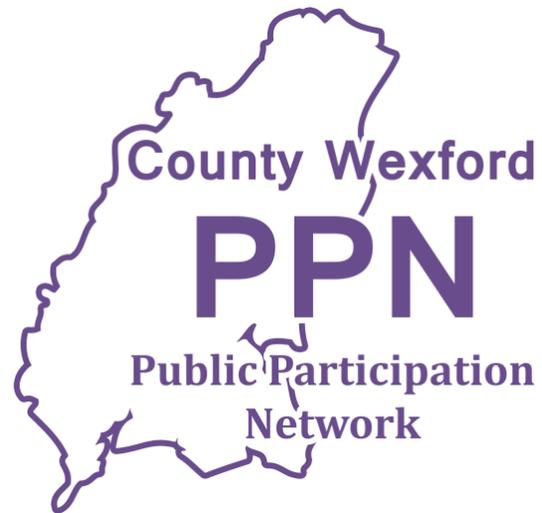


PPN Newsletter

Summer 2017

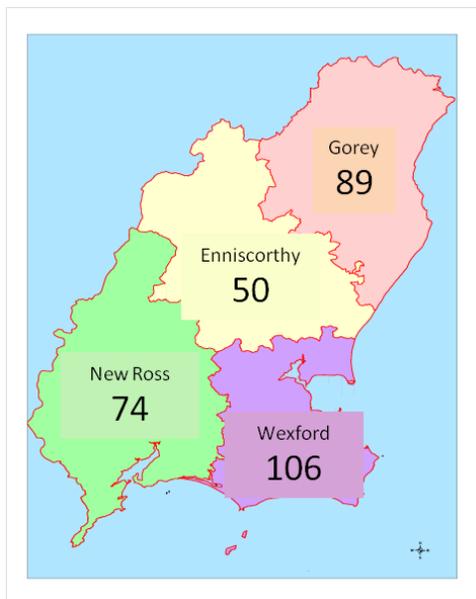
Welcome to the second edition of Wexford PPN's Newsletter. This newsletter is designed to keep you up to date with what's happening in the PPN. We hope you enjoy it.



Wexford PPN Membership

Wexford PPN continues to grow and in early July had 319 approved member groups.

Membership remains spread across the county as follows...



Numbers in each Electoral College are;

- Community & Voluntary 241
- Social Inclusion 69
- Environmental 9

The growing level of membership is due to both promotional activity and a growing realisation and delivery of the membership benefits.

Increasing Awareness & Understanding

Wexford PPN has been working to increase awareness and understanding of the PPN at all opportunities, and is getting out and about across the county to spread the word and speak to those who may be interested.

This need was highlighted by current members at the February Plenary meeting, and so increasing understanding among current and potential members will be a key focus area for the remainder of 2017.

During Summer 2017 we are focusing on the agricultural show scene, and volunteers manned stands at Gorey, Adamstown & Bannow & Rathangan Shows to help increase awareness and to give the public a chance to engage and ask questions.



Frances getting set up at Adamstown Show



Promotional material for Summer Shows



John & Kevin at Gorey Show

Outside of this local activity our PPN Support Officer, Annette Dupuy, is working with her counterparts across the county to increase awareness and understanding of PPNs nationally.

Wexford PPN was among one of the PPNs who displayed at The Wheel Conference in Croke Park in June.



PPN Display at The Wheel Conference

In addition, at this conference some of the PPN workers facilitated a Masterclass on Participatory Democracy, highlight the role and opportunity the PPN offers in helping to shape policy decisions.



PPN Masterclass underway.

Plans are afoot to have a PPN Stand at the National Ploughing Championships in September also.

Member Meetings

The Plenary meeting in February, the county membership meeting, was followed by a series of meetings across the county.

We held our first linkage group meeting in Castlebridge in March with a focus on LCDC (Local Community Development Committee) & SE FLAG (Fisheries Local Action Group)

April and May saw meetings in each District, with presentations on Community Education Options by WWETB and on Comhairle na nÓg. Future Proof Wexford also presented in the Wexford District.

Most recently, in June, Wexford PPN organised a Social Inclusion meeting in Enniscorthy.



This open meeting brought together a broad range of individuals and provided members with the opportunity to engage with their Social Inclusion Reps.

Thanks to all who attended and contributed at the member meetings.

Collaboration

Wexford PPN worked collaboratively with Social Justice Ireland to facilitate a Seminar in Wexford on 8th June entitled 'Building a Better and more Equal Ireland'



Sean Healy of Social Justice Ireland

Developing Representation

We are delighted to have filled all outstanding representative vacancies, meaning we now have a full complement of Reps who can be the voice of our membership on key decision-making bodies.

