



News Update: Friday 12th January 2024

And so begins 2024!

Best wishes to you all for a successful, vibrant and active year in your community endeavours.

This year will see us all have a number of opportunities to exercise our democratic right to vote in elections and referendums. Wicklow PPN will highlight these upcoming opportunities and we encourage you all to vote and let your voice be heard in our democratic process. Visit checktheregister.ie to ensure you are registered to vote.

We are currently preparing our 2024 Workplan. We have prepared a very short survey which aims to gather your suggestions for our 2024 actions. We would be very grateful if you could take a couple of minutes to complete the survey and help us to help your group and community.

Public Participation Network Wicklow

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

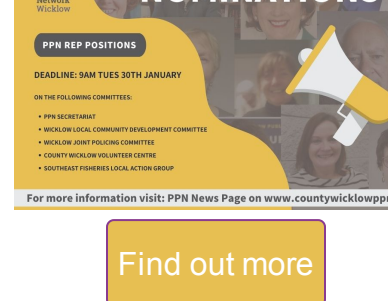
- [Wicklow PPN News](#)
- [Local News](#)
- [National News](#)
- [Consultations](#)
- [Funding Opportunities](#)

PPN News

Wicklow PPN Members Survey Closing Date: 9am on Friday 2nd February

Please help us to help your group and community by completing our very brief survey which aims to gather your groups suggestions on how the PPN can best support and represent the needs of your group/community during 2024.

If you would like to discuss the work of the PPN further please do not hesitate to contact Helen or Grainne via email, text or call.



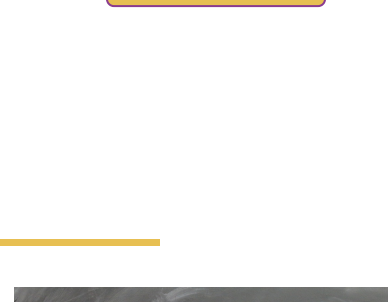
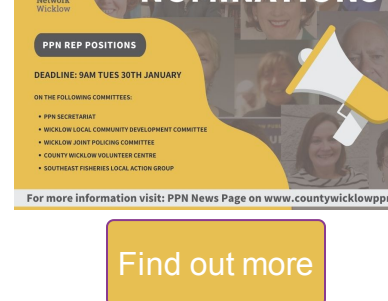
[Take our Survey](#)

Call for Nominations for PPN Volunteer Representative Positions Closing Date: 9am on Tuesday 30th January

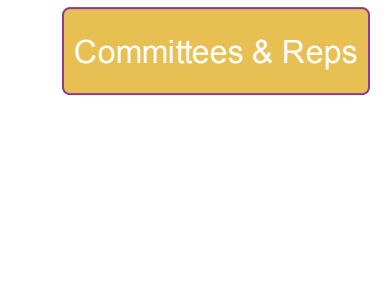
We are currently seeking nominations for Volunteer PPN Representative Positions on the following Committees:

- PPN Secretariat (volunteer management Committee)
- Wicklow Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)
- Wicklow Joint Policing Committee
- County Wicklow Volunteer Centre
- Southeast Fisheries Local Action

Please Note: To be able to nominate people for and vote in the election of PPN Representatives your group must have full membership of the PPN. If you would like to check the membership details of your group, please contact Helen or Grainne via email, text or call.



[Take our Survey](#)



[Find out more](#)

PPN Representatives

Welcome to our New Representatives

Following approval by the Secretariat & Ratification at our End of Year Plenary we are delighted to welcome the following new PPN Representatives:

Local Community Development Committee
Social Inclusion Seat: Tom Cavanagh (nominated by the Older People's Council)

Wicklow Joint Policing Committee
Ballinglass MD Seat: Ann Halpin (nominated by Hollywood Community Forum)

Housing & Corporate Estates SPC
Community Seat: Paul Armstrong (nominated by Delgany Community Council)

PPN Secretariat
Host Organisation (Wicklow Travellers Group): Conor Kirwan

A huge thank you to all those who put their names forward for PPN Representative Seats! We really appreciate your willingness to represent the voice of community on local policy and decision-making committees and boards.

