



# CO. LONGFORD PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NETWORK PPN NEWSLETTER DECEMBER EDITION



*Linking community groups with Longford County Council and other decision making bodies.  
Have your say in the development of your County!!*



## Longford Public Participation Network (PPN) E-bulletin December 2016

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### 1. NEWS FROM LONGFORD PPN

#### **Public Participation Network update:**

#### **Meetings held/ planned:**

- Granard Municipal District Plenary Meeting held Tues 25<sup>th</sup> Oct @ 8pm, Granard Library
- Longford Municipal District Plenary Meeting held Thurs 27<sup>th</sup> @ 8pm, Longford MD Chamber, Market Square, Longford Town
- Ballymahon Municipal District Plenary meeting held Thurs Nov 9<sup>th</sup> @ 8pm , Ballymahon Library.
- PPN Regional Meeting for Development Officers and Secretariat members held Longford MD Chamber Nov 5<sup>th</sup>. 10 PPN's participated
- Co Longford Local Response Group Meeting Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov. PPN Development Worker attended
- Salesforce Training (Part 2) to be held in Tallaght 8<sup>th</sup> Nov. PPN Development worker to attend.

#### **Community Representative Vacancies:**

Longford County Council Regeneration Unit are currently in the process of establishing the URBACT Local Group (ULG) and require three representatives from the community/voluntary sector to be involved in the ULG.

The specified criteria for PPN community representatives going forward for the vacancies are as follows:

- Be from the Longford Municipal District
- Be a representative from the Arts, Historical and Tourism sectors
- Have a genuine interest in working as part of the group to develop the interest and potential for Longford Town and County.



If your community group is interested in the vacancy or if you would like to have your voice heard by being part of the URBACT Linkage Group then please submit your expression of interest by post, e-mail or phone to the above contact details. The deadline for submission is **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2016**.

**General:**

The PPN Facebook page is [Longford Public Participation Network](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Longford-Public-Participation-Network/1583548325216241?). Please copy and paste the following URL below if you cannot get direct access from link above:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Longford-Public-Participation-Network/1583548325216241?>

If your group has any information they would like posted please contact us on Facebook where we will share your information or if you are not on Facebook e-mail [ppn@longfordcoco.ie](mailto:ppn@longfordcoco.ie) and we will post it on your behalf. *Don't forget to "Like" and "Share" our page!!*

**If there are any community group's you know who are not yet registered with the Longford PPN they are invited to do so by downloading the form at [www.longfordcoco.ie](http://www.longfordcoco.ie) , e-mail [ppn@longfordcoco.ie](mailto:ppn@longfordcoco.ie) or contact Siobhán at 087 261 5583**

The **PPN Twitter** page is @LongfordPPN

**2. WHAT'S ON IN YOUR MUNICIPAL DISTRICT?**

**New for the month of December:**

**Longford Voices United Schedule**

Our Christmas Schedule 2016

4 Dec. The Manor Edgeworthstown@2pm

10 Dec. St. MEL'S CATHEDRAL LONGFORD@ 7.30

11 Dec. Costello's Nursing Home@ 3pm

15 Dec. Respond carol singing@ 7pm

16 Dec. Harmony House tbc

18 Dec. Longford arms Hotel @ 6.30pm

22 Dec. Tesco Shopping Centre@ 6pm.

Looking forward in bringing some Christmas cheer.....

**Longford Flower Club annual Gala** at Backstage Theatre on Tuesday, 13th December at 8.00pm. Demonstrator will be Adrienne Thompson. Proceeds from the Gala will be in aid of the local branch of the Kidney Association and Alzheimer's. Tickets € 15 (including mulled wine) may be purchased from Backstage 043 3347888.

**Book Launch:** You are invited to the launch of Volume 6 of Rambles in Kilcommock by Paddy Egan on Friday December 2<sup>nd</sup> @9pm in Gav's Bar Kenagh Co. Longford.

**Ballymahon Traders Association :** Christmas Lights switch on, Santa and other surprises Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Dec 4pm .

**Christmas Stars in your Eyes:** Park House Hotel Sat 10 Dec @ 8pm, Sun 11<sup>th</sup> Dec @5pm. Further details contact Majella on 087 2621538.

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**Edgeworthstown Traders Association:** Lights Switch on Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Dec with a special appearance from Mr & Mrs Claus @6pm outside Costcutters

**Granard Christmas Market:** Sun 11<sup>th</sup> Dec 2 – 5pm, Granard Motte Centre. Unique Live Crib, Switching on of lights, Santa and much more. A great festive family day.

