

**Public Participation  
Network Kildare**

**Quarterly Report**

**Q4 2024**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Aims and Objectives	4
Membership	5
Representation	6
Events	8
Building Capacity	9
Participation in Decision Making	11
Governance	11
Communications	11
Financial Report	14

# INTRODUCTION

2024 has been a successful and productive year for the Public Participation Network (PPN), marked by unprecedented member engagement, policy influence, and a wide range of training and capacity-building initiatives.

Throughout the year, we have worked on supporting communities, and contributing to the shaping of policies that influence local and national government. This report highlights key achievements of Q4 and reflects on our successes.

We look forward to publishing our annual report 2024 in January, which will underscore the real value that active participation for the entire year brought to our members and the wider community, whilst highlighting some great collaborations.

As we move into a new era in 2025 with the formation of Kildare Public Participation Network CLG, we welcome a new Board of Directors and look forward to another progressive and positive year.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all members, partners, and stakeholders for their continued support and participation in making this year an outstanding success for the PPN.



# AIMS & OBJECTIVES

## Aims

- ❖ To facilitate and encourage public participation in local decision making
- ❖ To facilitate the representation of the Community and Voluntary, Social Inclusion and Environmental groups onto decision making bodies
- ❖ To strengthen the capacity of organisations to contribute positively to the community

## Objectives

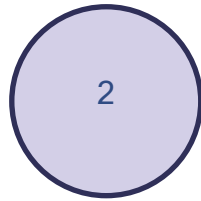
- ❖ Encourage greater participation in public decision making which leads to more effective and better targeted policies and programmes at local level and where necessary at a regional and national level
- ❖ Develop alternative methods and models of working which seek to directly involve and empower groups and individuals within the community
- ❖ Support Kildare PPN representatives to achieve the policy objective of Kildare PPN



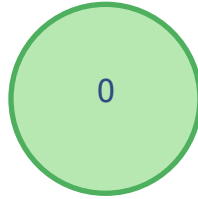
# MEMBERSHIP

Kildare PPN's active membership between 1<sup>st</sup> Oct - 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2024.

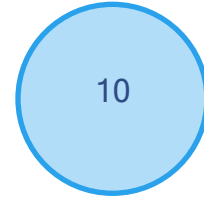
## New Membership in Quarter 4



Social Inclusion

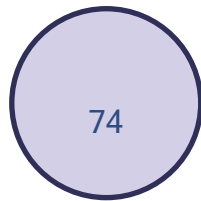


Environmental

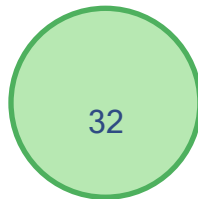


Community & Voluntary

## Total Membership as of December 2024



Social Inclusion



Environmental



Community & Voluntary

# REPRESENTATION

## Representatives

### Kildare PPN allocated Seats

Committee	College	No.
Local Community Culture & Integration Committee	Community/Voluntary	1
Local Community Culture & Integration Committee	Social Inclusion	1
Local Community Culture & Integration Committee	Environmental/Conservation	1
Environment Services & Water Services SPC	Community & Voluntary	1-V
Environment Services & Water SPC	Environmental/Conservation	1-V
Housing & Regeneration SPC	Community & Voluntary	1
Housing & Regeneration SPC	Social Inclusion	1-V
Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces SPC	Community & Voluntary	1
Local Community Development Committee	Environmental	1
Local Community Development Committee	Community & Voluntary	2
Local Community Development Committee	Social Inclusion	2
Planning, Enterprise, Economic Development SPC	Social Inclusion	1
Planning, Enterprise, Economic Development SPC	Environmental/Conservation	1
Climate Action SPC	Environmental/Conservation	1
Climate Action SPC	Community & Voluntary	1
County Kildare Heritage Forum	Community & Voluntary	2 1-V
County Kildare Heritage Forum	Environmental	1-V
Drehid Liaison Committee	Community & Voluntary	2
	<b>Total Representatives</b>	<b>22</b>

V = Vacant Seat

## Kildare PPN Secretariat

Seat	Representative
Athy MD Seat	Vacant
Celbridge - Leixlip Seat	Dermot O'Donnell
Clane - Maynooth MD Seat	Vacant
Kildare - Newbridge MD Seat	Vacant
Naas MD Seat	Vacant
Community & Voluntary Seat	Linda Walsh
Community & Voluntary Seat	Anthony Egan
Environmental Seat	Vacant
Environmental Seat	Vacant
Social Inclusion Seat	P.J. Fagan
Social Inclusion Seat	Anne Crowe



**Anne Crowe**  
Social Inclusion



**Anthony Egan**  
Community/Voluntary



**P.J. Fagan**  
Social Inclusion



**Dermot O'Donnell**  
Celbridge/Leixlip MD



**Linda Walsh**  
Community/Voluntary

# EVENTS

## Plenary - November 13<sup>th</sup>

We were delighted to meet with our members at the Osprey hotel for the final Plenary of 2024. An overview of the workplan, budget and governance were presented by Grainne Fleming Coordinator for the PPN. We were delighted to say that the workplan for 2024 was completed, with the exception of outstanding actions relating specifically to the new proposed hosting arrangement and the responsibility of the Secretariat to complete by December 31<sup>st</sup>.

