



# Public Participation Network Wicklow

## NEWS UPDATE: Week Ending 13th January 2023

### Welcome to our first news update of 2023 for Members

And so begins 2023! This year we will see Co. Wicklow PPN & Wicklow County Council and the National PPN Conference in early October. We also plan to get out to each Municipal District in the Springtime to share with you 'what we heard' and thanks to and now on the Vision for Community Wellbeing.

Many thanks to all of you that completed our 2022 Annual Members Survey. We will use the feedback to help inform the focus of our work including our training for member groups. We will share the results in our next News Update.

Access to training on all aspects of volunteering, recruitment, management etc. was highlighted by many groups in our survey. Please check out our [National News section](#) below for details of the upcoming training that Volunteer Ireland will provide.

To begin the new year, we have a new logo. The Department of Rural & Community Development is working with Alice PR and PPNs nationally to rollout a national Communications Campaign for PPNs. As part of this work the logos of all 31 PPNs have been prepared in a new format to ensure that a unified visual identity is in place before the campaign is launched.

The Secretariat and staff of Co. Wicklow PPN wish all our member groups a successful, vibrant and active year; your continued endeavours.

To catch up on all the news scroll through the update or click on the links below to jump straight to a specific section:

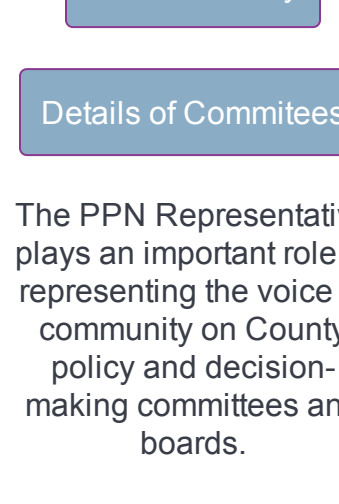
[Wicklow PPN News](#)  
[Local News](#)  
[National News](#)  
[Consultations](#)  
[Funding Opportunities](#)

### Wicklow PPN News

#### Meeting of PPN Representatives & Secretariat Members

We will hold an in-person and an online meeting this month for all our Representatives including members of the Secretariat and our reps on County policy and decision-making committees and boards.

The broad purpose of the meeting is to support networking amongst PPN reps, to share experience, and to explore ideas/issues to raise/develop during 2023 based on community input gathered at our Vision for Community Wellbeing consultations and based on the feedback received in our Annual Members Survey.

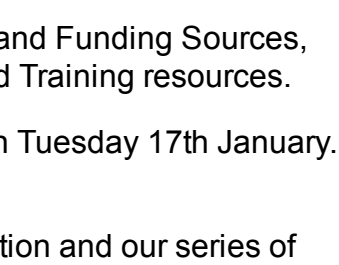


#### Vacant PPN Representative Positions

We will put out a formal call for nominations for the following vacant PPN Representative positions next week:

- Co. Wicklow PPN Secretariat
  - Arklow MD - 1 seat
  - Wicklow MD - 1 seat
  - Environmental Pillar - 1 seat
- County Wicklow Joint Policing Committee
  - County Wicklow District - 1 seat
- Community, Cultural, Social Development Strategy Policy Committee
  - Environmental Pillar - 1 seat
- Southeast Fisheries Local Action Group
  - A person/group who has some knowledge/experience of our coastal communities - 1 seat
- Bray Drug & Alcohol Task Force
  - A person/group living/working in the Bray Municipal District, from our Social Inclusion Pillar and who has some knowledge/experience of addiction issues - 1 seat

Thank you to those of you that expressed interest in the Rep. positions through our Survey.



[Election Policy](#)

[Details of Committees](#)

The PPN Representative plays an important role in representing the voice of community on County policy and decision-making committees and boards.

