

County Wicklow PPN 2020 Annual Report

<p>Membership</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jan 2020, 292 member groups – 31 Dec 2020, 357 member groups • A re-registration process identified groups that were no longer active these were removed from the PPN database • We welcomed 72 New Groups in 2020. A list of member groups is available on our website
<p>Networking/ Working Locally</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging Engagement with Local Decision Making: Circulated WCC and MD Meeting dates and agendas to encourage public engagement with local decision making throughout the year • Meet the Candidates for the National Elections: Ran an event in Bray to support community groups & individuals to meet the candidates running in the national elections and supported (and attended) 2 member groups to run similar events in their area • Meet Your Local Elected Representatives: Ran 5 Online events, 1 for each MD on Thursday evenings in October. 117 people from a broad spectrum of community groups engaged with the sessions and 28 of our 34 elected representatives answered over 80 diverse questions. A report from the meetings is available on our website • COVID-19 Significantly changed our 2020 work programme. Worked with WCC IT to identify the community response to the pandemic and map this for reference to support the community call. • Wicklow Community Response Forum (WCRF) – A WCC committee set up to coordinate the county response to the COVID-19 health crisis. Actively participated in fortnightly online meetings to highlight community issues/concerns as well as share information & supports • WCRF Digital Poverty Sub-Group: actively participated in this group which was set up to respond to issues being raised in relation to the digital divide. Supported the development of a WCC grant process to resource most affected groups. • WCRF Staying Connected & Managing Your Mood Sub-group: set up as part of the Keep Well Campaign to coordinate, communicate, publicise and support local initiatives set up to promote & facilitate community wellbeing & resilience in accordance with the national Keep Well – Growing Our Resilience Campaign. • Social Inclusion Week: Facilitated network meetings to organise events to run in Social Inclusion Week 17 to 23 October in collaboration with various groups and organisations that work with a Social Inclusion Focus. Due to COVID-19 most of the events were cancelled. Work changed to raise awareness of Social Inclusion and highlight some of the initiatives that were taking place across local and online media • Disability & Inclusion Work: Established and facilitated a working group for people and organisations working to promote disability access and awareness raising. The work of this group was integrated into the new WCC Disability Access & Inclusion Group in the 3rd quarter of 2020 • Sustainable Development Goals: Worked with WCC environmental officer to develop a mapping tool for community groups to link their actions to the SDGs • County Wicklow Integration Strategy: Participated in an interview with the consultant engaged to develop the strategy and networked her into other organisations including the Glenree Centre for Peace & Reconciliation.

	<p>Facilitated an online discussion group as part of the consultation for the strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science Week: Collaborated with WCC Environment & Heritage Offices, Co Wicklow Volunteer Centre & Local Waters & Communities Office to encourage community groups to link in with schools and youth clubs to run activities for science week • Wicklow Comhairle na nOg: Participated on steering committee of this group
<p>Networking/ Working Regionally, & Nationally</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National PPN Conference: Preparation began to organise & run the event in the Arklow Bay Hotel in early October 2020. Due to COVID-19 the event was postponed and has been rescheduled for Nov. 2021 • Dept Public Expenditure & Reform: Participated in DEPR Interview Re Organisational Capability Review of the Dept. Rural & Community Development • Irish Environmental Network: Presented at 2 Irish Environmental Network online seminars (approx. 70 people in attendance at each), highlighting Wicklow PPN work in developing our Vision for Community Wellbeing Statements, linking them to the Sustainable Development Goals and highlighting both in PPN submissions as well as ongoing collaboration with WCC to develop a mapping initiative to show how community groups are actively working towards the SDGs • National Resource Workers Network: A peer support group for PPN Resource Workers. Attended 3 meetings and provided text, call, and email support to colleagues. • National PPN Advisory Group: Oversight committee for PPNs. Participated in 4 meetings. Resource Worker was nominated to this group by the Resource Workers Network for a second 3-year term in November 2020. Also participated on the 2019 Annual Report sub-group & 2020/2021 Annual Conference Sub-group • National Secretariat Network: A peer support group for PPN Secretariats. Each PPN has one seat on this group. Wicklow Rep attends quarterly meetings and participated at sub-group level. • PPN User Guide/Handbook: A guide for PPN stakeholders on structures, policies, and procedures for PPNs. Actively participated in PPN User Guide Review, held consultation with Secretariat and Reps and made a submission. New PPN Handbook launched 19th November 2020 and is available on our website • Regional Support Meetings for Working with Migrants: With support from Glencree Centre for Peace & Reconciliation, facilitated meetings for peer support in developing & implementing Local Integration Strategies and working with migrants. One meeting was for local authority & local development company staff (8 counties attended) and the second for PPN Resource Workers (9 counties attended).
<p>PPN Meetings/ Specific Work</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretariat: The Secretariat continued to advise and support the Resource Worker & Support Worker, 8 meetings were held throughout the year along with Emails, texts and calls when further help was needed. We welcomed 4 new members to the Secretariat in 2020 • Liaison Sub-Group: A group consisting of 1 rep each from the Secretariat, the hosting organisation and WCC along with the Resource Worker. The group ensures that all local PPN Stakeholders are informed of the PPN's development & progress. 2 meetings held