Thanks also to the following Reps who are commencing a second term:

Wicklow Joint Policing Committee (Arklow MD Seat): Jimmy Dunne
Local Community Development Committee (Environment Seat): Jason Mulhall
Planning & Development SPC (Environment Seat): Tessa Stewart

And finally, many thanks to all our Reps who stepped down/unfinished their term as a PPN Rep during 2023.



[PPN Reports](#)

Take a look at the video opposite for a Snap Shot of the work of Wicklow PPN during 2023.

For a more detailed reports on our work during last year click on the link opposite.

Keep an eye on our [Website](#) for all things PPN, including our Funding & Events Calendar, Funding Resource, Monthly Reports and Finance reports, representative Reports, Submissions, News and Training resources.

The Secretariat of the PPN meets every 2 months. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 23rd January. Minutes from the Secretariat meetings are available to view on our website.

Check out our [YouTube channel](#) to view our Sustainable Development Goals Animation and our series of Wellbeing videos (Super Charge Your Self-care) and more.

Local News

A New Year - New Volunteer Opportunities!
Contact [Wicklow Volunteer Centre](#) or ask your local group

Wicklow Volunteer Centre
Ireland's Oldest Charitable CIL Mountain

THE NEW YEAR IS A BLANK CANVAS.
MAKE 2024 THE YEAR YOU VOLUNTEER

[REGISTER HERE](https://volunteerwicklow.ie/volunteers/register/)
[HTTPS://VOLUNTEERWICKLOW.IE/VOLUNTEERS/REGISTER/](https://volunteerwicklow.ie/volunteers/register/)

2024 RESOLUTION

[VOLUNTEERWICKLOW.IE](https://volunteerwicklow.ie)
[INFO@VOLUNTEERWICKLOW.IE](mailto:info@volunteerwicklow.ie)

Wicklow Climate Action Plan

Wicklow County Council, at their January meeting, adopted a new five-year Climate Action Plan committing to providing leadership on Climate Action. The plan focuses on creating a low carbon climate resilient future for the county. The plan has actions across the themes of Governance, Buildings & Transport, Natural Environment & Green Infrastructure, Community Resilience & Transition and Sustainable Resource Management.



Go Greener with Grangecon

Visit the [Go Greener with Grangecon Facebook](#) page to access ideas and tips on recycling and much more.

This group aim to engage the community in and around Grangecon in projects to reduce its collective ecological footprint, while hoping to inspire other communities to do similarly.

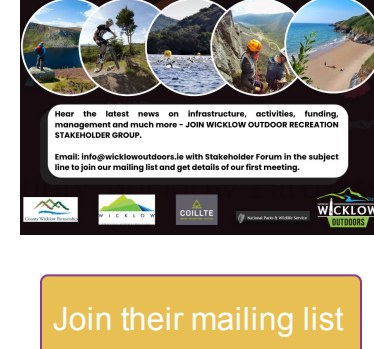


ANU Wicklow Domestic Violence Supports Support Clinics

Domestic abuse is not defined in Irish legislation. It is however considered to be the physical, sexual, financial, emotional or psychological abuse of one person against another within a family environment or by an intimate partner currently or previously, regardless of gender or sexuality.

If you live in North Wicklow and wish to speak to someone local, please ring ANU on 086 0597560 to make an appointment.

In addition, there are drop in clinics in both North and South Wicklow. Click on the button opposite for more information.

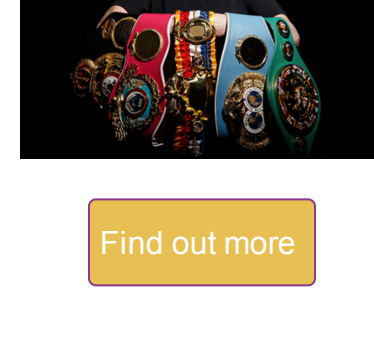


[Find out more](#)

Community Healthcare East Training

To register for any of the training below please visit: <https://bookwhen.com/che>

All their training programmes (Living/Works Start, safeTALK, Understanding Self-Harm, ASIST, Suicide Bereavement Training) are for over 18s only and there is no charge to the participant.

