



Donegal Public Participation Network  
Do Chontae - Do Ghuth

## Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Pobail Dhún na nGall Donegal Public Participation Network

### Nuachtlitir LRP- PPN Newsletter - Eagrán Meitheamh- June Edition

The deadline for submission for the July edition of the newsletter is the **7<sup>th</sup> July, 2017**.

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### Eolas LRP- PPN Update

The Donegal Public Participation Network (PPN) is the link through which your organisation can have a direct role in the policy making and oversight of local government. The PPN is a network of organizations representing the Social Inclusion, Environmental and Community & Voluntary sectors in the county. Through this network organisations can co-operate, share information and ideas and elect members to Local Authority decision making bodies and relevant community structures. Donegal PPN now has over 40 representatives on 15 different decision-making committees and structures and work is ongoing to ensure the reporting mechanisms are now in place for these representatives.

Information on the PPN structure, representatives, reports and updates as well as registration forms for those groups interested in joining can be found on the website: <https://donegalppn.com/>

**If you have a query or would like more information regarding the PPN, please contact:**  
**Mary Clyde, PPN Resource Worker, Donegal County Council, Milford PSC -074 9153900**  
**Email: [mary.clyde@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:mary.clyde@donegalcoco.ie)**

## PPN Municipal District Meetings

Each County is organised into Municipal Districts. There are 5 in Donegal: Glenties, Inishowen, Letterkenny, Stranorlar, and Donegal. These Municipal District meetings provide an opportunity for locally based PPN members to come together, share information, address locally based concerns collectively as well as being informed of what is happening countywide. The first round of PPN Municipal District meetings has commenced. The Donegal Municipal District meeting was held on the 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2017 in the Donegal Public Services Centre. The Inishowen Municipal District meeting was held on the 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2017 in the Carndonagh Public Services Centre. The Glenties Municipal District meeting was held on the 25<sup>th</sup> May in The Dungloe Public Services Centre. The Stranorlar Municipal District meeting is being held in the County House, Lifford on 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2017.

### Linkage Group Convenors

1. Social Inclusion – Paul Kernan- [coord@pobail.org](mailto:coord@pobail.org)
2. Heritage - Máirin Ui Fhearraigh-[ancaire@eircom.net](mailto:ancaire@eircom.net)
3. Community Safety & Joint Policing – James Treaty-[jamestrearty@hotmail.com](mailto:jamestrearty@hotmail.com)
4. Environment – Trish Murphy- [trishjmurphy@gmail.com](mailto:trishjmurphy@gmail.com)
5. Tourism – Martin McBride- [martinmcbrideportsalon@eircom.net](mailto:martinmcbrideportsalon@eircom.net)
6. Older Persons Forum –TBD
7. Fishing & Aquaculture – Joseph McNulty-[josephmcnulty8@gmail.com](mailto:josephmcnulty8@gmail.com)
8. Community & Voluntary – Joe Boland & Andrew McNulty-[joe.akela@gmail.com](mailto:joe.akela@gmail.com)  
[andrewsmcnulty@hotmail.com](mailto:andrewsmcnulty@hotmail.com)

### Representatives

To see the committees that the PPN is represented on please click the following link:

<https://donegalppndotcom.files.wordpress.com/2016/01/ppn-representation-by-reporting-body.pdf>

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## Donegal Local Development Company Ltd

Donegal Local Development Company Ltd, has been allocated a small grant in 2017 by SITT (trading as Local Link Donegal and funded by the National Transport Authority - NTA).

The grant will support local community groups seeking “**transport only supports**” in support of social inclusion activities.

These activities should align with the aims and objectives of the SICAP Programme. Transport will be provided using SITT/NTA approved bus operators only. **For Further Information:** <http://www.dldc.org/2017/04/12/transport-only-funding-supports-available-for-community-groups/>

Advice or support in respect of making an application can be accessed by contacting a DLDC Project Officer on 07491 27056. Before submitting a request, groups are advised to please read and refer to the eligibility guidance notes and specific conditions which will apply.

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## Community Facilities Services Scheme 2017

The scheme involves small scale grants of approx €1000 for the purchase of Computers, Maintenance of Community Centres, Gardening equipment etc .