**Outtake Community Media:** Get Santa to give a personal video message to your little loved ones this Christmas. Santa will personally say their name and what they have asked for. €5 for a You Tube Video. €10 for a DVD

**LWL/ Shane Brennan 5k Newtownforbes:** The 10th Annual Shane Brennan 5k takes place on the 26th December at 1pm for runners and 12.45 for walkers.(New Course). All proceeds this year are going to front line services of Longford Womens Link. Registration takes place in the sports complex beside the school. There is prizes in all the usual categories including €125 for first male and female winner. There will also be post race refreshments and showering facilities available. Chip Timed 5k & AAI Approved. Online reg for runners is €15, on the day reg will be €20.

**Taste of the Lakelands at Christmas 2016** - a showcase event for food producers & Xmas Extravaganza on THURSDAY DECEMBER 8TH at 6pm in the Courtyard at the Convent B & B, Lanesborough. FREE ENTRANCE . To take part e mail: [tasteofthelakelands@gmail.com](mailto:tasteofthelakelands@gmail.com) and phone 0433321734 - promoting good food & good fishing in the Lakelands Region

**Photography Course:** starting in January in the Springlawn Resource Centre. The course is 12 session for a one hour week. Free with Professional Tutor. If you are interested in taking part or for more information on this course, call in or contact Mary on 087 3749950 before Dec 9<sup>th</sup>. Waiting list may apply

**Shannonside FM:** Do you know someone who has been a good boy or good girl this year? Doing their homework every evening, doing their chores around the house or just generally being an all around good person? Let James King from Shannonside know and get them on Santa's Good List - The Good List is broadcast each morning on Shannonsides Breakfast Show at 8:20! - Nominate here at [www.shannonside.ie/santa](http://www.shannonside.ie/santa)

**Longford Library Branch:** Christmas Storytelling with Mrs Claus in Longford Library Saturday December 10<sup>th</sup> @11am. Suitable for children aged 8 and under. Free event. Booking essential 043 33 41124



**Bridgeways Family Resource Centre** Christmas Bake Sale, Dec 11<sup>th</sup>, Dean Egan Library, Ballymahon

Music by **Tangle Wood**



**Ballymahon Day Care:** are holding our annual Christmas dinner in Cooney's at 1.30pm on Wednesday 21st December.

**Cinderella Boutique Day:** Just under 1week to go!!! Countdown has started!! Cinderella Boutique Day Sunday 4th Longford Arms Hotel 11am-5pm in aid of Pieta House. Please support..

**Longford Sports Partnership:** Sports First Aid/ Sports Injuries Course, Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>. For further details contact Dympna on 043 3349402 or email [dreilly@longfordcoco.ie](mailto:dreilly@longfordcoco.ie)

**Creative Ardagh:** invite you to a relaxing evening with local Poet, Rose Moran, at 7pm on Tuesday the 6th December in Ardagh Heritage and Creativity Centre. Rose will be reading from her new anthology, **Meadow of the Spell**, celebrating the beauty, colour and gift of nature and all who attend to creation in its many manifestations. Come along and enjoy the readings and do some Christmas shopping in the Craft Shop while we chat over tea. All welcome. Creative Ardagh, supporting local artists, writers and crafters.

### **3. LOCAL NEWS & SERVICES:**

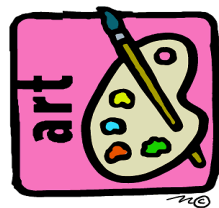
#### **Leinster Fleadh 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> July 2017:**

Longford County Board Comhaltas Ceoltóiri Éireann invite you to attend a **public meeting in Ballymahon Library on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2016 @ 8pm** in order to plan a week long programme of events.

Although Ballymahon is the venue for competitions taking place over the weekend it is important that all involved ensure that this is a county wide event. It is also a fantastic opportunity for PPN community groups/organisations to showcase what their group, town or village has to offer.

We encourage you all to attend the initial meeting and as a PPN member group we will support you anyway we can to make the Leinster Fleadh a success for the County.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the PPN or e-mail [longfordcomhaltas@gmail.com](mailto:longfordcomhaltas@gmail.com)







## Longford Joint Policing Committee, Notice of Public Meeting

Longford Joint Policing Committee will host a public meeting concerning matters affecting the policing of County Longford on **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 at 4.30pm** in the **Longford Arms Hotel, Longford**. The theme of the meeting will be the Age Friendly Strategy.

Members of the public are invited to attend, air their views and ask questions of the committee. The public are advised that in some circumstances, for legal reasons, it may not be possible to consider a matter if it:

- relates to a specific investigation,
- relates to an individual or,
- involves information received by An Garda Síochána or the Local Authority in confidence.

## Longford County Childcare Committee:

Cordially invites you to their upcoming event on 12<sup>th</sup> December in the Longford Arms Hotel to recognise **Early Years in Co Longford**.