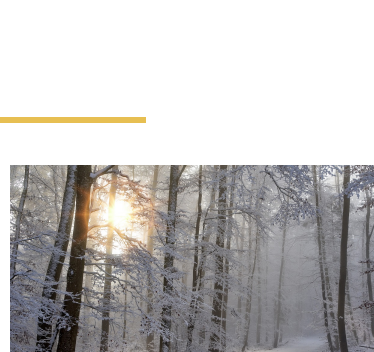


[Training Calendar](#)

Community Education Wicklow 2023 Review KWETB

We would encourage community groups to connect with the Community Education Section of the KWETB as they are a great support for community groups considering running training sessions.

[Find out more](#)



Click on the image above to access video

Wicklow Outdoor Recreation Stakeholder Group (WORC) First meeting scheduled for Early February

WORC are establishing a Stakeholder Group for all who have an interest in Outdoor Recreation in Wicklow, landowners, service providers, participants, local business, NGOs and more.

WORC was established more than 15 years ago. Comprising members from Coillte, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Wicklow County Council, County Wicklow Partnership, Wicklow Local Sports and Recreation Partnership and Wicklow Uplands Council, the committee operates as an information sharing forum of those parties most involved in planning, development and management of recreation in Wicklow.

Exponential growth in participation, Wicklow's second Outdoor Recreation Strategy and the publishing of Ireland's first national outdoor recreation strategy – Embracing Ireland's Outdoors – has resulted in this invitation to people to join the Group.

The Group plans to meet three times a year, on a Thursday afternoon and to provide a detailed update on projects, progress, plans and to offer people the opportunity to come on board and share your knowledge.



[Join their mailing list](#)

Third Level Katie Taylor Bursary Closing Date for Applications: Thursday 1st February

Wicklow County Council and Wicklow Sports & Recreation Partnership have opened the application process for the Third level Katie Taylor bursary award for 2023/24.

The Katie Taylor Bursary is a third level award to support students who excel at sport to complete their college education. The award of €1,500 per year of college, to a maximum of four years is open to students who live in Wicklow now entering first year of third level education. Students are not required to study a sports related course, but will need to demonstrate their involvement, commitment, and achievements in sport.



[Find out more](#)

Wicklow Sports & Recreation Partnership

If your New Year's resolution was to get more active - Check out the [Wicklow Sports Partnership Facebook](#) page & [Website](#) for news of upcoming programmes and classes.



Cold Weather Forecast..

With very cold weather forecast for the week ahead keep safe and warm and keep an eye on the more vulnerable members of our community.

Check out the [Be Winter Ready Website](#) for more information and advice on how to prepare for winter.

Keep an eye on the [Wicklow County Council Facebook](#) page for local updates.



& Remember to Keep your Pets safe - The [ISPCA](#) urges pet owners to keep their pets indoors as temperatures drop below zero degrees Celsius.

Save Our Signal - SOS Fundraiser Can you donate a small work(s) to Signal Arts Centre? Deliver/Post work to Signal Arts Centre by January 19th 2024.

Appeal from the Signal Arts Centre ...

Bray's longest serving and only dedicated visual arts space, Signal Arts Centre, is in dire need of funds to carry out urgent repairs. We are appealing to all our creative and artistic friends to donate their talent in a major effort to raise the funds and make the space more secure for all the artists the centre supports.

A Public Exhibition of all works will take place on Valentine's Day, Wednesday 14th February 2024.



[Find out more](#)

Funding Announcements for Co Wicklow ...

Congratulations to Askanagap Community Hall and Ballymanus Community Field who have been awarded €50,000 and €26,865 respectively under the Clar Funding Programme announced today (Friday 12th January).

This funding, under the 2023 CLAR Programme, will support 152 projects across Clar areas in Ireland to deliver projects which will include assist-hut pilotes, playgrounds, sensory gardens, walking tracks nature trails, outdoor performance spaces and community cafés.