PJ Fagan, facilitator for the Secretariat provided an update to the members on their progress to date in relation to the hosting transition.

We look forward to meeting with members on March 1<sup>st</sup> for the next Plenary, at which stage the transition should be complete.

## Secretariat and Representative Dinner - December 2<sup>nd</sup>

The Secretariat welcomed our new PPN representatives along with existing representations and staff to an end of year networking event in Lawlors hotel Naas. This was an opportunity for the Secretariat and Representatives to meet and network with the new Strategic Policy Committee representatives.





# BUILDING CAPACITY

## Members Training

### Let's Talk...Your Constitution

18<sup>th</sup> September

This interactive workshop was designed for member groups who wished to design, review, or update their constitutions. We worked directly with participants, using a template to ensure that their constitutions covered all the main elements, strengthening or drafting their governing documents to align with best practice guidelines.

As a result, groups left the workshop with a draft constitution ready for approval by all members of their respective groups.

### Let's Talk...AGM's and Committee Meetings

2nd October

A follow-on session from "Let's Talk - Your Constitution," this workshop focused on improving basic knowledge, understanding formats and purpose, and discussing individual opinions on challenges participants may have faced.

The session connected the dots between participants' constitutions and the formal approach to AGMs and committee meetings.

We covered formats, purpose, and draft agendas, followed by an open discussion on everyday challenges.

It was a great opportunity for peer support and networking.



## Representative Training

All PPN Representatives were invited to training with Brian Harvey on November 25<sup>th</sup> in the Osprey hotel.

Brian Harvey is an independent social researcher working in the fields of poverty, social exclusion, equality, community development, human rights, the world of non-governmental organisations and European integration, providing social policy analysis, research, evaluation, training and strategic planning.

The training session facilitated by Brian, provided the Reps with information and tips to help them carry out their roles. The training included an introduction to the structure and function of local government, as well as a detailed overview of Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs). Key topics covered included the roles and procedures of SPCs, common challenges and solutions, and practical tips to help Representatives effectively fulfill their responsibilities.



# PARTICIPATION IN DECISION MAKING

## MRPPN

We attended the Midlands Regional PPN meeting on Wednesday October 9<sup>th</sup>. The meeting was very productive with discussions centered on projects, funding and current challenges.

## Elections

Elections took place from October 23<sup>rd</sup> to November 18<sup>th</sup> to seek nominations for the Strategic Policy Committees in Kildare County Council. Following the elections we filled nine of the twelve seats and we will re-run elections in February to fill the remaining vacancies.

# GOVERNANCE

## Transparency

All Secretariat meeting minutes and quarterly reports, including the quarterly financial reports are available to view on the Kildare PPN website.

# COMMUNICATIONS

## Social Media

In this quarter, Kildare PPN's social media saw the following growth:



*3.9% increase in followers*  
*647 Followers*



*2% increase in followers*  
*2,493 Followers*



*0% increase in followers*  
*724 Followers*



6 e-Bulletins were sent in Q4 of 2024 via Salesforce containing information on, grant opportunities, public meetings, public consultations, training, and anything that may be beneficial to our member groups.

# FINANCIAL REPORT JANUARY - DEC 2024

Income	Amount
DRCDC Total Funding (Includes support worker funding)	€85,700.00
Local Authority Core Funding	€30,000.00
Local Authority Support Worker Funding	€5,000.00
Local Authority Additional Funding	€5,000.00
<b>Total Income 2024</b>	<b>€125,700.00</b>

Expenditure	Spend to Date
Salary Resource Worker incl. PRSI	€53,399.80
· Travel & Subsistence Resource Worker	€932.19
Secretariat Travel & Subsistence paid for by PPN	€469.51
PPN Representatives Travel & Subsistence paid for by PPN	€31.09
Rent and Rates	€0.00
Hosting Fee	€3,000.00
Postage / Telephone	€458.15
Online Communication tools (e.g online meeting software, survey software)	€1,522.14
Office Supplies/Stationery/Printing	€1,077.91
Light and Heat	€0.00
Insurance	€528.46
Bank Charges	€0.00
Auditing, Accountancy, HR & Professional Fees (e.g Financial and Legal Fees)	€3,431.00
Equipment for PPN	€553.50
Membership of external orgs/ workshops & conferences attended by PPN	€563.00
Website	€1,219.80
Projects/Activities /Events sponsored by PPN	€1,944.67
IT/Server Support & Maintenance	€0.00
Training & Development	€3,133.17
Marketing and Promotion of PPN	€2,906.18
Plenary Costs (including Room Hire /Refreshments)	€3,031.76
CLG Costs (carry over )	€8,000.00
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>€86,202.33</b>

PPN Support Worker Budget	
Salary Support Worker Inc PRSI	€38,874.36
Travel and Subsistence	€449.18
Associated Costs	€0.00
<b>Total Support Woker Budget</b>	<b>€39,323.54</b>

<b>Total Expenditure to Date</b>	<b>€125,525.87</b>
----------------------------------	--------------------