



**Kildare
Public
Participation
Network**

Quarterly Report

Q1 2023

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INTRODUCTION

Quarter 1 got off to a quick start. This was due to the pre-approved work plan for 2023 which was approved by the Secretariat in December 2022. It ensured we had no delays and allowed us to move quickly with what is an ambitious workplan for 2023. This year, we have taken the progressive move to align all actions to the Sustainable Development Goals and track against the 2022-2026 strategic plan.

This year will see more in-person events and the first of two Plenary's took place at the Curragh racecourse on March 6th.

A key focus will be to continue to enhance relationships with key stakeholders and a number of events have been scheduled to bring together Kildare PPN representatives, chairs of the strategic policy committees and senior Kildare County Council staff in a bid to improve and strengthen participation in decision making at Local Authority Level.

A plan is in place to fill a number of vacant Secretariat and Representative seats and we are looking forward to having full representation on all committees in 2023.

A highlight of the quarter was the launch of the Kildare PPN Annual Report for 2022. It was presented and launched at the Plenary. It documents clearly the level of work undertaken and the commitment of both Secretariat and Staff to ensure that we do everything we can to strengthen participation, capacity and decision making.

2023 is set to be a great year and we are looking forward to working with our members. We are particularly looking forward to more in-person events, which really aid collaboration and of course we are looking forward to delivering two key events in the Kildare calendar, Social Inclusion week and the Climate Action weekend.

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

Aims

- ❖ To facilitate and encourage public participation in local decision making
- ❖ To facilitate the representation of the Community and Voluntary, Social Inclusion and Environmental groups onto decision making bodies
- ❖ To strengthen the capacity of organisations to contribute positively to the community

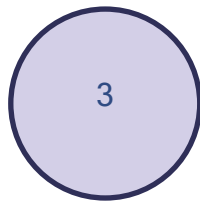
Objectives

- ❖ Encourage greater participation in public decision making which leads to more effective and better targeted policies and programmes at local level and where necessary at a regional and national level
- ❖ Develop alternative methods and models of working which seek to directly involve and empower groups and individuals within the community
- ❖ Support Kildare PPN representatives to achieve the policy objective of Kildare PPN

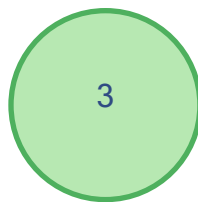
MEMBERSHIP

Kildare PPN's active membership between 1st January 2023 - 31st March 2023.

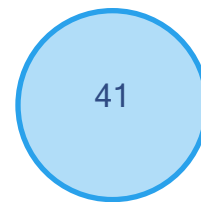
New Membership in Quarter 1



Social Inclusion

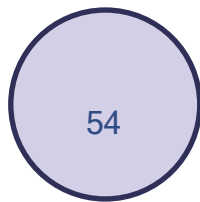


Environmental

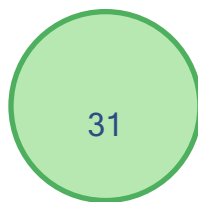


Community & Voluntary

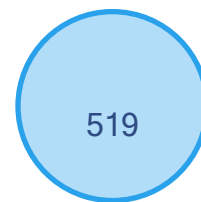
Total Membership as of March 31st



Social Inclusion



Environmental



Community & Voluntary

REPRESENTATION

Representatives

Kildare PPN currently has representation on the following committees:

Committee	College	No.
Local Community Development Committee	Community/Voluntary	2
Local Community Development Committee	Social Inclusion	2
Local Community Development Committee	Environmental	1
Joint Policing Committee	Community & Voluntary	2
Environment Services & Water SPC	Community & Voluntary	1
*Environment Services & Water SPC	Environmental	1
Housing Strategic Policy Committee SPC	Community & Voluntary	1
Housing Strategic Policy Committee SPC	Social Inclusion	1
Transport Strategic Policy Committee	Community & Voluntary	1
Local Community and Cultural SPC	Environmental	1
Local Community and Cultural SPC	Community & Voluntary	1
Local Community and Cultural SPC	Social Inclusion	1
Economic Development, Enterprise & Planning SPC	Social Inclusion	1
*Economic Development, Enterprise & Planning SPC	Environmental	1
Climate Action SPC	Community & Voluntary	1
*Climate Action SPC	Community & Voluntary	2
County Kildare Heritage Forum	Community & Voluntary	2
County Kildare Heritage Forum	Environmental	1
Drehid Liaison Committee	Community & Voluntary	2
	Total Representatives	21