[Press Release](#)

Job Opportunities available with Wicklow County Council

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL ARE CURRENTLY RECRUITING
Temporary Beach Lifeguards for the 2024 Bathing Season
Ref: 02/2024
Salary €15.50 per hour, circa 40 hours per week
www.wicklow.ie
CLOSING DATE FRIDAY 12 JANUARY 2024 AT 4:00PM SHARP

Career Opportunities
Join our team
We have a number of exciting opportunities available for the following positions:
ASSISTANT CIVIL DEFENCE OFFICER
REF: 60/2023
Salary €32,301.00 - €35,000.00 per annum gross (includes 2nd SS)
www.wicklow.ie
CLOSING DATE FRIDAY 12 JANUARY 2024 AT 12:00PM SHARP

National News

Environmental Protection Agency Advisory Committee Request for nominations from The Wheel

Contact Wicklow PPN by 9am on Wednesday 17th January

A vacancy will arise on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Advisory Committee in February 2024 and The Wheel has been asked to nominate four candidates.

The Wheel is seeking expressions of interest from its member organisations, as Wicklow PPN is a member of the Wheel, we have received their communication.

If you are interested in putting your name forward for this vacancy and your group is a Full Member of Wicklow PPN, please contact us by 9am on Wednesday 17th January. If you are unsure of the membership status of your group please don't hesitate to contact us.

If you would like to be considered for nomination, you will be required to provide:

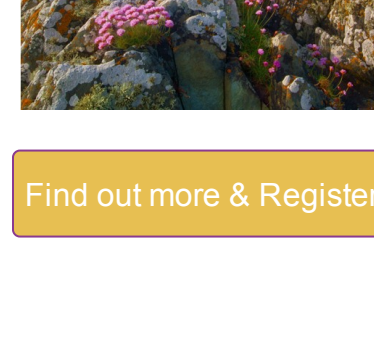
- The name of the candidate to be considered for appointment as a member of the EPA Advisory Committee
- The reason why, in the opinion of your organisation, they are suitable for appointment
- A curriculum vitae for the candidate nominated
- Written consent from the candidate agreeing to the nomination.



Hope & Courage Collective (H&CC) Community Gathering on the 24th of January from 12-2pm via Zoom.

This will be an online space to come together and debrief and for H&CC to present an analysis of recent events and how we can build a narrative to respond.

H&CC has also prepared a [Guide](#) to assist community leaders in understanding and countering the far-right's fear and hate tactics, especially in light of the current anti-migrant mobilisation seen around the country.



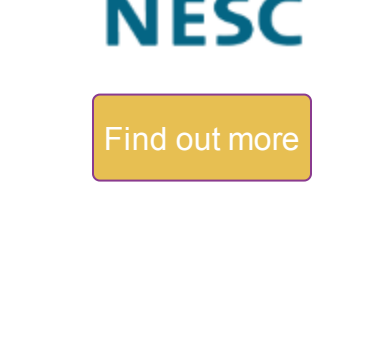
[Register for Gathering](#)

[Access Guide](#)

Feminist Communities for Climate Justice - Join the National Network Are you in a community group? Interested in connecting with other groups to collectively fight climate breakdown?

The Feminist Communities for Climate Justice National Network seeks to involve its members in creating an equitable green future where no one is left behind.

This network will work to foster connections of solidarity and understanding and build collective analysis between communities, women's rights organisations, climate justice and environmental groups, and academics and campaigns and will raise the voice of communities in the climate debate by establishing, supporting and resourcing network members to campaign on key issues. It will connect communities in Ireland with those in other parts of the world using online methods of meeting, sharing, building solidarity and working together.



[Find out more & Register](#)

NESC (National Economic & Social Council)

NESC was established in 1973 and advises the Taoiseach on strategic policy issues relating to sustainable economic, social and environmental development in Ireland.

The members of the Council are appointed by the Taoiseach for a three to five year term. These members are representatives of business and employers' organisations, trade unions, agricultural and farming organisations, community and voluntary organisations, and environmental organisations, as well as heads of Government departments and independent experts.

The composition of the NESC Council means that it plays an important and unique role in bringing different perspectives from civil society together, along with those of Government. This helps NESC to analyse the challenges facing Irish society and to develop a shared understanding among its members of how to tackle these challenges.



[Find out more](#)

Sharing Other Newsletters January 2024

[Irish Environmental Network January Newsletter](#): This newsletter is packed full of news, events and projects for us all to get involved in.

[Wicklow Children & Young People's Services Committee \(CYPSC\)](#): A general update of with information on training and upcoming events etc.



