



Wicklow PPN: Effective Submissions

Susanne Rogers
Research and Policy Analyst
Social Justice Ireland

Effective Submissions

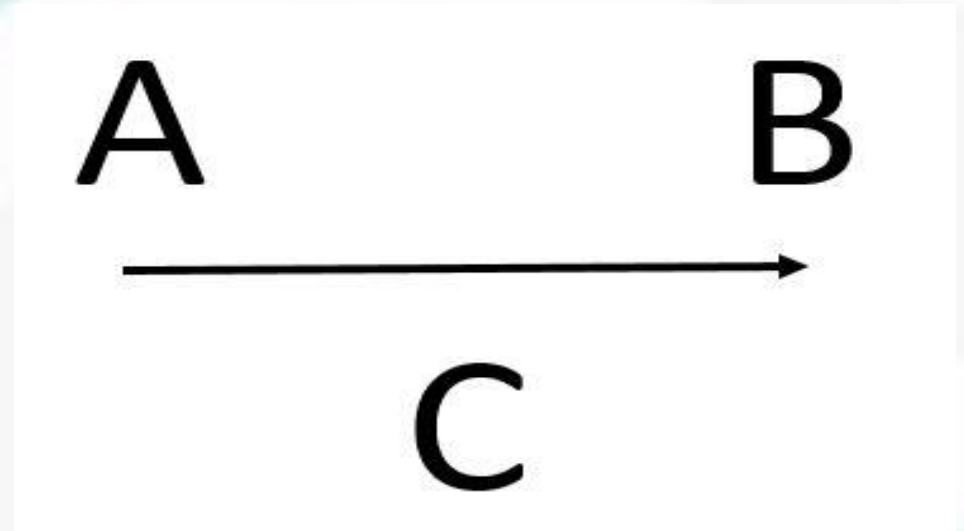
- Brief Introduction to Social Analysis
- Effective Submissions
- Networking and working collaboratively
- Data Sources

Introduction to Social Analysis

A: Where are we now?

B: Where do we need to be?

C: How do we get there?



Understand the context from different perspectives: Economic, Political, Cultural and Social

Introduction to Social Analysis

A: Where are we now?

- What is the problem or issues?
- Where are the flaws?
- What is your local area lacking?
- Is there something important that is going underfunded?

Introduction to Social Analysis

B: Where do we need to be?

- What is the end result you wish to see?
- Important to be able to visualise and communicate clearly
- Can relate to
 - Infrastructure
 - Services
 - Amenities

Introduction to Social Analysis

C: How do we get there?

- What is the solution?
- What are the resources needed to implement it?
 - Human resources
 - Financial resources
 - Tools
 - Others?

Introduction to Social Analysis

Understand the context from different perspectives

- Economic
- Political
- Cultural
- Social

Introduction to Social Analysis

A: Where are we now?

- What are the issues?

B: Where do we need to be?

- What's the vision for how things should be?

C: How do we get there?

- What needs to be done to get us where we want to go?

Introduction to Social Analysis

A: Where are we now?

- What are the issues?

B: Where do we need to be?

- What's the vision for how things should be?

C: How do we get there?

- What needs to be done to get us where we want to go?

How do we back up our assertions?

Effective Submission

So how do we put all that into practice?

Why make a submission?

In a submission, you are attempting to influence a decision.

That could be a decision about how money is spent or resources are allocated. It could be a decision about what type of buildings are built on the area.

Structuring your Submission

- Introduction – a bit about your organisation / collective
 - Reference to previous submissions?
 - A – Where are we?
 - B – Where do we want to be?
 - C – How do we get there? Include policy recommendations.
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- If you can include costings, all the better!
 - Recommend dividing the submission into sections
 - As concise as possible!
 - Providing data will bolster your argument



Planning Submissions

- The recommendations are that submissions must be grounded in planning considerations, not personal opinions and likes and dislikes.
- So use the Local Development plan, any National or Regional guidelines to base it.
- Also look at environmental impacts, traffic and parking and access issues.
- And very importantly – your Vision for Community Wellbeing.
- If your submission has been acknowledged by the Local Authority, there is a right to appeal to An Bord Pleanála. (www.pleanala.ie)

Submissions

- See attached sample for discussion

Looking Back: Strategic Aspects of Participation

- Start with the agenda / issue
- Know your mandate
- Do your research
- Network
- Engage



Engaging!