This celebratory event for the early year's sector which will comprise of two guest speakers:

- ❖ Dr. Maresa Duignan who will be speaking on behalf of the Early Years Education-focused Inspection (EYEI) service in the Department of Education and Skills
- ❖ John Lonergan the former Governor of Mount Joy who will be giving one of his inspirational parenting talks.
- ❖ presentation of awards for services who participated in LCCC Leaders in Quality Programme
- ❖ a networking opportunity with some festive refreshments

This event is open to parents, students, childcare practitioners and anyone with an interest in early years within Co Longford.

If you are interested in attending we would ask if you could book through Eventbrite on the link below. <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/empowering-brighter-futures-tickets-29579860158> or alternatively rsvp by emailing [Bernie@longfordchildcare.ie](mailto:Bernie@longfordchildcare.ie)

## Waters and Communities Office:

In Ireland, we are never far from at least one of our natural waters, be they our rivers, lakes, canals, transitional, coastal and groundwater. The natural waters of Ireland are also an integral part of our heritage. The quality of these waters and the wildlife habitats they sustain play an important part in many aspects of our lives. The Local Authority Waters and Communities Office was set up in February 2016 to promote and facilitate greater public participation in the management of our natural waters. The attached leaflet provides additional information on our natural waters and also on the Waters and Communities Office.

**Karen Kennedy** is the **Community Water Officer covering County Longford**. Karen is on hand to support local communities with any proposed or existing initiatives and projects connected to their local water environment. This could include the improvement of a local river, lake or canal for recreational, amenity or tourism purposes. She is also available to provide technical support and advice on potential funding sources.

Karen can be contacted by phone at **085 808 5495** or email to [kkennedy@lawco.ie](mailto:kkennedy@lawco.ie)

## New walking routes at Newcastle Woods, Ballymahon:

In anticipation of the Center Parcs development Longford County Council, Coillte and local people have come together to identify and develop new amenity paths at Newcastle Wood.

Three new paths were identified on the northern side of the River Inny, two of which have already been developed.

The third is on schedule for 2017.

“These new amenity paths provide new walking loops through some of the most beautiful woodland in the county and connects what were formerly cul de sac type route,” a spokesperson for the local authority added.

“Longford County Council is also working on preparing the Part 8 planning application for the reinstatement of the White Bridge across the River Inny in Newcastle Wood.

“This was an old pedestrian bridge that was removed in the 1950’s and when it is reinstated, this bridge will provide a pedestrian link across the river to both sides of the woodland north and south.”

The spokesperson went on to say that the amenity walks together with the newly renovated bridge would serve to enhance the overall Center Parcs development which is set to begin construction next spring.

“It may be possible in the future to link Newcastle Wood with the new Royal Canal Greenway thus connecting into a National Route,” the spokesperson added.

“These major works all form part of the Council’s initiative to develop the Tourism assets of the county and help make Longford the No. 1 visitor destination in the country.

“Local people will also be able to enjoy these wonderful new facilities at their doorstep”  
(source: Longford Leader fb)

## The Bog Lane Theatre:



The Bog Lane Theatre  
Presents

**HOWIE THE ROOKIE**  
By Mark O’Rowe  
Featuring: **Jude McLynn**

**18**

**10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> + 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> of December 2016**  
Bog Lane Theatre, Ballymahon, Co. Longford  
Time: 8:30pm Sharp / Tickets: Adults - €12, Concessions - €10  
Bookings: 0872415178 or [noegopromo@gmail.com](mailto:noegopromo@gmail.com)  
We Appreciate The Continued Support of Longford County Council



#### 4. [National News](#)

##### Public consultation opens on the new National Women's Strategy

The Tánaiste and Minister for Justice and Equality, Frances Fitzgerald TD and the Minister of State with special responsibility for Equality, Immigration and Integration, David Stanton TD, launched a public consultation on the forthcoming National Women's Strategy. The consultation is open from 23 November 2016 until Friday 27 January 2017 at 5pm.

The Strategy will set out the Government's high level policy priorities for women and girls up to 2020.

Commenting at the launch, the Tánaiste said: ***"I am delighted to launch this public consultation. The Government has made a strong commitment to promoting equality for women and girls. The National Women's Strategy will be the framework for action to tackle barriers which limit women's opportunities across a range of areas."***

Minister Stanton added: ***"Irish society has changed significantly over the past decade. We have made some advances to improve the lives of women and girls but it is clear that a lot more needs to be done. Now is the chance to have your say and to inform Government policy on this fundamentally important issue"***.

