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# Introduction

As we approach the forthcoming local and European elections scheduled for June, it is imperative that we, as the Kildare Public Participation Network, continue to uphold our non-political stance while supporting our members in making informed decisions that resonate with their values and aspirations for their communities.

Throughout 2023, we embarked on a significant consultation initiative aimed at crafting a comprehensive Wellbeing Statement for our county. These consultations, conducted across all Municipal districts, garnered extensive participation from our members and stakeholders alike. The invaluable insights gathered from these engagements have since informed various strategic endeavour's, notably contributing to the formulation of the draft Local Economic and Community Plan.

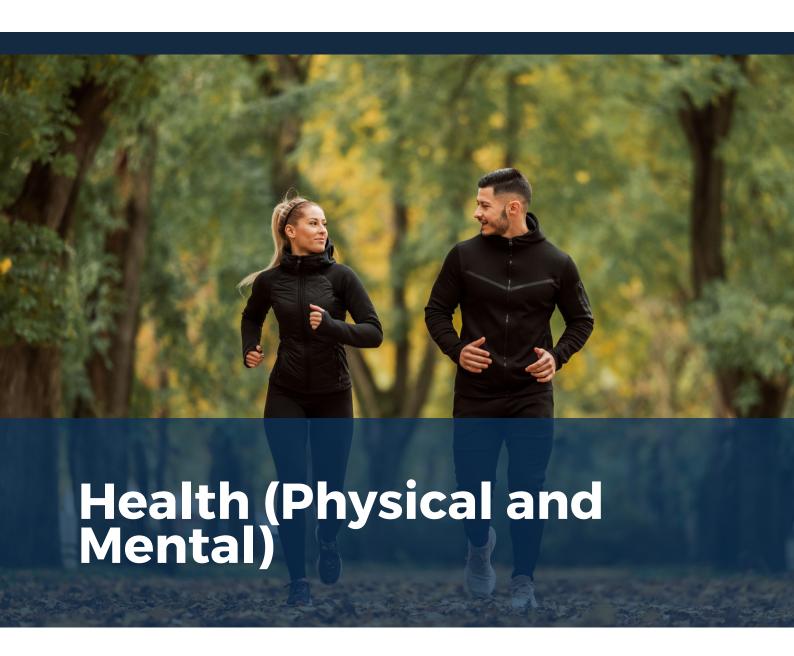
Building upon the wealth of information gathered, we have meticulously collated findings to develop a set of potential questions. These questions are intended to serve as a resource for our members as they engage with candidates during the upcoming canvassing period.

We believe that by arming ourselves with pertinent inquiries rooted in the collective aspirations of our communities, we can facilitate constructive dialogue and contribute meaningfully to the electoral process.

Thank you for your ongoing dedication and commitment to our shared mission of fostering thriving and resilient communities.

Grainne Fleming

Kildare Public Participation Network Co-ordinator



- How will you ensure equitable access to high-quality healthcare for all residents?
- What initiatives will you support to promote active lifestyles and safe environments in our community?
- How do you plan to implement mental health programmes and preventative care to enhance overall well-being?
- How do you plan to establish a comprehensive and accessible healthcare system that prioritises both physical and mental health?
- What specific measures will you take to ensure that mental health services are integrated into the broader healthcare framework?



- How will you prioritise environmental preservation, conservation, and the adoption of renewable energy in the county?
- What specific policies will you advocate for to achieve carbon neutrality and reduce waste in our community?
- How do you plan to balance economic growth with environmental sustainability, considering challenges posed by climate change?
- In what ways will you ensure that construction practices within the community adhere to sustainable standards?
- How do you plan to manage and conserve essential resources in our community for long-term sustainability?



- How will you support and celebrate the rich cultural heritage of our county while embracing progressive attitudes?
- What measures will you take to promote inclusiveness, empathy, and a sense of belonging for every individual in our community?
- In what ways will you preserve cultural heritage, encourage diverse community activities, and foster a strong sense of purpose among residents?
- We need to restore and maintain historical sites, organise cultural festivals celebrating the district's heritage, and promote local arts and crafts. How would you support this?
- How would you encourage arts, music, and drama programmes for all age groups.