### **For Further Information:**

Your group must submit a completed Community Facilities Scheme Application Form to Donegal Local Community Development Committee(LCDC)

<http://www.donegalcoco.ie/media/donegalcountyc/community/lcdc/CFS%20application%20form%202017.docx>

**Closing date: 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

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## Clann Credo's Loan Fund

Clann Credo's €25m Community LEADER Loan Fund can help your community project maximize your leader grant through Bridging or Match funding. Community groups have big ideas and LEADER grants but Bridging and March funding can be obstacles to making those visions realities. Clann Credo's new loan fund can help your community group access the LEADER grant.

Clann Credo has provided over €34m to 319 LEADER projects, creating, sustaining and supporting almost 3,000 jobs during the last LEADER programme.

### **For Further Information:**

Find out more about how Clann Credo's €25m LEADER Loan Fund can help your community group access community loan funding click [here](#) .

## Imeachtaí Pobail agus Nuacht / Community Events & News

### Pieta House

The first Pieta House centre in the northwest opened in Letterkenny offering free-of-charge and freely-accessible therapy to those experiencing suicidal ideation, those who have been bereaved by suicide, and people who are engaging in self-harm. Based in Grand Central Building on Canal Road and is staffed by a centre manager, three clinical support staff, a team of sessional therapists and a suicide bereavement liaison officer.

**For Further Information:** Open 24 Hours-1800 247 247 or text HELP to 51444

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### Letterkenny Community Action on Alcohol - June 28th

#### Meeting for Community Groups

The first meeting will take place in Letterkenny Public Services Centre on June 28<sup>th</sup> at 2pm.

**For Further Information:** [drugtaskforce@nwdrugtaskforce.ie](mailto:drugtaskforce@nwdrugtaskforce.ie)

[www.nwdrugtaskforce.ie](http://www.nwdrugtaskforce.ie) 071 9151520, Fax: 071 9151844

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## Water & Communities-Healthy Waters supporting Vibrant Communities

**For Further Information:** Visit [www.watersandcommunities.ie](http://www.watersandcommunities.ie) and like us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/watersandcommunities](https://www.facebook.com/watersandcommunities) for more details

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### Draft County Development Plan

Donegal County Council has prepared a Draft County Donegal Development Plan 2018-2024 and invites submissions/observations in relation to it during the period Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May-Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July.

The purpose of the Draft County Donegal Development Plan 2018-2024 and Environmental Report is to set out a land use planning policy framework to guide the way in which County Donegal will be developed into the future and when adopted, will be a material consideration in making decisions on planning applications. It is the first consolidated plan for the entire functional area of Donegal County Council, including the former Town Council areas of Letterkenny, Buncrana and Bundoran.

- Submissions are to be made in one of two ways, either; By post to the Planning Authority at: The Central Planning Unit, Donegal County Council, County House, Lifford, **or**
- By email to [donegalcdp@donegalcoc.ie](mailto:donegalcdp@donegalcoc.ie)
- **Note: Please make your submission by one medium only i.e. hard copy or email. The final date for the receipt of submissions is 4.30pm on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2017.**

## Derry City and Strabane District Council-Peace IV

Derry City and Strabane District Council Peace IV Partnership Board are delighted to announce that they have been offered £6.1m worth of funding under the European Union's PEACE IV Programme. The Programme is a cross-border programme and groups and individuals from the Donegal area are encouraged to get involved at this early stage. Open invite to community and voluntary sector groups and the interested individuals in **Donegal to get involved in Peace IV in the Derry City and Strabane Council Area.**

**Peace IV Website and E-newsletter sign up:** Sign up on [www.derrystrabane.com/Peace-IV](http://www.derrystrabane.com/Peace-IV) to receive regular updates on their Peace IV Programme.

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## DeExeter House

### Road to Recovery- An evening on the road to Mental Wellness

Free event in the Raddison Blu, Hotel on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June from 7pm-10pm. An entertaining evening on Mental Health and Addiction with International Speakers and True Life Stories.

**For Further Information:** Register at [eventbrite.ie](http://eventbrite.ie) [www.deexeterhouse.com](http://www.deexeterhouse.com) 074 91 19868

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## Inishowen Rivers Trust

If you would like to know more about the Agencies and Organisations involved in the monitoring, promotion and enhancement of Donegal's natural waters, make sure you pick up a copy of the ***Who's Who on Inishowen Rivers Directory***. This was produced for a recent event run by The Inishowen Rivers Trust but most of the organisations included in the directory work across the whole of Donegal.