The Tánaiste added: ***"I want to hear from women and men across the country about how we can advance women's equality. The consultation will offer a chance to individuals and organisations to put forward ideas and to highlight the issues that still need to be addressed. This is our chance to set the blueprint on women's equality for the years ahead."***

Contributions may be made by written submission, with details available at [www.genderequality.ie](http://www.genderequality.ie). Public consultation events on the new Strategy will take place in a number of locations in December and January. Details of dates and venues will be announced shortly on [www.genderequality.ie](http://www.genderequality.ie).

It is expected that the Strategy will be finalised and launched early in 2017.

##### €210,000 Announced for 2016 Music Capital Scheme

**Music Network welcomed the announcement by Heather Humphreys TD, Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, confirming capital funds of €210,000 for the Music Capital Scheme 2016.**

The Music Capital Scheme, supported by the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs and managed by Music Network, comprises two distinct awards that provide funding for the purchase of musical instruments to both non-professional performing groups and to professional musicians.

Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs Heather Humphreys TD said:

***"The Music Capital Scheme is a fantastic initiative which literally puts instruments in the hands of both experienced and aspiring musicians. It has benefitted thousands of people across the country since it was set up in 2008. We know that encouraging participation in the arts, such as learning to play a musical instrument, is very beneficial for our young people, and the Music Capital Scheme is one of the ways in***



which my Department aims to make that easier. I am very pleased to be able to support the Scheme again this year and I wish all of the musicians benefitting all the very best with their future endeavours.”

Commenting on the announcement, Music Network CEO Sharon Rollston said:

“As the number of people making music in Ireland is increasing, due by a large degree to the exceptional work of Music Generation among others, there is and will continue to be an increased demand for access to instruments to enable musicians to flourish. The Music Capital Scheme is a key resource nationally and is central to Music Network’s ambition to establish a National Music Instrument Fund to ensure that no musician is prevented from reaching their full potential. We are indebted to the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs for its vision and its continued support in addressing this need.”

Opens 30 November / Closes 26 January

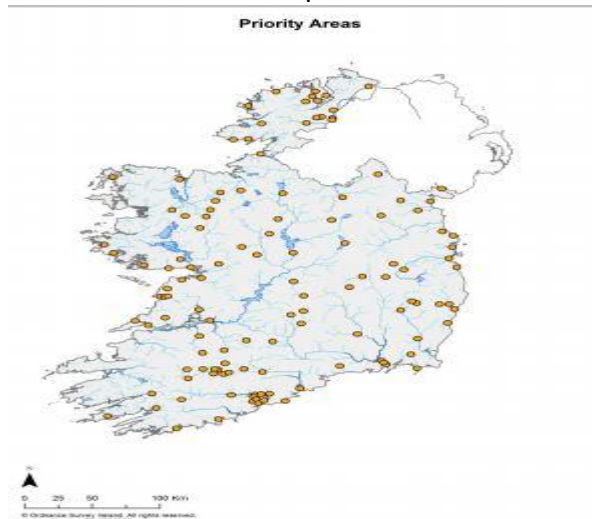
The Music Capital Scheme was established by The Arts Council, The IRMA Trust and Music Network in 2008 as an action-research initiative designed to provide support for the purchase of musical instruments. In response to the success of the initial pilot scheme, funding has been made available since 2011 by the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs. The Music Capital Scheme has funded 227 musicians, groups and organisations, benefitting up to 30,819 people throughout Ireland since its inception in 2008.

The Music Capital Scheme will open for applications on Wednesday 30 November 2016, with a deadline of 12 pm Thursday 26 January. Further information is available at [www.musicnetwork.ie/musicians/funding/](http://www.musicnetwork.ie/musicians/funding/).

## Urban Waste Water Treatment

According to the report on ‘Urban Waste Water Treatment in 2015’ recently published on the EPA Ireland website, significant funding will be required to prevent waste water from having a negative impact on pollution and public health in a large number of sites scattered across the country.

The report identified 124 urban areas where improvements are required to bring the management of waste-water in line with the agency’s waste-water priorities. These areas span the country and can be seen dotted on the map below.





The problems identified in these sites fall under the following categories: unsatisfactory standard of water treatment, untreated water draining into rivers, estuaries, and coastal waters, pollution of rivers and bathing waters, inadequate protection of freshwater pearl mussels and shellfish among others.

#### Key findings:

- 142 large towns and cities complied with the mandatory EU waste water treatment standards during 2015, while 29 failed.
- Raw sewage is still discharging from 43 areas. Treatment plants planned for half of these areas have been delayed by two years on average.
- 3 New treatments plants were built at Ardmore, Dunmore East and Ballylongford
- Annual investment on infrastructure since 2014 has dropped by 40% from the average levels during the previous decade

The report recommends that a substantial and sustained increase in investment in public waste-water treatment be adopted by government in order to eliminate discharges of raw sewage and to comply with EU treatment standards. If capital investment is not ramped up, the numerous problem areas could suffer environmental damage and cause public health concerns.