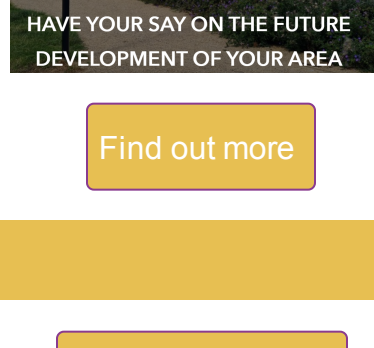
National Social Enterprise Policy Closing Date: Wednesday 31st January

The Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys, T.D. has launched a public consultation to further inform the development of Ireland's new National Social Enterprise Policy.

A process of consultation has already been completed which gathered the views of social enterprises, their representative bodies, funders, as well as other public bodies and stakeholders.

This has included six regional consultation events, the receipt of written submissions from stakeholders, and bilateral meetings between officials drafting the new policy and key stakeholders, representative groups, Government Departments and public bodies.

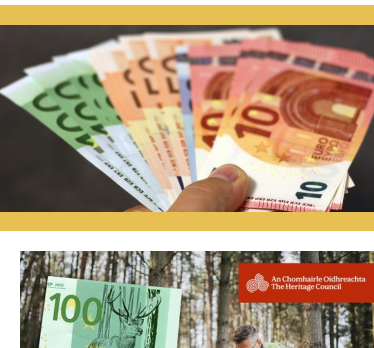
They now wish to hear from the public, as well as any other interested parties, to ensure all views are heard. They also welcome your suggestions on a name for the policy that captures its vision and ambition for social enterprise.



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

Greystones-Delgany & Kilcoole Local Area Plan Closing Date: Wednesday 31st January 2024

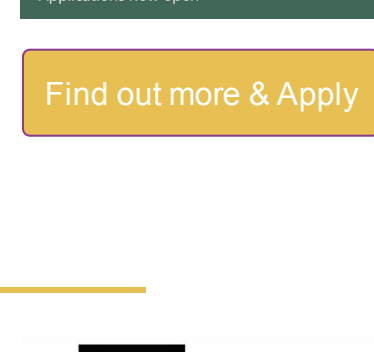
This is the pre-draft consultation stage for the Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole Local Area Plan (LAP). This LAP sets out the key topics that the plan will address. You are invited to go through the consultation portal topics and answer any of the questions that you consider important in the future development of your town. Alternatively you can send in a general submission / attachment through the submission link.



[Find out more](#)

Wicklow County Council Consultation Hub

This site will inform you about open Wicklow County Council consultations and allow you to submit observations on them.



[Consultation Hub](#)

Government of Ireland Consultation Portal

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



[Consultation Portal](#)

Funding Opportunities

Heritage Organisations Support Fund Closing Date: Sunday 14th January

The scheme is open to not-for-profit non-governmental heritage-focused organisations with demonstrated national and or regional relevance.

The Heritage Organisations Support Fund aims to build the capacity of non-governmental organisations working in the heritage sector in Ireland by providing funding towards their core costs. This funding would provide support to:

- develop and strengthen the skills, processes, and resources that heritage organisations need to survive, adapt, and thrive in the uncertainty of recent times.
- heritage organisations who play a key role in the heritage infrastructure of Ireland and to help achieve national policy and plans.



[Find out more & Apply](#)

Arts Participation Bursary Award 2024 Closing Date: Thursday 15th February

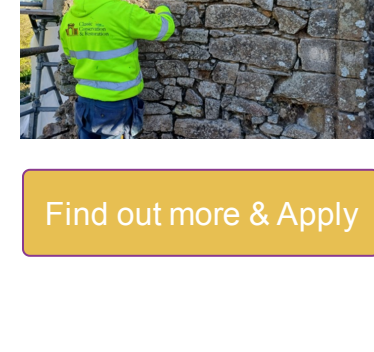
The primary focus of the Arts Participation Bursary Award is on the artist and the exploration and development of the applicant's own individual artistic practice. The award is to support individual professional artists working in any practice to develop their arts participation practice, including collaborative, community and socially engaged arts practices.



[Find out more & Apply](#)

Community Climate Action Fund Closing Date: Wednesday 6th March 2024 at 5:00pm.