### Local News

#### Job Vacancy – County Manager, Wicklow Volunteer Centre

**Closing Date for Applications: Friday 20th January 2023 at 5pm**

The County Wicklow Volunteer Centre (CWVC) is an independent organisation committed to the promotion, development, and support of volunteer participation in Wicklow county and its natural environs. CWVC supports the development of volunteering through the provision of services to volunteers, volunteer-involving organisations, and the local community. CWVC actively participates in the development of the national infrastructure through its affiliation with Volunteer Ireland and listed by Kaitie in the Volunteer Centres Managers Network.

The purpose of the Manager role is to direct, lead and deliver on the CWVC strategic and operational plans which are developed in the framework of continuous quality improvement (CQI) and align with the National Volunteering Strategy (NVS).



[Find out more](#)

#### Sensory room available for bookings

**Bray Family Resource & Development Centre**

To book a slot in the Sensory Room email [info@office@gmail.com](mailto:info@office@gmail.com) or phone 01 2867644.

Please note: All minors need to be accompanied by an adult.



[Keep an eye out on their Facebook page for updates on this project](#)

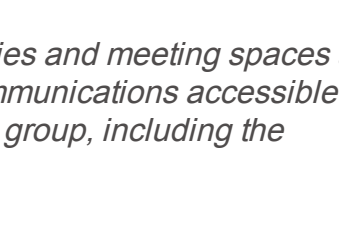
#### Youth LGBTQIA Wellbeing & Makeup Workshop and Seminar

**on Wednesday 25th January from 4.30 - 6.30pm**

**In Cui Rath Naoi Community Development Project, Rathnew Hall**

The workshop & seminar will teach you makeup and application techniques to help you be our best self in a safe space.

For more information and to book your place contact the facilitator on 089 4371173

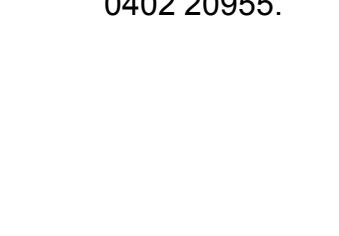


[Find out more & Register](#)

#### Wicklow Local Sports & Recreation Partnership Upcoming Training Courses during February

Courses include:

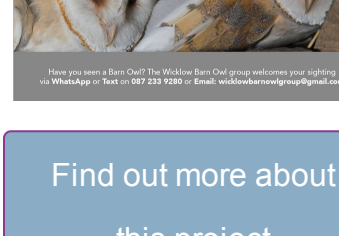
- Disability Inclusion Training
- Larney Sports and Leisure Workshop
- Vision Sports Awareness Training
- Sports First Aid
- Online Safeguarding



[Find out more & Register](#)

#### Remember to check out the Wicklow Disability Access & Inclusion Toolkit for Community Groups

The toolkit offers practical advice for groups and clubs to help them make their facilities and meeting spaces as accessible as possible. It also provides tips for groups in relation to making their communications accessible. Information is also provided on how to plan for inclusiveness in the operations of the group, including the management of the group, and in planning for activities, events and outings.



[Find out more & Register](#)

#### Faile Isteach Conversational English classes

Faile Isteach is a Conversational English Language Project co-ordinated by County Wicklow Partnership through the SICAP Programme. The project is aimed at providing free Conversational English classes for migrants in an informal setting.

Conversational English Classes are held at the following venues:

- Wicklow Town
  - De la Salle Pastoral Centre, (Church Grounds), St. Patrick's Road, Wicklow Classes are held every Wednesday morning from 09.45am – 11.45pm Except during school holidays
- Arklow Town
  - Bridgewater Centre, 1st Floor Avoca River House (opposite Aldi) Classes are held every Wednesday and Thursday morning from 10am – 12pm Except during school holidays
- Battinglass
  - St. Joseph's Parish Centre, Battinglass Classes are held every Monday morning from 11am – 1pm Except during school holidays



[Find out more & Register](#)

#### Barn Owls of Wicklow Calendar 2023

This calendar is a great way to learn more about Barn Owls and to keep in touch with the Wicklow Barn Owl group.

Copies are available free of charge, please email requests to [wicklowheritaget@wicklowcoco.ie](mailto:wicklowheritaget@wicklowcoco.ie) with your postal address.