The delays in the planned construction of treatment plants are of particular concern to the EPA. Mr. Gerard O’Leary Director of the EPA’s Office of Environmental Enforcement said: The pace of resolving waste water treatment needs to improve. It is not acceptable that the timeframe to eliminate the discharge of raw sewage from over 20 areas has slipped by almost 2 years. We need to see increased capital investment and improved efficiencies in the delivery of the outstanding infrastructure necessary to protect our rivers, lakes and coastal waters and for a more sustainable quality of life. The slowdown in investment is heavily criticised in the report and has garnered significant attention in the media. The political hot potato of Irish water charges may well need to be handled by the government, once again, over the coming months. A motion regarding the establishment of the Joint Committee on the Future Funding of Domestic Water Charges was voted on in the Dáil yesterday. The committee which is negative of any political persuasion will report back with recommendations in approximately three months. Government Chief Whip Regina Doherty stated: “The aim of the composition and Chair of the Committee is to facilitate consensus and move towards compromise on a difficult issue.

## Ensuring Transparency in Fundraising

### **Mandatory Actions for Your Non-profit**

- ❖ **Register in full with the Charities Regulatory Authority:** under the Charity Act 2009, this is now a legal requirement for all Irish non-profits. [Learn more here.](#)
- ❖ **Adhere to Lobbying Legislation:** make sure you are in compliance with the new legislation regulating lobbying in Ireland, including lobbying conducted by Irish charities / non-profits. Learn more about whether your charities is affected by taking [the 3-step test here.](#)



## Additional Things You Can Do Today

- ❖ **Publish Your Accounts:** you can immediately demonstrate your transparency by ensuring that your organisation has published its annual accounts in an accessible and clear way on your website, or through other means accessible to the public.
- ❖ **Provide Transparency on Salaries:** charities should be transparent about the salaries of senior executives through the standard set in this regard by the [Statement of Recommended Practice \(SORP\)](#), which calls for the reporting in annual accounts of all salaries over €70,000 in bands of €10,000. Your organisation should also strive to provide a timely and comprehensive response to any salary or spending related query received.

## Bigger Picture Steps You Can Take

- ❖ **Sign Up to the Statement of Guiding Principles for Fundraising:** developed as a best practice code for Irish fundraisers, the Statement of Guiding Principles for Fundraising provides a series of guidelines, factsheets and templates relating to various aspects of fundraising. Signing up to the Statement will assist your organisation in adhering to the very best in international fundraising standards, while also giving confidence to potential donors when it comes to backing your organisation. Read more about the Statement of Guiding Principles [here](#).
- ❖ **Sign Up for the Governance Code:** the Governance Code is a Code of Practice for the good governance of community, voluntary and charitable organisations in Ireland. Although not exclusively relating to fundraising, the Governance Code nevertheless has been created to foster the best possible practice across the *entire spectrum* of the Irish community and voluntary sector and its adoption will inevitably impact positively upon fundraising activities too (through enhanced emphasis on transparency, reduction of costs and reassuring funders through good day-to-day management). Read more about the Governance Code [here](#).

## 5. [EU NEWS](#)

### How does Ireland measure up on the UN Sustainable Development Goals?

Eurostat's publication "Sustainable Development in the European Union - A statistical glance from the viewpoint of the UN Sustainable Development Goals" gives an overview of the current situation of the EU and its Member States in relation to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). See below some interesting statistics for Ireland regarding each of the 17 Goals:

1. **No poverty** - 28% of people in Ireland are at risk of poverty or social exclusion (2014 figures) compared to an EU average of 24% (2015 figures).
2. **Zero hunger** - Organic farming - less than 2% of agricultural land is farmed organically in Ireland, 2nd lowest in the EU after Malta. The EU average is 6.2%.
3. **Good health/well-being** – Over 80% of people in Ireland perceive their health as being very good or good, the overall highest in the EU were approximately 67% see their health as being good or very good.
4. **Quality education** - Ireland is one of a small number of EU countries where the rate of early leaving from education and training is lower for people born outside the EU (about 5%) than for people born in Ireland or other EU countries. Ireland also has the second lowest share of under achievers (15 year olds) in reading (10%) in the EU where the average is about 18%.