Does your community have an idea for a climate action project in your area? Apply now for Wicklow County Council's Community Climate Action Programme



[Find out more & Apply](#)

This fund of €646,000, is being made available to organisations and community groups in Co. Wicklow who are interested in developing projects and initiatives which relate to the challenge of addressing climate change.

Projects are eligible for 100% funding, up to a maximum of €100,000. Applications can be made by email to ccaf@wicklowcoco.ie under any or all of the following five themes: Community & Energy; Climate & Environment; Shopping & Recycling; Food & Waste and Travel.

Julie Sammler, the Community Climate Action Officer is available to community groups to discuss this fund and explore possible project applications.

Previously Listed ...

Built Heritage Funding Grant Schemes Closing Date: Friday 19th January 2024

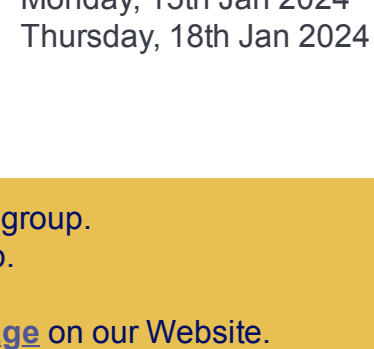
Owners of eligible buildings in County Wicklow are invited to apply for grants under two schemes: the Historic Structures Fund (HSF) and Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS).

The Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) and the Historic Structures Fund (HSF) support labour-intensive projects to repair and conserve our historic built environment. The projects will also provide vital support for local jobs in conservation, traditional skills and construction.

Owners or custodians of historic properties are eligible to apply, whether these are community groups, public authorities or private individuals. Under the BHIS, grants of between €2500-€15,000 may be allocated to eligible projects. There is also scope under the BHIS to apply for a smaller maintenance grant for works of upkeep to protected structures.

Under the HSF scheme grants of €15,000 to €50,000 are available under Stream 1. This includes a new allocation for historic shopfronts.

Allocations of €50,000 up to €200,000 are available under Stream 2 and a 'Veneer Building' allocation offers a grant of €10,000 for repair and conservation of structures of heritage interest which may not be included on the Record of Protected Structures.



[Find out more & Apply](#)

Community Monuments Fund 2024 Closing Date: Friday, 16th February 2024

This Fund will invest in our archaeological heritage and help the owners and custodians of archaeological monuments to safeguard them into the future for the benefit of communities and the public.

The 2024 Fund will support the conservation, maintenance, protection and promotion of archaeological monuments. It will enable conservation works to be carried out on monuments which are deemed to be significant and in need of urgent support; build resilience in our monuments to enabling them to withstand the effects of climate change; encourage access to monuments and improve their presentation.



[Find out more & Apply](#)

2024 Arts Act Funding Closing Date: Friday, 16th February 2024

In 2024, Wicklow County Arts Office will be accepting applications for the following schemes:

- Artist Award Scheme,
- Artist Community Collaboration Award Scheme and
- Arts Festival Award Scheme.

Applications are welcome from all art forms including film, music, visual arts, theatre, dance, literature, architecture, animation, performance, circus, traditional arts, music and drama.

For the first time, Wicklow County Arts Office is offering a new application support service from Wednesday, 10th January to Friday, 9th February 2024. This service offers artists, communities, and festivals the opportunity to engage in a 30-minute consultation which will enable participants to pose questions and seek advice from a member of the Arts Office team. To avail of this opportunity, please email yaao@wicklowcoco.ie to schedule a suitable date and time.

[Find out more & Apply](#)

Thanks for reading and please share with others in your community group. We hope you picked up some useful information for your group.

Copies of all our News Updates are available in pdf format on the [PPN News Page](#) on our Website.

Remember if you have any questions or would like more information, please do contact us.

If you would like to be removed from this mailing list, please send an email to info@countywicklowppn.ie with the subject 'Unsubscribe'.

We support the SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

County Wicklow Public Participation Network
C/O CEART, Grinn Park, Wicklow, Co. Wicklow
T: Helen - 087 189 5145
T: Grainne - 086 048 7434
E: [info@countywick](mailto:info@countywicklowppn.ie)