In May, Wexford PPN worked with Wexford County Council to hold a Rep Induction session for PPN Reps and other non-elected members. This meeting provided an opportunity to meet and network with other reps, and to meet with key Committee and Council individuals.

Rep up-skilling continued also, with a further IT Up-skilling session held in May, with the assistance of CTEC (Community Training & Education Centre).

Regional & National Links

The regional and national linkages continue to be developed with other PPNs. Our PPN Support Officer is in regular contact with other Workers, nationally & regionally - through regular National Workers meetings and more ad hoc regional meetings.



Regional Meeting of South East PPN Workers

LCDC Reps from the South East also met recently in Carlow, in a session facilitated by Social Justice Ireland. This meeting allowed our LCDC Reps to compare experiences across counties and to learn from counterparts in other counties. Brian Toomey represented Wexford LCDC PPN Reps at this meeting.

Conferences

As part of capacity building and networking Wexford PPN members have begun attending conferences and events of relevance.

Frances Ryan attended a UCC/Respond Conference in Waterford in February. This

conference entitled ‘Responding to Social Isolation Through Technology’ provided examples from across the world of innovative responses to social isolation and loneliness.

The ‘Community Connect’ conference took place in Waterford in March and we were lucky enough to attain some sponsored places for members and our Support Officer to attend.

This conference was excellent and offered a range of short workshops to choose from - meaning it could be tailored for each attendee's needs and interests.

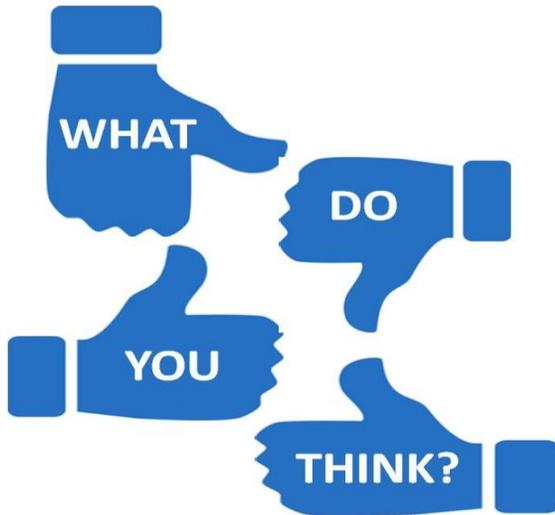
This conference was a great networking opportunity also and our Support Worker made contacts in The Wheel, The Charities Regulator and contacts for Social Enterprise Development. A report on the event and the sessions attended was circulated to members.



‘Who’s Listening?’ photo credit WLD

More locally our PPN Secretariat and Support Officer were invited to the ‘Who’s

Listening' Wexford Local Development Conference held in the Riverbank House Hotel in April. Again this proved an informative event with lots of networking opportunities.



Are there other conferences or events that you think Wexford PPN should be represented at? If so let us know and we can try to facilitate attendance.

Capacity Building

One of the key functions of Wexford PPN is in Capacity Building. Our aim is to help groups in achieving their objectives, by further developing themselves, through access to conferences, training, mentoring, networking, seminars etc. As part of our 2017 budget Wexford PPN have set aside specific funds for this function.

Following consultation with members, Wexford PPN has devised a Summer Training

Schedule with seven sessions covering four topics;

- Garda Vetting Information
- Accounts for your Community Group
- Facebook for your Group
- Introduction to Governance Code

If your group is interested in attending one of these sessions and hasn't yet expressed an interest please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Information Sharing

Regular information bulletins continue to issue to member contacts via email & post, with much positive feedback from members.



However, if a broader group of your members would also like to keep in touch please ask them to 'like' our facebook page

where we regularly share information also.

<https://www.facebook.com/CoWexfordPPN/>

Wexford PPN are also currently working on development of our own dedicated website www.wexfordppn.ie This website will be a key member resource - providing information, resources and reports. In addition it will act as a 'shop window' for potential members who are considering joining.



Your Representatives

The Secretariat is the administrative body that help with the running of the PPN and carry out the decisions of the membership - known as the Plenary - from one membership meeting to another.