5. **Gender equality** – the proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments in Ireland is lower than the EU average- 11th lowest in the EU - at about 27%. The EU average is 29%.
6. **Clean water and sanitation** - Ireland is one of only two EU member states (Croatia) reporting a significant deterioration in the water quality of rivers between 2002 and 2012 with levels of biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) rising 14.4% during this period. Between 2002 and 2012, BOD fell by 20.4 % on average across the EU, indicating steady improvement in water quality.
7. **Affordable clean energy** - Ireland (just under 9%) has the 6th lowest share of renewable energy in gross energy consumption in the EU. The average was 16% with Sweden having the largest share at 52.6%.
8. **Decent work and economic growth** - Ireland (+2.7%) is in 8th place for annual real GDP per capita growth between 2000 and 2015. The average annual growth in real GDP per capita in the EU was 1% per year during the same period.
9. **Industry, innovation and infrastructure** - Ireland is third highest in the EU (after Denmark and Finland) for Eco-innovation, scoring more than 30% above the EU average.
10. **Reduced inequalities** – Ireland (€50,000) had the second highest per capita GDP in the EU in 2015. The EU average was €26,500. However, real adjusted gross disposable per capita income of households in Ireland (approx €19,000) was below the EU average of €21,600.
11. **Sustainable cities and communities** - Ireland had the second lowest rate of exposure to air pollution in urban areas after Finland. However, recycling rates of municipal waste in Ireland were a little below the EU average.
12. **Responsible consumption and production** - Domestic material consumption in Ireland in 2015 was, at approximately 22.5 tonnes per capita, well above the EU average of 13.2 tonnes.
13. **Climate Action** - Ireland is one of only five EU countries where Greenhouse Gas Emissions rose between 1990 and 2014. On average greenhouse gas emissions were down 23% across the EU in 2014 compared to 1990 levels.
14. **Life below water** - Ireland had the 7th highest fish catch in the EU in 2015 at almost 235,000 tonnes. Spain is the Member State with the highest catch, with 901 512 tonnes of fish.
15. **Life on land** - Ireland is the only country to have fully completed its network of designates sites under the EU Habitats Directive. The EU average was 92%.
16. **Peace, justice and strong institutions** - Irish people had the 5th highest level of trust in the police in the EU at 6.9 out of 10. Trust in the legal system (5.1) was slightly above the EU average (4.6) but trust in the political system (3.2) was below the average (3.5).
17. **Partnership for the Goals** - Ireland (0.36%) scored below the EU average (0.47%) for Official Development Assistance as a share of Gross National Income in 2015.

## European Funding and Policy - An Interactive Discussion with Nessa Childers MEP: Dublin - 9 December 2016

Date / time: 9 Dec 2016 - 11:00am - 1:00pm

Venue: Carmelite Community Centre, 56 Aungier Street, Dublin 2

Location: Dublin

Price details: This event is free.



**This is a short, but highly impactful session hosted by The Wheel with Nessa Childers MEP. Here is your opportunity to know more about European funding opportunities and consider some crucial questions for your organisation and its role in Europe.**

Course details:

### **Civil Society and the European Parliament: Shaping Europe's Future**

As part of a new and exciting project, The Wheel aims to increase dialogue between civil society organisations and MEPs leading to greater knowledge, understanding, cooperation and participation.

A project kick-off event will take place on Friday 9 December with the following format:

#### **11.00-11.20: Unlocking EU Opportunities Funding and Advocacy - The Wheel**

The Wheel's European Programme supports its members to increase their chances of securing European funding by providing easy-to-digest information, advice, resources and training.

Since 2015 The Wheel has been the National Contact Point for the Europe for Citizens Programme in Ireland and is rapidly developing an expertise in this area, aiming to unleash the potential of EU programmes for Irish civil society organisations.

The Wheel's European Programmes Coordinator will present information on EU programmes and also offer advice on partnership development and policy influencing.

#### **11.20-11.40: The Value and Workings of the European Institutions - MEPs**

For many small community and voluntary organisations, engaging at EU level is not a priority. Nessa Childers MEP will give an overview of the workings of the EU and how civil society can engage, sharing her own experiences and advice.

#### **11.40-12.00: Tea, Coffee and Networking**

#### **12.00-12.30: Interactive Discussion**

In groups, participants will be asked to explore the following questions: What is your experience of accessing EU funding for your organisation? What is your engagement with your MEPs? What can you do to better engage with EU funding opportunities and your members of parliament?

#### **12.30-13.00: Discussion Feedback and Q&A**

#### **13.00- 14.00 - Networking, photos and light lunch**

This event is free - but registration is essential. [Click here to register.](#)

Facilitators: Ivan Cooper, Director of Public Policy, The Wheel & Deirdre Finlay, European Programmes Coordinator, The Wheel





**Who Should Attend:** This event is open to everyone working in the community, voluntary and charity sector.

Supported by:



## Changing Climate Puts Many Tree Species at Risk

The climate crisis is threatening some of the most iconic tree species on the planet.