Vacant Seats * (4)

Kildare PPN Secretariat

Seat	Representative
Athy MD Seat	Vacant
Celbridge - Leixlip Seat	Dermot O'Donnell
Clane Maynooth Seat	Naomi Scott Hayward
Kildare - Newbridge MD Seat	Vacant
Naas MD Seat	Liz Denieffe
Community & Voluntary Seat	Jill Mulhern
Community & Voluntary Seat	Anthony Egan
Environmental Seat	Vacant
Environmental Seat	Paul Leighton
Social Inclusion Seat	P.J. Fagan
Social Inclusion Seat	Anne Crowe

Vacant Seats (3)

EVENTS

Plenary Meeting

Kildare Public Participation Network (PPN) gathered at the Curragh Racecourse to hold our first Plenary meeting of 2023. We welcomed over seventy members to address annual administration, ratification of the 2023 workplan and the budget along with the launch of the 2022 annual report.

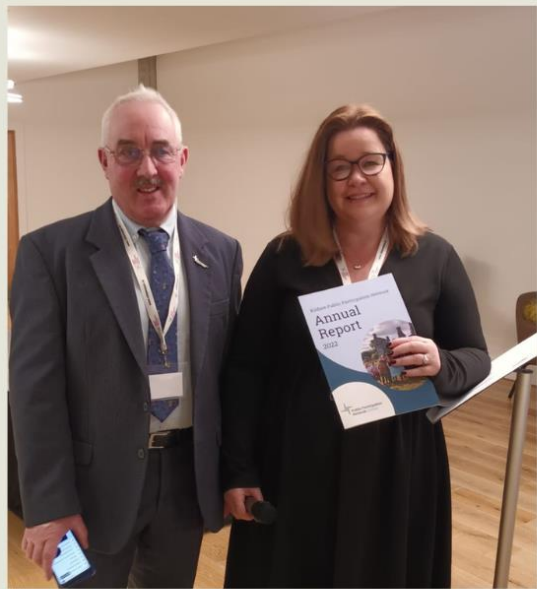
The Plenary, which is held twice a year followed a call out for new members as a new national brand identity and awareness campaign for Public Participation Networks was launched by Minister for Community Development and Charities, Joe O'Brien in Dublin. On the evening Lorraine Benson, the Kildare PPN representative on the Local Community & Cultural SPC with Kildare County Council talked about the positive experience of being a PPN representative and the impact that representatives can have on local decision making.

The Annual Report for 2022 was launched by Jill Mulhern, a member of the Secretariat and this highlighted the work completed by both Secretariat and staff throughout the year.

The Plenary was held in collaboration with the Curragh racecourse, and we must extend a huge thank you to the team there.

After the meeting, attendees were invited to a behind the scenes tour of the Curragh grandstand, where our members had the opportunity to visit locations that are off limits to members of the public including the weighing room and jockeys dressing room. In addition, all members received tickets to the opening race meeting of the season.

The evening concluded with some light refreshments and time to allow our members to catch-up/network with one another.



EVENTS ATTENDED

Eirgrid Roadshow

We had an information stand at the Eirgrid Energy Citizens Roadshow which was held in the Osprey hotel on February 1st 2023. It was a great networking event and we met with plenty of member organisations.