- Through Member News-bulletins, Email and Facebook raised awareness of 12 National, 1 Regional and 16 Local Consultations.

In addition, our PPN held Consultations with member groups and interested parties in relation to 1 National, 1 Regional and 4 Local Consultations.

A representative of our PPN attended meetings in regard to 1 Local and 1 National Consultation.

Co Wicklow PPN made written submissions to 3 National, 1 Regional and 10 Local Consultations. Co Wicklow PPN Submissions were made to: Co Wicklow Policing Plan, Bray Area Partnership & Co Wicklow Partnership SICAP Plans; WCC Corporate Plan; Wicklow County Development Plan; WCC Draft Climate Change Strategy; WCC Draft SPC Scheme; Letter Re WCC Local Property Tax adjustment; Bray Health Check; PPN User Guide Review; EMRA Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy; Draft National Volunteering Strategy; Co Wicklow Outdoor Recreation Strategy; and Heritage 2030. All are available to view on our website

Co Wicklow PPN runs an annual consultation with member groups to give direction to its Annual Workplan.

Engaging!

- Wicklow PPN have, through good relationships with Wicklow County Council and our submission to the SPC scheme the following outputs were achieved: Co. Wicklow PPN were allocated 2 seats on the newly formed Climate & Biodiversity Action SPC (one for the east and one for the west of the county). An environmental seat for PPN Representatives was created on SPCs that did not previously have one. This has strengthened the Environmental Voice in WCC policy making committees and increased citizen engagement.
- Wicklow PPN ran Meet the Candidate events in all of the 5 Municipal Districts where all candidates were asked, and signed a pledge to work towards achieving the Visions for Community Wellbeing. These meetings provided the opportunity for candidates to give a brief introduction to themselves and then to meet the community by circulating around the tables (cafe style) which provided a more informal and safe space for better engagement.
- The PPN organised two meetings (one East and one West) to discuss the Policing Plan for the county and to develop a community submission to it. These meetings resulted in the development of our Policing, Safety & Security Thematic Network.

Additionally, the meeting in West Wicklow acted as a catalyst for the development of a Baltinglass Community Alert Group which continues to meet and work closely with the local community Garda.

Engaging!

- Through working closely with Wicklow Travellers Group and the Travellers Primary Healthcare Team, Wicklow PPN has encouraged and supported a Traveller Woman to sit on the Board of Wicklow County Childcare Committee.
- Wicklow PPN began circulating the agendas for the Municipal District Meetings. In addition, we directed members to where they could find the contact details for elected representatives and previous minutes. Anecdotal evidence tells us that this has encouraged communities to engage with their Municipal District with PPN members attending meetings, contacting their local reps and actively looking for the Agendas when they have at times been delayed.
- Conversations that took place during Wicklow PPN's Community Wellbeing Consultations and an outreach engagement in Blessington along with the natural development of a North Wicklow Environmental Network prompted our PPN to collaborate with the IEN on an Environmental Networking event in West Wicklow. A call was made at the meeting to find interested parties that might develop a West Wicklow Environmental Network. A group formed and the PPN Support Worker facilitated the first three meetings to support the group to develop its aims and objectives. The group continued to grow in strength and went on to nominate and act as a linkage group for the PPN Rep to the Climate & Biodiversity Action SPC.

Useful websites

- Central Statistics Office (Statbank)
- Local Authority Website
- Government Department Stats
- Other similar organisations may have their submission online
- www.irishstatutebook.ie
- www.localauthorityfinances.com
- www.gov.ie
- [Our Vision - County Wicklow PPN](http://www.wicklow.ie/Living/ConsultationHub)
- <https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/ConsultationHub>

Evaluation

- Be sure to evaluate your experience
- You may not be successful the first time
- Important to learn from the experience
 - What happened over the course of the process?
 - What was learned?
 - When the cycle is repeated, how can it be more effective?
 - Feedback?
 - What was good?,
 - Where might it be improved?
 - Was support maximised?

Some Tips

- Timing is important:
 - Remember the timeframes given earlier in this session
- Engage early
- Develop 'specialists'
- Link the relevant linkage groups/reps
- Communicate
- Feedback
- Re-analyse
- Keep demands and expectations reasonable.



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Thank You