We know that the world is changing in major ways because of the climate crisis. Extreme weather events are becoming more common. Sea levels are rising. Arctic sea ice is melting. These are the [major indicators](#) we hear about most. But the impact of rising global temperatures on natural systems can be much more far-reaching, threatening ecosystems everywhere and often compromising the biodiversity we take for granted.

Right down to the tree growing in your own backyard.

[Scientists say](#) that warming temperatures could push the southern borders of cold-weather hardwoods like maples even further north and narrow the band in which they can survive, while typically southern species like oaks and hickories begin a northward march themselves.

*Related: [Six Thanksgiving Foods Affected by Climate Change](#)*

And it's not just warming. Changing rainfall patterns associated with climate change could impact tree diversity, as well

Sadly, like so much of the biodiversity threatened by climate change, there are several tree species that may ultimately go extinct. Let's take a look at a few tree species we may lose in an ever-warming world.

The Eastern hemlock thrives in cool weather and moist soils of North America. Of course, those are two things that could become less abundant in the southern and lower-elevation areas where these species currently thrive as the climate crisis escalates. Meanwhile, trees that favor warmer temperatures like Black Cherry and Blackjack Oaks could proliferate.

This symbolic succulent tree is endemic to parts of South Africa and Namibia. [Scientists say](#) that rising temperatures cause heat stress in these trees, which can shut down their ability to perform photosynthesis. And unfortunately, as the species attempts to migrate southward toward cooler temperatures, scientists are finding it has been unable to germinate quickly enough to keep up with the accelerating pace of climate change.



One of the most beloved and iconic trees in the western United States, the Joshua Tree, is prolific in the aptly named Joshua Tree National Park in California. Nature-lovers from around the planet travel to the park to check out the famed trees, some of which are up to 250 years old. But scientists have begun to notice that seedlings aren't surviving in places they used to, as evidenced by the fact that many of the youngest trees in areas of the park where they used to thrive are now around 30 to 40 years old. The likely culprit, [scientists believe](#), is climate change.

But like so much in the fight for solutions in the climate crisis, all is far from lost. Many countries – including Indonesia, Brazil, and Malaysia – are striving to protect their precious trees.

On December 5-6, during [24 Hours of Reality: The Road Forward](#), we will highlight the inspiring stories of communities and governments coming together to embrace clean energy and protect forests around the globe, including in the Brazilian Amazon, where over the past decade-plus the country has made noteworthy strides in slowing deforestation.

[Subscribe here](#) to receive email updates about the live broadcast event, guests, and musical performances.

## 6. [UPCOMING TRAINING/WORKSHOPS](#)

### Longford Women's Link

#### Special Needs Assisting 5N1786 - QQI - Level 5

The purpose of this programme module is to equip the learner with the knowledge, skill and competence in the practices and principles underpinning the role of a Special Needs Assistant to enable the learner to work effectively under direction in a special needs assisting capacity.

Class Dates: Monday Classes: 7pm to 10m, Saturday class 9.30am to 4pm.

Monday: 13, 20, 27 Feb - 6, 13, 20, 27 March - 3 April 2017

Saturday: 25 Feb, 25 March, 1 April (one to one meetings), 8 April 2017

Venue: Longford Women's Link Cost: €340

A €100 euro non-refundable deposit is required to secure a place on this course.  
Full fees to be paid by Monday 6 February 2017.

Work Experience is a requirement in this programme module.  
You may qualify for funding, please contact 043 3341511 for further information.

Tea/Coffee provided.

If you have any further queries or require a booking form, please contact -  
Pamela Latimer – Education and Training - Business Development Manager  
Email: [pamelalatimer@lwl.ie](mailto:pamelalatimer@lwl.ie)  
Tel: 043 33 415 11 Mobile: 087 205 8152

## EDI Centre

**Manual Handling Training** To book a place phone us on 043 33 47515 or call in to the centre. (Funding may be available for people on certain social welfare payments, call in to your local IN-TREO /DSP office or ring (043) 3340000 to check your eligibility

### Job seeking Skills Programme:

Every Thursday from 10am to 1pm. or by appointment at the EDI Centre

Support in

- CV's Job Applications
- Interview Skills
- Training Opportunities
- Career Advice

The EDI Centre provides a range of services to support unemployed people including information on employment rights, entitlements, training and education with access to computer facilities.