Just a reminder that Wexford PPN Secretariat are:

Name	Representing
<i>John Carr</i>	<i>Wexford District</i>
<i>Paddy Redmond</i>	<i>Enniscorthy District</i>
<i>Frances Ryan</i>	<i>New Ross District</i>
<i>Kevin Molloy</i>	<i>Gorey District</i>
<i>Sean Quirke</i>	<i>Community & Voluntary</i>
<i>Pat Rath</i>	<i>Community & Voluntary</i>
<i>Susan Murphy</i>	<i>Social Inclusion</i>
<i>Thomas Cullen</i>	<i>Social Inclusion</i>
<i>Sara Kelly</i>	<i>Environment</i>

Wexford PPN has representation on three decision making bodies outside of Wexford County Council. These committees and their current representatives are as follows;

Committee	Representatives
<i>SE Fisheries Local Action Group (FLAG)</i>	<i>Ann Wall</i>
<i>Sports Active – Wexford Local Sports Partnership</i>	<i>Kevin Molloy John Carr</i>
<i>SE Regional Drugs & Alcohol Taskforce (SERDATF)</i>	<i>Ann Lacey</i>

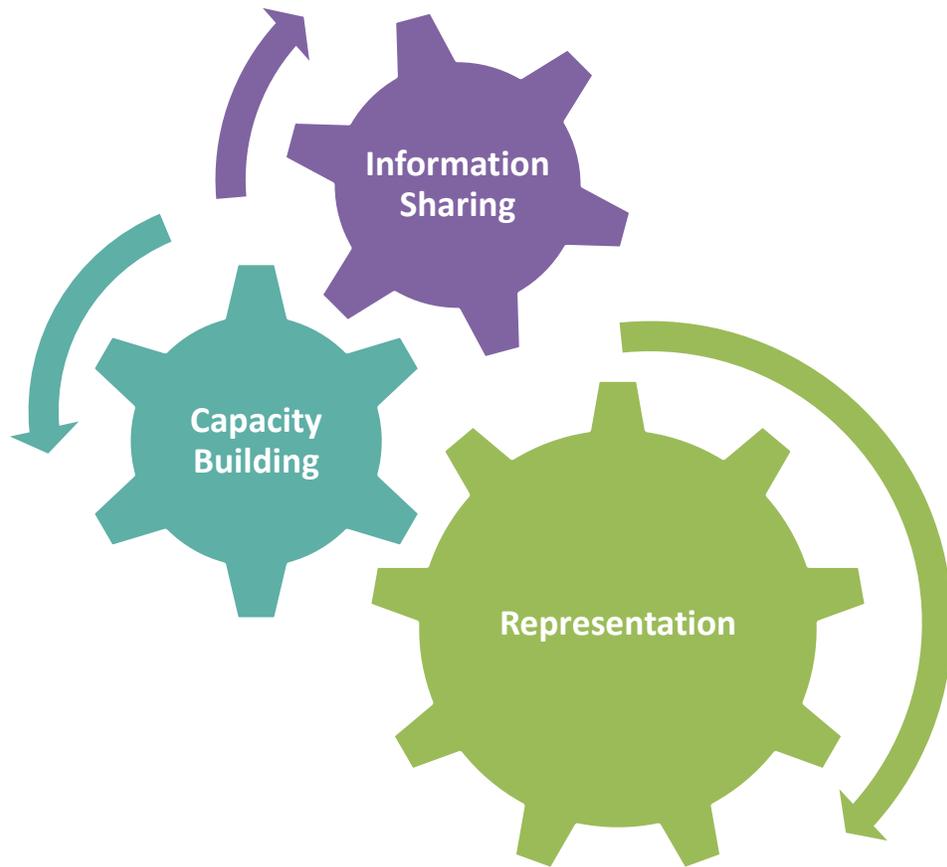
Wexford PPN has 21 Representative positions on Committees of Wexford County Council. Current representatives are as follows;

Committee	Representatives
<i>Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)</i>	<i>Mary Hamilton Pat Rath Sean Quirke Anne Shannon Brian Toomey Karin Dubsky</i>
<i>Economic Development & Enterprise SPC</i>	<i>Dan Kennedy Breda Meagher Senan O'Reilly</i>
<i>Housing Community & Environment SPC</i>	<i>Ann Walsh Kathleen Fitzpatrick Marie Therese Power</i>
<i>Transportation SPC</i>	<i>Bernie Mullen Breda O'Sullivan</i>
<i>Planning & Building Control SPC</i>	<i>Danny Forde</i>
<i>Joint Policing Committee (JPC)</i>	<i>Paddy Redmond Tina Smith Joy Lattimore Rice</i>
<i>Courtown/Rivercha pel Local Policing Fora (LPF)</i>	<i>Tony Clyne Joy Lattimore Rice Gary Rice</i>

SPC=Strategic Policy Committee

Should you wish your PPN representatives to raise any issue at the relevant committees please do not hesitate to get in touch. Representatives also seek your opinion prior to attending the meeting and so please take the time to read the materials and feedback to your representatives.

*'Coming together is a beginning;
Keeping together is progress;
Working together is success'*



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