MRPPN Meeting

We attended the Midlands Regional PPN meeting in Durrow, which was hosted by Laois PPN. We presented on the outcome of an event which we hosted in November 2022 “Working together for Public Participation”



Image source: Laois Today

TRAINING

We hosted a number of training sessions for our member groups in Q1, including the following modules:

Title	Date	Number Attended
Community Grants Information evening (In person)	January 31st	49
Community Grant Information evening (Zoom)	February 15th	58
Community Leadership (Zoom)	March 15th	12
Social Media Bootcamp (Zoom)	March 29th	10

Staff Training

Title	Date	Attendee	Delivered by
Salesforce Data Cleansing Training	Jan 9th	Grace Clarke	South Dublin Volunteer Center
Media Relations	Jan 17th	Grace Clarke	Alice PR
Developing an integrated strategy	Jan 24th	Grace Clarke	Alice PR
Media Spokesperson	Feb 15th	Grace Clarke	Alice PR
Salesforce		Grainne Fleming	South Dublin Volunteer Center
Plain English	March 9 th	Grace Clarke Grainne Fleming	NALA
Community Leadership	March 15th	Grainne Fleming	Liam Scollan Carmichael-Hs
Social Media (Intermediate)	March 29th	Grainne Fleming	Carmichael

PARTICIPATION IN DECISION MAKING

Elections

Clane Town Centre First Town Team

In February we filled a PPN seat on a new Kildare County Council committee for the town of Clane. The successful nominee was Marie Sheehy nominated by Clane Project Centre CLG.

Local Community Development Committee

Elections for the following three LCDC seats were launched on Monday 27th March:

- Community and Voluntary x2
- Social Inclusion x1

This process will be completed mid April and results will be communicated then.

Submissions

Kildare PPN completed and submitted the survey for the Baseline funding for Local Authorities via the Local Government Fund

Meetings

February 23rd - The Kildare Integration Strategy steering group

March 1st - The Law reform commission - The liability of unincorporated association and organisations

March 15th - County Kildare LEADER Partnership staff meeting

March 20th - Kildare County Council

March 24th - KCC Climate Action Team

March 30th - Department and Mazars - Implementation Roadmap group

GOVERNANCE

Memorandum of Understanding and Service Level Agreement

The Memorandum of Understanding and the Service Level agreement for 2023 have been signed by all parties and submitted to the Department of Rural and Community.

Department returns

Kildare PPN's income and expenditure report for 2022, along with all supporting documentation for funding 2023 including our workplan and budget for 2023 was returned to the Department of Rural and Community on March 7th 2023 following ratification at our Plenary.

Meeting Minutes

All Secretariat meeting minutes are uploaded on the Kildare PPN Website.

Policies

A reviewed Elections policy was approved by the Secretariat on Friday March 24th and is now available on the Kildare PPN website.

COMMUNICATIONS

Social Media

In this quarter, Kildare PPN's social media saw the following growth:



19% Increase in Followers
405 Followers



1% Increase in Followers
2,012 Followers



4% Increase in Followers
687 Followers



6 E-bulletins were sent in Q1 of 2023 via Salesforce containing information on, grant opportunities, public meetings, public consultations, training, and anything that may be beneficial to our member groups.

FINANCIAL REPORT

January - March 2023		Amount
INCOME*		
Dept. of Rural and Community Development		€85,700.00
Kildare County Council		€35,000.00
Maximum Potential Total Income *		€120,700.00
Fixed Expenses		
Resource Worker + Employers PRSI		€52,899.00
Support Worker Salary + Employers PRSI		€38,374.00
Staff Phones		€400.00
CKLP Administration Fee		€3,000.00
Insurance		€528.46
	Total Fixed Expenses	€95,201.46
I.T		
Web Hosting/SSL Certificate		€1,045.50
Zoom Subscription		€231.45
	Total Committed Expenses	€1,276.95
Events		
Training Carmichael		€1,200.00
Training Town House		€250.00
Plenary		€1,396.04
	Total Events	€2,846.04
Other		
Printing (Annual Report 2022)		€337.00
	Total Other	€337.00
Total Spent to Date		€99,661.45
Budget Remaining		€21,038.55