



20 November, 2018

CVSP 8/2018

PPNs and Engagement in the Political Process

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As specified in both the Guidelines for PPNs which issued from the Department in 2014 and in the subsequent PPN User Guide, PPN representation is based in volunteer- led organisations and, as such, must be a separate process from the political process. (TDs, MEPs, Senators, Councillors Etc.).

In light of the forthcoming local elections in May 2019, the Department now re-affirms the position regarding PPN engagement with the political process, specifically:

- Elected representatives of Local Authorities, Oireachtas members or European Parliament members cannot be nominated through the PPN process.
- If anyone nominated to the PPN through this process subsequently decides to enter electoral politics, at either Local Authority, National or European level, they must immediately resign their PPN representative role when they declare their candidacy.
- A person who has stood for election or been co-opted, or who has been an elected representative on any level of government (Local, National or European) may not be chosen to represent

the PPN on any representative role **for one year** after the date of the election or after completing their term of office

- Elected PPN representatives in their role as representing the PPN may not operate as a Local Area Representative or actively support or oppose a candidate running for election or already elected to either the Local Authority, Oireachtas or European Parliament

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