



County Longford Public Participation Network (PPN)

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Helen Gorman, PPN Support Worker, County Longford Public Participation Network, Longford County Council,
Great Water Street, Longford

PPN Newsletter February 2022 (Part 4)

Important Notice

PPN Plenary Meetings in your Municipal District

Dear PPN Contacts,

The PPN Secretariat are delighted to invite you and your group members to your plenary meeting in your municipal district.

- **Tues 8th March @ 7pm sharp, Granard Library**
- **Wed 9th March @7pm sharp, Ballymahon Library**
- **Thurs 10th March @7pm sharp, Longford Arms Hotel (small ballroom)**

At the meeting, you will hear about the PPN work plan and take part in the **Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP) workshop** which will be facilitated by the **LCSP Coordinator, Janine Bartley**.

The concept of community safety is about people being safe and feeling safe in their own community. Ireland is generally regarded as a safe country, with relatively low crime rates and a general feeling of safety and security.

However, the LCSP recognise that this is not the case in every section of the community and that people from disadvantaged areas or backgrounds, from vulnerable groups (such as older people, LGBTQI+, ethnic minorities) can have a different experience of 'safety' in their community.

The LCSP (previously the Joint Policing Committee) is responsible for developing a tailored and prioritised local community safety plan for Longford in conjunction with both community and public services.

We want to build the capacity of local residents to help them to engage meaningfully in the Local Community Safety Partnership and grow local community leadership and participation.

Longford LCSP has identified 5 broad themes to develop the Community Safety Plan. There are lots of sub-topics that come under each theme so priorities can be identified. We want to know what you think the LCSP should focus on when developing a Community Safety Plan for Longford

1. Policing and Emergency Services

(Crime, Garda Response, Drugs related Crime, Crime Prevention)

2. Community Engagement and Development

(Improving Longfords Image, Capacity Building, Community-Led Initiatives, work with minority/vulnerable groups)

3. Youth; Prevention Initiatives & Education

(Services and projects for young people, Education supports- all types, Awareness Campaigns for drugs, social issues, supporting jobs)

4. Public Spaces and Amenities

(Improving public areas, dereliction, public lighting, Town Centre Renewal, CCTV)

5. Community Services and Family Supports

(Community & State agency supports, helping people accessing services, building better collaboration)

LCSP are also running a **survey** as part of a public consultation to develop the Community Safety Plan. Please click on the link below to take part in the survey

<https://survey.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6xsuRoHYITaNgmy>

Please click on the link below to read more about the LCSP project.

<<https://www.longfordcoco.ie/longfordcoco/services/economic-community-development/community-development/longford-local-community-safety-partnership/>>

The meetings will close with **refreshments** and the **PPN Spin the Wheel raffle**.

Look forward to meeting you all again in person. Please share this information with your group members.

Kind Regards,
Siobhán on behalf of the Longford PPN Secretariat

Siobhán Cronogue
PPN Development Officer,
Public Participation Network,
Longford County Council,
Great Water Street,
Longford,
N39 NH56

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E-mail ppn@longfordcoco.ie or scronogue@longfordcoco.ie

A reminder of vacancies for PPN Reps – nomination forms have been sent to your group contacts

Dear PPN Group Contacts,

The following vacancies have arisen for PPN Reps on various decision-making boards and committees.

We are now seeking nominations for the following:

PPN Secretariat:

- 1 Ballymahon Municipal District Rep
- 1 Social Inclusion Rep
- 1 Environmental Rep

Longford Sports Partnership, 5 PPN Reps representing the following areas:

- Older persons
- Youth
- Minority Sports
- Disability
- Aquatics

Local and Midland Regional DrugTask Force

1 PPN Rep to bring local issues to the Midlands Regional Task Force and bring information back to the local committee.

If you or a member of your group would like to go forward for election on any of the above boards/committees please submit the following nominee details:

Name of nominating PPN Group

Nominee name

Nominee contact details (phone number, email address, postal address)

A short bio/ the reason you feel you are best suited to represent not just your nominating group but all other PPN interested groups

Deadline for submission of interest is **Monday 7th March @5pm.**

Once nominations have been received I will send out notice of any/all relevant elections. If you are not interested in nominating anyone for the position but are interested in the topic such as sports or the drugs task force then please let me know and you can join the relevant Linkage Group and keep up to date with whats happening in either/both areas.

Additional information and criteria are attached. Longford PPN welcome diversity and gender balance when seeking nominations.

If you any questions please do not hesitate to contact either Siobhán or Helen,
hgorman@longfordcoco.ie

Look forward to hearing from you. Kind regards, Siobhán

 E-mail ppn@longfordcoco.ie or scronogue@longfordcoco.ie

FUNDING REMINDERS

The Community Foundation for Ireland

Dear Friends,

With Toy Show Grant Applications, Biodiversity Grants to protect our native plants and wildlife and a fantastic site visit to Divis in Belfast there is a lot to update you in terms of our activity at The Community Foundation for Ireland.

This message is to quickly bring you up to date. However our teams also have other exciting plans in the pipeline so be sure to check in on www.communityfoundation.ie on a regular basis to stay up to date.

DEADLINE ALERT: RTE Toy Show Fund

Across Ireland thousands of groups working with and supporting children are finalising applications for the Community Strand of the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal Fund. Here is Rosie from our Grants Team with an important reminder. The Application Page is accessible [here](#)



Toy Show application page [here](#)

Toy Show Grants in Action



The impact that the generosity of RTÉ Toy Show Viewers is having on communities was clear when we recently visited Divis in Belfast. Here that funding is transforming young lives. Our visit was hosted by our great friends at the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland.