For further information, Contact the EDI Centre on 043 33 47515

E-mail: [infocentre@eircom.net](mailto:infocentre@eircom.net) / Website: [www.Edilongford.ie](http://www.Edilongford.ie)

### Rooms to Rent

We have a range of IT and meeting rooms for hire to suit all needs and in addition to the excellent on-site food and beverage facilities we have to offer this makes us an ideal place to hold your business or group meeting/conference and for tutors to host their training in. To book a room contact the centre on 043 33 47515 or why not call in and see for yourself what we have to offer. We also have FREE parking with restaurant facilities.



Revamp 3R Furniture Store is non-profit furniture recycling and reuse project. It offers a large selection of good quality used furniture and a wide range of restoration work for sale. Its aim is to combine recycling and the provision of furniture to the general public, with particular support for low income families..

**Revamp accepts most furniture items that are in good condition and are suitable for reuse and restoration. In regard to items that can or cannot be accepted please contact the store at 043 33 48876**

## 7. FUNDING

### The Arts Council of Ireland

#### Touring and dissemination of work scheme



Closing date	<b>17:30, Thursday 15 December 2016</b>
Maximum awarded	Unlimited
Artform and practice(s)	Architecture, Arts participation, Circus, Dance, Film, Literature, Music, Street arts, Theatre, Touring, Traditional arts, Venues, Visual arts, YPCE
Applicant type	All
Collaborative application possible?	Yes
Telephone	01 61 80 200

Applications are invited for proposals seeking funding in support of initiatives that are of high artistic quality and that generally have a strong audience focus. This scheme is designed to support the touring and dissemination of work in certain arts disciplines for tours starting between **July 2017 and December 2017**, and is open to applicants who are resident in the Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland. Tours may travel to both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

**[Please note if you are an individual based in Northern Ireland you will need to contact the Arts Council to register, email [regina.oshea@artscouncil.ie](mailto:regina.oshea@artscouncil.ie) or telephone 01 6180260.]**

The Touring and Dissemination of Work Scheme is open to applications from organisations and individuals. Applications which demonstrate collaboration / partnership between networks, consortia or other collective groupings of presenters are encouraged, particularly where these indicate a high degree of engagement with audiences and collaboration with the producing entity or artists.

Applicants in receipt of other Arts Council funding are eligible to apply, provided it is clear that the touring or dissemination activity for which funding is sought is additional to those activities for which Arts Council funding has already been offered.

Tours must begin between **July 2017 and December 2017**.

### **DEADLINE REMINDER: EU Funding: Rights of the Child: Two calls for Proposals Open**

**Call 1: Capacity-building on rights of the child and child protection for children in migration, focusing on guardianship and foster care for unaccompanied children:**

**Deadline for applications 13 December 2016**

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunitie...>

(Extracts only – please refer to link for full text)



This call for proposals will support capacity building on rights of the child and child protection for professionals working for and with children in migration. The aim of the call is to ensure better protection and respect for the rights of all children in migration on EU territory through capacity-building for family-based care for unaccompanied children (Priority 1) and through building capacity and cooperation mechanisms for guardians whose role is to safeguard the rights of children in migration (Priority 2). Proposals shall complement the efforts of the EU in the area of rights of the child and child protection, and support the work on integrated child protection systems. To this end, proposals should be carried out in line with the 10 Principles for integrated child protection systems, and proposals should describe how their project implements the principles. This call does not aim to support operating costs.

**Call 2: TOPIC : To support integrated and multidisciplinary child-centred approaches to child victims of violence**

**Deadline for applications 13 December 2016**

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunitie...>

(Extracts only – please refer to link for full text)

The aim of this call is to support integrated and multidisciplinary child-centred approaches (such as children's houses/Barnahus) to child victims of violence in line with Directive 2012/29/EU to contribute to better reporting, investigation, treatment, follow-up and judicial involvement in cases of violence against children. Proposals shall complement the efforts of the EU in the area of rights of the child and child protection, and contribute to integrated child protection systems. To this end, proposals should be carried out in line with the 10 Principles for integrated child protection systems, and proposals should describe how their project implements the principles.

***PPN Note:*** As we are nearing the end of 2016 funding opportunities are sparse but we will be providing all the information you need for grants in 2017.

**Is your group holding an event or has your group news you would like to share with the wider Longford Community?**

***Then why not promote it in this eBulletin?***

Just email, post or call to us (contact info above)

**For inclusion in the January 2017 edition of the PPN eBulletin**

**Compiled by**

**Siobhan Cronogue**

**Public Participation Network, Longford Community & Enterprise Centre, Business & Technology Park,  
Ballinalee Road, Longford**

*Sources: Longford PPN community groups, EU News, DOECLG, Longford County Childcare, Longford Co. Council, Longford Leader, Environmental Pillar, Social Justice Ireland and other sources with many thanks!*





*The Co. Longford PPN would like to wish all its members and their families a peaceful Christmas a prosperous New Year.*