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HR Sub-Group: A new sub-group of the Secretariat set up this year. Currently working on a Terms of Reference • Co Wicklow Visions for Community Wellbeing: Continue to promote and use the consultation material and Vision Statements as the foundation for all our work and raise awareness of these resources at every opportunity. • Sustainable Development Goals: Highlighted awareness of SDGs in all PPN submissions and clearly linked them to our Vision for Community Wellbeing. Worked with animator to develop an animation to raise awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals, show how SDGs link to Our Vision for Community Wellbeing, show how actions of member groups link to SDGs, and encourage groups to map their actions against the SDGs using the WCC mapping tool. Animation launched and circulated in December and available on PPN You Tube Channel and Website • Keep Well Campaign/Community Wellbeing: Worked with Avril Bailey, Human Givens Counsellor & Coach to develop our Supercharge Your Selfcare Training Programme into 5 short videos that will support individuals and communities to look after themselves and each other. The videos clearly link to Our Visions for Community Wellbeing and the National & Local Keep Well Campaign. Videos launched and circulated in December
<p>Representation/ Consultations / Submissions *Submissions available to view on PPN website</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PPN Representation/elections: Ran nomination and election processes for various PPN representative positions throughout the year resulting in our PPN welcoming 8 new Representatives and 4 new Secretariat members • PPN Representation/Committees: At the end of the year 35 PPN Representatives sat across 18 committees & boards (The committees and our Reps are listed on our website). PPN Reps continued to represent the community on the committees they were assigned to in 2020. PPN Representative reports are available on our website. • Submissions: PPN Submissions were made to: “Ag-Climate” – a Draft National Climate & Air Roadmap for the Agriculture Sector to 2030 and beyond; Draft National Volunteering Strategy 2020-2025; WCC Tree Strategy. Our report “The Financial Impact of COVID-19 on Co Wicklow Community Groups” was submitted to WCC, Local Elected Reps, & Dept. Rural & Community Development. • Consultations: Organised & ran 5 consultations/surveys to feed into local and national plans & strategies. Highlighted, advertised, and encouraged engagement with 22 consultations & surveys on local plans and policies & 31 consultations & surveys on national/regional plans and policies that would have a local impact.
<p>Training, Capacity Building & Funding</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PPN Representative Induction/Training: Held an induction and peer support online meeting for current, past, and new PPN Representatives as well as one to one support meetings • PPN Stakeholder Training: Pilot programme funded by Dept. Rural & Community Development & Facilitated by Social Justice Ireland and Waterford IT. 10 online sessions, including 7 class lessons backed up by pre class learning using video presentations and reading resources. 5 PPNs, including Wicklow invited to enrol 5 participants each from a mix of PPN Stakeholder groups. Wicklow enrolled 1 staff member, 1 secretariat member, 2 PPN representatives & 2 elected councillors. Programme to be evaluated and rolled out across the country in 2021. • Staff Training: Learned skills to create video content using a smart phone.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member Group Training (ran by PPN in collaboration with Avril Bailey, Carmichael & Development Perspectives): Supercharge Your Self Care 6 modules 9 participants; Ready & Able Post COVID-19 2 sessions 32 participants; Peer Support for Community Halls & Centres 25 participants; New Options for Funding Your Community Group 2 sessions 28 participants; SDG Awareness Training 26 participants; Good Governance for Community Groups 4 modules starting 30 November and continuing into 2021. • Training Opportunities: Highlighted/Advertised 40 Training Opportunities through social media and newsletters • Resources: Developed information leaflet to point groups to resources to support them in re-activating their services and opening their premises. All training resources available on our website. • Funding Supports: Highlighted/Advertised over 90 Funding Opportunities/Competitions through social media and newsletters • PPN Members Funding Handbook: Updated PPN Members Funding Handbook throughout the year
Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members Update Ebulletin: 17 newsletters and information updates sent to our member groups • Website: Worked with E-Power Web Design to develop a new Co Wicklow PPN website to be launched in December. Updated website throughout the year. • Facebook/Social Media: Regular updates on Social Media throughout the year. Increased “likes” by 262 up to 1595 and increased followers by 411 up to 1874. Some posts are reaching over 3.5K. Set up “Include Us In” a Facebook Page dedicated to Social Inclusion information • COVID-19 Communications: Acted as a central point for COVID-19 local and national supports information. Worked with WCC to develop a mapping tool of community supports available to support the elderly and vulnerable members of the community. Developed COVID-19 Resource Page on our website • Local Radio: Worked with Garden County Radio (GCR Greystones) to highlight the work of community groups during the health crisis. 20 member groups were interviewed and the PPN Resource Worker was interviewed 3 times • Podcasts & Video: Spoke about our Visions for Community Wellbeing to an Irish Rural Link podcast, a Social Justice Ireland podcast and to the Waterford PPN Wellbeing Workshops • Local Newspapers: 18 articles about our PPN work were printed across the Wicklow People and the Wicklow Times
Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported an event to celebrate International Women’s Day run by the CWP Women’s Social Inclusion Network
Admin.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance: Day to day correspondence, accounting and reporting for PPN members, Secretariat, Host organisation, WCC and Dept. Rural & Community Development. Updating policies and procedures • Meetings: Organisation, preparation and recording of meetings and event management • Staff Management: Regular supervision meetings and dialogue with staff. Set up HR subgroup of Secretariat representatives and host organisation