- What strategies will you implement to diversify the local economy and support sustainable growth?
- How do you plan to address the changing nature of work, considering the potential of remote work and technological advancements?
- In what ways will you support small businesses, improve infrastructure, and attract new industries to ensure long-term economic stability?
- In what ways will you provide additional supports for vulnerable groups within our community, ensuring that they have access to the necessary resources for both physical and mental well-being to encourage work-based programmes?
- How will you collaborate with existing community organisations to identify and address the specific needs of vulnerable populations in readiness for the work place?



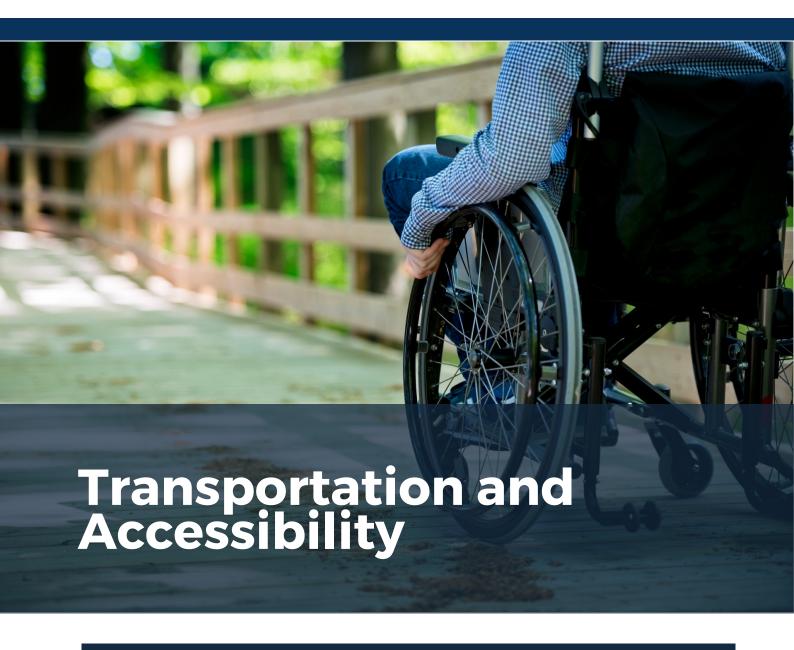
- How will you support Kildare PPN to enhance public participation in local government and ensure that community voices are heard in decision-making processes?
- What measures will you take to promote transparency, accountability, and citizen engagement within local government?
- In what ways will you encourage active involvement of the community to foster a sense of ownership and trust in local government?
- How do you plan to engage the community in decision-making processes related to environmental policies and projects?
- Can you outline the mechanisms you would support for community feedback?



- What initiatives will you support to improve accessibility, inclusivity, and community support systems in our county?
- How do you plan to create safe, inclusive spaces that promote diversity and strengthen social services?
- In what ways will you provide opportunities for education, skill development, and social engagement to enhance a sense of belonging, understanding, and unity among residents?
- Are there plans to leverage technology to improve the reach and availability of services to the community?
- What strategies will you employ to protect older members of the community being isolated by the use of technology?



- We need to introduce programmes in schools that teach students about the Counties history and cultural significance, would you support this?
- How will you promote environmental science-based actions and educational programmes in schools?
- What options would you see for involving the youth in the design and implementation of mental health and addiction prevention programmes, ensuring that their perspectives and needs are considered?
- How would you encourage initiatives in schools to promote mental health awareness and resilience among students?
- There is a desire for more inclusive educational opportunities and platforms to voice young people's opinions. We need to establish youth councils, giving them a platform to participate in decision-making processes and organise regular youth forums and workshops. What role do you see yourself playing in this, and how would you support it?



#### **Transportation**

- How do you intend to improve transportation within our community, specifically in terms of creating connected footpaths and cycle lanes?
- What strategies will you employ to reduce heavy traffic in towns and promote sustainable modes of transportation?
- What strategy would you support in improving connectivity between urban and rural areas?

#### Accessibility

- The community would recommend that a full accessibility audit be carried out across public buildings and spaces within the county. Is this something you would support?
- What strategy would you support in improving connectivity between urban and rural areas?

#### MY QUESTIONS

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#### Contact

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