The calendar is an output from the Wicklow Barn Owl project, a collaboration between the Heritage Office of Wicklow County Council, National Parks and Wildlife Service and Birdwatch Ireland.

The aim of the project is to encourage recording of Barn Owls in Co. Wicklow; provide Barn Owl Nesting boxes at appropriate locations; and to promote awareness of this fascinating species of conservation concern.

This project was co-funded by The Heritage Council as an action of the County Wicklow Heritage Plan in 2022. The Wicklow Barn Owl group welcomes your sightings and queries.



[Find out more about this project](#)

### Previously Listed ...

#### Suicide Prevention & Intervention Training

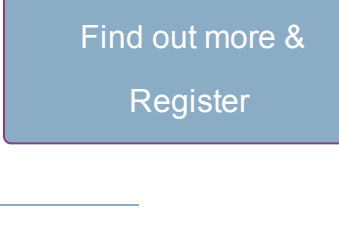
**Training in Co. Wicklow in 1st Quarter of 2023**

Breaking Through co-ordinate Suicide Prevention & Intervention Training on behalf of the HSE for Community Healthcare Dublin South East, Dublin South and Wicklow as part of Ireland's National Suicide Prevention Strategy, Connecting for Life.

The training will give community members the following:

- Recognise when someone might be at risk of suicide.
- Build confidence to talk to them about it.
- Connect them with helpful supports and services.

**Please note** should an organisation wish to host a training please contact [involvingapplications@hse.ie](mailto:involvingapplications@hse.ie) in the new year. Details of the training requirements such as minimum numbers, room requirements etc.



[Find out more & Register](#)

### National News

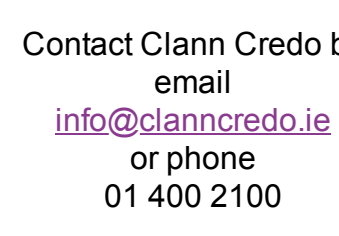
#### Learning & Capacity Building for Volunteer Involving Organisations

**Upcoming Training provided by Volunteer Ireland**

Volunteer Ireland has developed a comprehensive range of learning and capacity-building tools and resources to increase the effectiveness and impact of involving volunteers with your organisation. Some of the training/ISSI events are offered free of charge and others have a nominal charge.

The upcoming training includes:

- Volunteer Managers Coffee Morning
- Fundamentals of Volunteer Engagement
- Involving Migrant Volunteers
- Volunteer Policy – The Fundamentals
- Diversity as a way to increase volunteer engagement

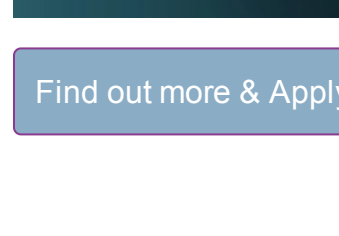


[Find out more & Register](#)

#### ALONE Community Impact Network Training & Support offerings for 2023

Within the remit of the Community Impact Network, ALONE are providing training, resources, and access to technology to all the agencies they work with across the country. The aim of these offerings is to support older people to age in place in their local communities.

This network is open to any service, group or organisation that supports older people; whether that is a part of the work they do or is their main work.



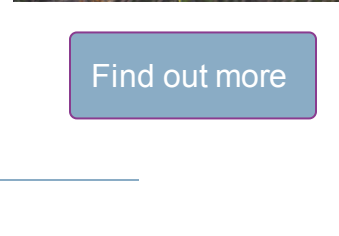
[Find out more & Register](#)

#### The ARCHES Recovery College January-February-March programme

**Beginning in mid-January**

ARCHES Recovery College is suitable for anyone who self identifies as having experience of mental health difficulties as well as family members/supporters/people impacted by poor mental health.

All the sessions either take place Online via Microsoft Teams or in-person at the locations indicated in the programme details (across CHO 6).



[Find out more & Register](#)

#### The Wheel's 2023 Training Calendar

Please note: some of the training provided by the Wheel is restricted to members of [Team Wheel](#). Also, feasibility provides free of charge 1 day training sessions do have a fee.

