

County Wicklow Public Participation Network

Representative Reporting Template

This template aims to support CWPPN representatives who sit on local social partnership structures in County Wicklow in providing a report to the wider membership. Please complete the template and return to countywicklowppn@gmail.com **within one week after each meeting**. Please keep responses to 1 page if at all possible.

Name of Committee: Wicklow County Childcare Committee

Name of Representative(s): Margaret Coen

Date of Meeting Attended: 30th November 2017

Most important actions or issues to emerge from a County Wicklow PPN perspective:

Governance: PPN seat on board still vacant - PPN members with expertise relevant to children/early years sector asked to consider joining.

WCCC Affordable Childcare Scheme: Majority of services have signed up. Some difficulties accessing scheme for parents due to lack of local knowledge. Any parent experiencing difficulties accessing scheme asked to contact WCCC directly for help.

**Grants: Childminding Development grants – 8 approved. Childminders may apply for this grant if notified to WCCC, not necessarily registered with Tusla.
Parent and Toddler grants - 18 approved.**

Training: Training in 2018 will focus on Speech and Language workshops for services – area identified by providers in survey.

On-going equality, diversity and inclusion training – 64 services to date have staff who attended.

Arising from new mandatory reporting guidelines which commenced this November, new child protection training will be delivered in 2018.

Childcare Professionals Day on 25th Nov received good feedback from attendees. Large waiting list for places meant many did not get to attend – possibility of running another in April for those.

Local Collaboration: WCCC consulted by planners on new large scale developments where builders are seeking exemptions from planning regulations that require childcare facilities be provided (1 for every 75 houses). Advised that builders must prove over-supply of facilities in order to gain exemption – not the case in Co. Wicklow.

Date of next meeting – not yet available.