[Read about our Belfast Visit](#)

Biodiversity Grants Announced



Projects to protect our native plants and animals in 116 communities have received a huge boost with the announcement of grants under our Environment and Nature Fund. This support is made possible thanks to the generosity of our donors as well as a partnership with Government.

[Biodiversity Grants Announcement](#)

International Women's Day

Our team are busy preparing for International Women's Day on 8th March. It is a moment to focus on the success of our Women's Fund. Check out the fund and keep an eye on our socials for updates.

[Women's Fund](#)

Careers

We are recruiting passionate changemakers across all parts of The Community Foundation. Our careers page is constantly updated and is well worth checking into on a regular basis. The Deadline for a current vacancy for a Financial Analyst is Friday.

[Access Careers Page](#)

Our Newsroom

The coming months will see new initiatives, events, grant-rounds, convenings and a lot more. I hope you will join us for many of them. In order to keep up to date can I guide you to the Newsroom on our website. Here you will get the latest updates first.

[Access The Newsroom](#)

If you would like more information about philanthropy, grants or funds please visit www.communityfoundation.ie or get in touch at info@foundation.ie.

The Community Foundation For Ireland
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Phibsborough Road,
Dublin 7,
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Tel: (0)1 8747354
Email: info@foundation.ie

€100,000 to benefit disabled people living independently in Longford

Funding announced for local digital and assistive technology project

Funding announcement! 🙌 €100,000 for digital assistive technology will benefit people with a disability living independently in [#Longford](#) this year!

Find out more [here](#)

[#YourCouncil](#) County Longford PPN County Longford Library Services HSE Ireland

Press Release: €1.4m still available through Electric Ireland COVID-19 hardship fund



A €2 million COVID hardship fund is available to help people pay energy bills through a partnership between St Vincent de Paul and MABS - The Money Advice and Budgeting Service.

The fund was set up by Electric Ireland earlier this year to help their customers who were struggling to meet payments for their energy bills. More information [here](#)

LOCAL NEWS AND SERVICES



**Music Generation
Longford
an Longfoirt**

Granard Community Library are delighted to announce that we are working with Music Generation Longford and now have Musical Instruments to rent. For more information please call into us or contact us on 043 668 6164 or email granardlibrary@longfordcoco.ie.

Childminding - Are you a childminder or thinking of becoming a childminder in your own home? Longford County Childcare Committee have issued a brochure aimed at offering support to childminders in Longford. Contact LCCC <https://longfordchildcare.ie/> or (043) 3342505

- The **Longford County Development Plan 2021-2027** came into effect on Tuesday 30th November 2021. It is available to view on the internet via the following link [Longford County Development Plan 2021 -2027 - LongfordCoCo](#)
- **Longford County Council leads on rural working hubs** [here](#)
- **Explore new skills with free Skillshare online courses at your nearest Digital Hub (BCP) information** [here](#)
- **New Courses at a BCP Point in Moydow or Mullinalaghta**
Register your interest: Christine 087 6450530, Martina 087 7406705, Mary 087 6424316

NATIONAL NEWS



.IE Digital Town Awards 2022

.IE Digital Town Awards are now live!

People and towns across Ireland are being called on to enter the annual .IE Digital Town Awards 2022, which celebrate the digital achievements of local towns and citizens across the country.

Now open for applications, the .IE Digital Town Awards has a total prize fund of €100,000 across 14 categories to honour local towns and people that, through digital projects and innovation, have contributed to enhancements in areas such as e-health, digital tourism, community, education, and digital business.

The .IE Digital Towns Awards 2022 is an initiative of .IE, the managers of Ireland's trusted online .ie address.

Award categories

- 10 of the awards will be for digital projects in local towns.
- Two special awards – Digital Changemaker and Digital Rising Star.
- Digital Hero Award - a person in your community who is an unsung hero working tirelessly on initiatives to promote the digital enhancement of your town.
- The overall winner will be selected from the category winners.

Entry to the Awards is free, applications close at 5pm on Friday 25 March 2022.

[ENTER HERE NOW](#)

Full details on the Award categories, the judging panel and judging criteria are available on our [website](#).

This is an ideal opportunity to raise the profile of towns across Ireland and to help retain existing and attract new workers and residents to your town. A digitally advanced town can encourage investment from new and existing employers or support a start-up community. The .IE Digital Town Awards create a sense of pride in a town and act as a catalyst for creating positive change.

We are delighted to welcome our category sponsors Western Development Commission, Connected Hubs, Vodafone and AIB Merchant Services.

Our [website](#) was also issued this morning announcing full details of the .IE Digital Town programme.

Please share the Awards details with your networks and those who think might be interested in entering.

Be sure to follow our social media pages for updates and further information and updates.

Twitter [@dot_IE](#)

Facebook [@Dot_IE](#)

LinkedIn [.IE](#)

[www.weare.ie](#)



Enabling Ireland to **THRIVE ONLINE**



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Government launches first ever Town Centre First policy

- **Major new strategy to tackle vacancy, combat dereliction and breathe new life into town centres**
 - **Network of Town Regeneration Officers to drive future development**
 - **Unprecedented investment to make our towns better places to live, work and raise a family**
 - **Suite of supports and tools to help businesses and local communities deliver on their unique vision for their area**
 - **New Policy to deliver on the objectives of 'Housing for All' and 'Our Rural Future'**
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Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Ministers Humphreys and McConalogue highlight the responsibilities of dog owners this lambing season

- **Latest figures show 240 incidents of 'Livestock Worrying' recorded by local authorities**
 - **Ministers announce start of awareness campaign ahead of upcoming lambing season**
 - Animal Welfare Helpline:
call save: 0761 064408
phone: 01-607 2379
dedicated email address - animalwelfare@agriculture.gov.ie
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Keep Well Campaign: Further details on Longford County Council website www.longfordcoco.ie