[Browse their Training Calendar](#)



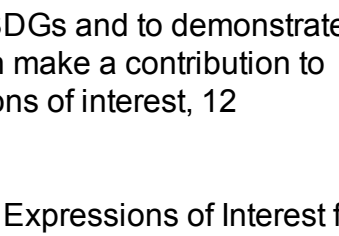
#### Online Leadership Academy Breakfast Club

**Thursday 2nd February from 9.30 – 11am**

This session in February will look at the emerging opportunities for Leaders of Organisations for developing leaders.

The Breakfast Club events will happen monthly and will alternate between on-line and in-person.

One of the key needs of any leader is a good support system and strong network. All of the events will be designed to encourage people to engage with one another so as to develop a strong leadership community here in Ireland.



[Find out more & Register](#)

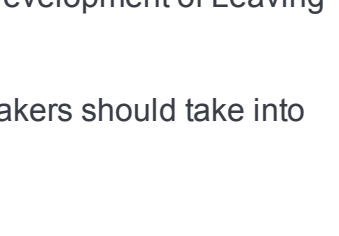
#### Clann Credó €10 Million Community Sports Loan Fund

Clann Credó has a dedicated €10 Million Community Sports Loan Fund available to help sports clubs and local groups maximise their Sports Capital grant.

If your club or community group is preparing an application to the Sports Capital and Equipment Programme controlled by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, it may be worth speaking with Clann Credó about their Community Sports Loan Fund.

The Sports Capital & Equipment Grant scheme is likely to open in the first quarter of 2023.

In previous years Clann Credó has hosted online information events to help clubs and groups planning the development of sports facilities. They will be hosting another online event soon, so keep your eye on the [Clann Credó](#) social media and on our correspondence and social media.



[Find out more about the Sports Loan Fund](#)

#### Upfront Current Affairs show on RTE – Join the audience

Upfront is a new four-hour current affairs show taking over the Monday night slot on RTE 1. Hosted by Kaitie Harmon, the show will cover three to four topics each week with a guest panel and studio audience.

They are looking for audience members that are interested in current affairs, social issues and politics, and engaged with the world around them, to create a vibrant atmosphere, and potential ask questions of the panellists. Audience members do not need to be attendees or representatives of their organisations and societies, but just represent themselves.



[Find out more & Apply](#)

#### Join the New Year Hunt on your next walk and help add wildflower hunts from across Co. Wicklow

The Delgany to Greystones Walk turned out to be a blossoming Hotbed of New Year Biodiversity! Looks like maybe the highest number of wildflower species of any Irish location, and 12th highest of all 1,003 sites in the full UK&IE. (Green Greystones Facebook page)

What wild plants are growing in your local area?

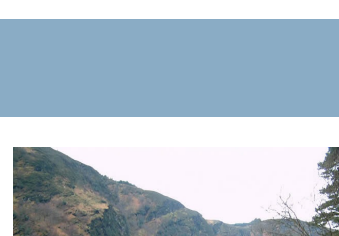


[Find out more](#)

#### IEN Calendar of National & International Days of Environmental Interest

If you're looking to plan actions throughout the year, this calendar might be helpful to you.

[Access the Calendar](#)



#### See Change Green Ribbon Impact Report 2022

This report highlights how the Campaign's supporters helped See Change celebrate their milestone anniversary 10th Green Ribbon campaign.

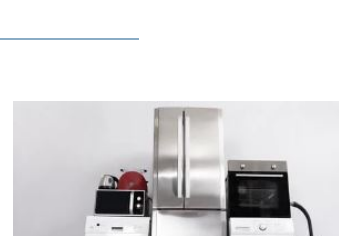
[Access the Report](#)



#### National Policing Authority

**Review of 2022**

[Access the Review](#)



### Previously Listed ...

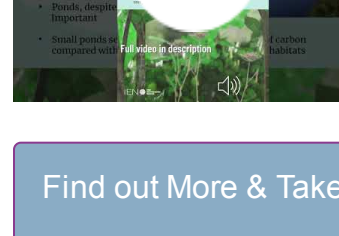
#### SDG Champions Programme – Call for Expressions of Interest

**Closing date: Friday 20 January 2023 at 5pm**

The SDG Champions Programme was developed to raise public awareness of the SDGs and to demonstrate, through the examples provided by the SDG Champions, that everyone in society can make a contribution to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Following an open call for expressions of interest, 12 Champions were chosen to take part in Ireland's first SDG Champions Programme.

The Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications are now seeking Expressions of Interest for participants for the 2023 SDG Champions Programme.

As part of the 2023 programme, 20 organisations and groups from across the country will be appointed 'SDG Champions' to raise public awareness of the SDGs and to demonstrate, through example, that everyone in society can make a contribution to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



[Find out more](#)

#### Sustainable Development Goals National Stakeholder Forum

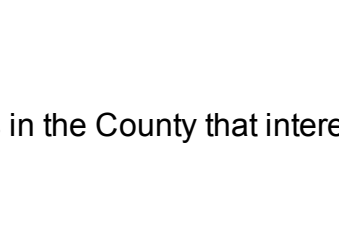
**on Tuesday 17th January 2023 from 10.30am – 4.30pm**

**online and in the Aviva Stadium, Dublin**

The Forum meeting will focus on the key principle of Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development of Leaving No One Behind.

They would like to hear from you about what you believe national and local policy makers should take into account when developing policy to ensure that no one is left behind.

[Find out more](#)



[Find out more & Have your say](#)

#### Codling Wind Park

**Second Phase of Public Consultation**

**Closing Date: early February**

Through this phase of public consultations Codling Wind Park will share details on the progress the project has made since the first phase in March 2021. Due to COVID-19 restrictions at that time, the first phase of consultation was confined to online consultation activities only. This time Codling Wind Park will combine online consultation with in-person exhibitions and face-to-face information clinics.

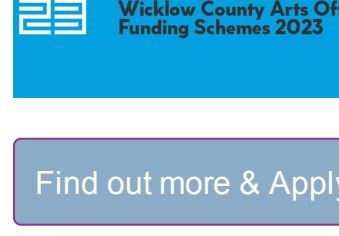
The three strands of their month-long consultation process are as follows:

- Virtual online exhibition:** This is now live and runs for four weeks, until February 8th. It consists of a series of information boards, maps and various settings out their latest project proposals and seeking feedback from the public.

**In-person exhibitions at four locations:** Face-to-face exhibitions will be held at four different locations in the coming weeks:

- Wed, Jan 18th: Kilcoole Community Centre, 18.30-21.30
- Thurs, Jan 19th: Bridge Tavern, Wicklow Town, 09.00-14.00 & 17.00-20.00
- Tues, Jan 24th: Cragmoyle Sailing Club, 09.00-14.00 & 17.00-20.00
- Wed, Jan 25th: Clonsilla Gael Fortenry GAA Club, Ringsend, 09.00-14.00 & 17.00-20.00

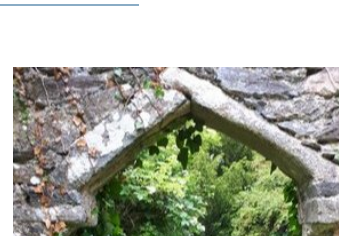
**Information clinic:** Ten hours of information clinics will be available to the public between January 23rd and February 4th, allowing people to meet with members of the project team after they have had a chance to view the exhibition materials. These are by appointment only and bookings can be made via the project [website](#) or by calling the Community Liaison Office, Gairine Fennell, on 087 1011473.



[Find out more & make a submission](#)

#### Government of Ireland Consultation Portal

Find information on public consultations held by government departments and local authorities.



[Consultation Portal](#)

### Previously Listed ...

#### Strategy Statement for the National Parks and Wildlife Service

**for the period 2023-2025**

**Closing Date: Friday 20th January 2023**

The first Strategy Statement for the National Parks and Wildlife Service will set out the core mission and values of the NPWS, together with the key strategic priorities for the organisation.

