy LEADER Coordinator with CLDC.	4.15 Coffee/tea, treats & goodbye.

Delicious vegan & vegetarian lunch & treats served by Moonbear Catering

PLEASE BRING A BOWL, SPOON & CUP

Please feel free to share this invite with anyone involved in Climate Action and Biodiversity Protection in Clare, whether or not they are members of Clare PPN

Reserve your place today!

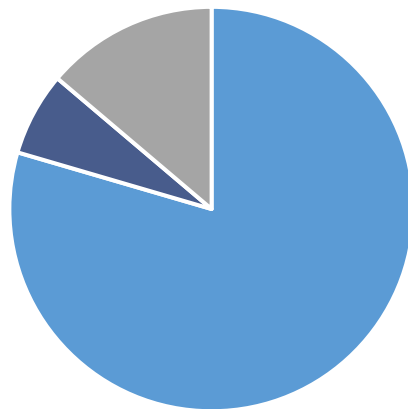
Please email admin@clareppn.ie

ENGAGEMENT

Membership by college:

Clare PPN currently has 420 member groups:

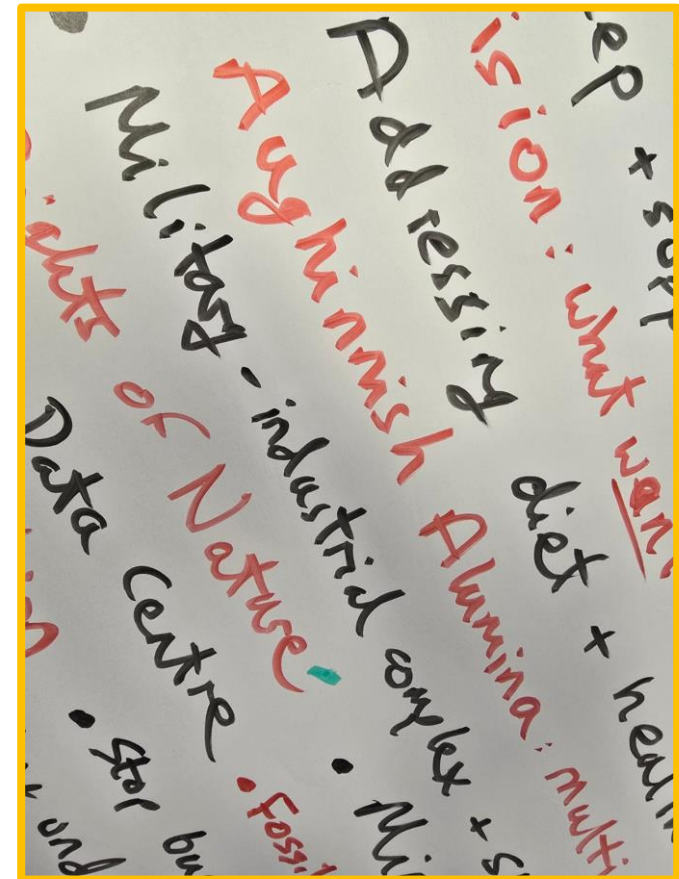
- Community and Voluntary College 334
- Environmental College 28
- Social Inclusion College 58



■ Community & Voluntary
 ■ Environment
 ■ Social Inclusion

Social Media:

Twitter followers 1,710 https://twitter.com/clare_ppn
 Facebook followers 2,460 <https://www.facebook.com/clareppn/>



Notes from the environmental think-in

SUBMISSIONS

[Submission on the Draft Traveller Accommodation Programme 2025 – 2029](#)

[Submission on the Draft Strategic Policy Committee Scheme 2025 - 2029](#)

COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

- Circulation of grants schemes and event notices
- Launched updated website: www.clareppn.ie
- Updated database



LCDC election graphic

NEWSLETTERS

July Newsletter - [CLICK HERE](#)

August Newsletter - [CLICK HERE](#)

September Newsletter - [CLICK HERE](#)

Clare PPN mass communications with members – July - September 2024

DATE	SUBJECT	RECIPIENTS	PURPOSE
09/07/2024	Clare PPN Work Report - April to June 2024	All contacts	Report
25/07/2024	July 2024 newsletter	All contacts	Newsletter
21/08/2024	August 2024 newsletter	All contacts	Newsletter
27/08/2024	Social & networking day for climate & environment campaigners in Clare	Environment College	Event
29/08/2024	Invitation to event launch on the socio-economic benefits of reopening Crusheen Railway station.	All contacts	Event
04/09/2024	Line-up for 14th Sept: Think-in, Social & Networking Day ...	All contacts	Event
10/09/2024	Funding news – Climate Actions Work Engagement Fund	All contacts	Funding news
12/09/2024	Notice of election - LCDC Environmental Representative	Environment College	Elections
17/09/2024	Invite to Pre Draft Consultation with Clare Co Council on Corporate Plan	All contacts	Consultation
18/09/2024	September 2024 newsletter	All contacts	Newsletter
24/09/2024	Nominations for Environmental rep on Local Community Development Committee - CLOSING SOON	Environment College	Elections
26/09/2024	PPN Elections for Environment Rep roles Call for Nominations	Environment College	Elections
26/09/2024	PPN Elections for Social Inclusion Rep roles – Call for Nominations	Soc Inclusion College	Elections
26/09/2024	PPN Elections for Comm & Voluntary Rep roles – Call for nominations	Comm & Vol College	Elections

Clare PPN income & expenditure – July to September 2024

Expenditure report

Wages	23,360.19
Travel and expenses	218.87
Rent and Rates	-
Telephone and postage	353.98
Printing & Office	-
Online communications	-
Heat & Light	385.23
Insurance	-
Bank charges	78.10
Audit fees	2,172.50
IT	1,228.98
Marketing, promo, advertising	-
Projects & events	385.91
Plenary costs	-
Meeting expenses	55.32
Maintenance	184.95
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Contact us:

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By William Hederman