They are seeking your views as to what their priorities should be, over the coming 3 years. What are the most important goals you think the NPWS should work towards over the period? Do you have good ideas as to how to reach those goals? How should they measure progress?



[Find out more & Have your say](#)

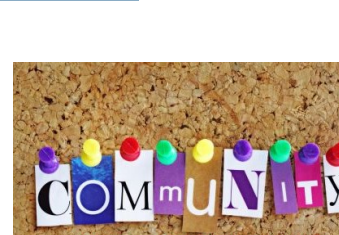
#### Social Enterprise Policy Consultation

**In person in Dublin**

**on Tuesday 31st January from 9.30am – 2pm**

The information gathered from stakeholders at this consultation will be used to inform Ireland's next Social Enterprise National Policy.

Organised by the Wheel on behalf of the Department of Rural & Community Development, this consultation will allow those engaged in the space to give their thoughts on key areas, barriers to development and the current status of social enterprise in a collaborative setting.



[Find out more & Register](#)

#### Exploring energy decision making and how consumers might be helped to make more energy efficient decisions when choosing home appliances.

The EVIDENT project is an EU-funded HORIZON research project exploring interrelated biases in energy decision making. As part of this project, TCD researchers are examining the factors which impact an individual's decision making around energy appliance decisions. This study seeks to understand how factors such as financial literacy (i.e. knowing how to make informed and effective financial decisions), and environmental literacy (i.e. the understanding, skills and motivation to make decisions that will positively impact the environment) might impact energy decision making. In line with this, the EVIDENT project hopes to better understand how to support individuals to make better energy decisions and contribute to policies that promote energy efficiency.

Survey participants can enter a raffle to be in with a chance to win one of eight €350 Amazon vouchers.



[Find out more](#)

[Take the Survey](#)

#### An Talisce EU Life Project

**Ponds as Reservoirs of Biodiversity**

An Talisce EU Life Project focusses on ponds and pond creation in Ireland. As Dr. Elaine McGoff mentioned in her freshwater biodiversity webinar, creating a pond is one of the best things you can do for biodiversity (see [video link opposite](#)).

One of the key objectives for this project is to ascertain the status of existing ponds and the impact of current and recent pond initiatives and private projects. In order to achieve this, they have designed a survey 'Investigating the Past, Present, and Future of Ponds in the Irish Landscape'.

The survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete. The data collected from the survey will provide a baseline of pond status in Ireland, which does not currently exist. It is hoped that this will help guide future pond creation, management and conservation at national level.



[Find out More & Take the Survey](#)

#### Garden Bird Survey

**Open Between 1 December and February each year**

The Irish Garden Bird Survey is BirdWatch Ireland's most popular citizen science survey, with around two thousand gardeners taking part each year. The Irish Garden Bird Survey is kindly sponsored by Ballymalone.

The Irish Garden Bird Survey does this not only give a good idea of how our garden birds themselves are doing, but also to give an indication of how the environment is faring in general.



[Get Involved](#)

#### Wicklow County Council Consultation Hub

This [Site](#) will inform you and allow you to submit observations on open consultations that interest you.

### Funding Opportunities

#### Community and Voluntary Sector Energy Support Scheme

**Closing Date Extended to Friday 20th January**

The Community and Voluntary Energy Support Scheme (CVESSE) provides for a once-off payment to eligible charities and community and voluntary sector organisations towards their energy costs for a range of measures introduced in Budget 23 to meet higher energy costs across society.



[Find out more & Apply](#)

#### Arts Aid Funding (Wicklow County Council)

**Closing Date: Monday 27th February 2023**

The purpose of this Funding Schemes is to support programming and development of Artists and Communities in County Wicklow. It is the intention that these awards will fund, in full or in part, a particular aspect of an Artist, Festival and Community project, development plan or programme for 2023.

This year Wicklow County Council Arts Office will be accepting applications under 3 schemes:

- Artist Award Scheme 2023
- Artist & Community Collaboration Award Scheme 2023
- Arts Festival Award Scheme 2023