**For Further Information:** Visit [www.inishowenriverstrust.com](http://www.inishowenriverstrust.com) or message on Facebook

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## Street Feast

Sunday, 11th June saw over 1,280 Street Feasts take place across the country with a predicted 130,000 people involved. [Here](#) are some of the lovely photos and videos that were sent in. This stream will be updated daily for a couple of weeks as they process more and more. They hope you enjoyed Street Feast 2017 as much as they did! Is it too early to be excited for next year?!**They** will be sending out surveys later this week and would greatly appreciate it if you could take a few minutes to fill them in. They are passionate about growing and adapting to ensure they are continually offering the best support to the Street Feast community. So please help them!

## Cancer Care West Support Centre

**2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Station House, Pearse Road, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal**

Open 5 days (Monday to Friday) Mon-Thurs 9am to 5 pm- Fri 9 am to 4 pm **Free Service**

Cancer Care West is a charity that provides professional cancer support appropriate to the needs of the patient and family. They offer a comprehensive evidence-based psychological and counselling service to anyone affected by a diagnosis of cancer. The service is currently staffed by a Senior Clinical Psychologist and an Oncology Nurse, who is available to provide information and support to cancer patients and their families. Appropriate referrals may include:

- Distress/Anxiety as a result of a cancer diagnosis
- Low mood/Depression
- Coping Difficulties/Stress Management Difficulties
- Relationship Difficulties
- Functional Changes/Body Image
- Coping with Terminal Illness
- Cancer related Pain and Fatigue

The service is confidential and free of charge. Referrals through G.P.s and individuals can also self-refer by dropping into the centre themselves.

**For Further Information:** <https://www.cancercarewest.ie/> [charlene.haughey@cancercarewest.ie](mailto:charlene.haughey@cancercarewest.ie)  
<https://www.facebook.com/CancerCareWestSupportCentreDonegal/>

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## Health and Well-being Event

A Health and Well-being Event' is being held on the evening of June 29<sup>th</sup> from 7.00 – 10.00 in the Finn Valley Centre, Stranorlar. It is a FREE event open to everyone of all ages that aims to showcase what is available in our local community to promote a healthy lifestyle. Get a free health check, dental advice, sample some alternative therapies, enjoy some healthy food tastings, find out about community activities or take part in some fitness demos and advice. The event is being organized by the Finn Valley Community Health Forum in association with the Finn Valley Centre. All welcome.

**For Further Information:** [www.facebook.com/finnvalleychf](https://www.facebook.com/finnvalleychf) or [www.finnvalleycentre.com](http://www.finnvalleycentre.com)

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## Ardara GAP Heritage and History Group

### The Warp and Weft of Heritage

The Ardara GAP Heritage and History Group are organising a 'Warp and Weft of Heritage' weekend celebrating heritage from **Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> to Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup> October**. There will be engaging and lively talks ranging from shipwrecks, folklore, geology, local history, heritage and more of the greater Ardara area.

Also included in the weekend's programme are a series of workshops, storytelling, demonstrations and field trips. Special weekend rates from the Nesbitt Arms Hotel, Ardara: 0749541103 ([info@nesbittarms.com](mailto:info@nesbittarms.com)) €45 for weekend

## We Care Foodbank

The We Care Foodbank was established a few years ago to support families in crisis who could not afford to put food on their tables. They receive donations of food from private individuals and shops and also receive donations to buy food. This is then distributed amongst the needy who have to produce a voucher that can be obtained from SVP, CDP, LYIT, Parish Priest and We Care. They also deliver through Food Cloud to homes as far away as Ardara & Dunfanaghy.

**They are open on Friday mornings at the back of Green's Shoe Shop, Market Square, Letterkenny from 11.00am until 2.00pm**

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## Environmental Events in Donegal

### June

#### June 24th 2017 - **Bridge Hopping for Invasive Alien Plants**

Saturday 11am Swan Park. Co-ordinated by Inishowen Rivers Trust. Learn how to identify invasive plants such as Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam, visit the bridges of Swan Park and learn how to record invasive plants, helping the IRT to map how these plants are spreading along our river banks.

June 25th - July 10th - **Feel Good Fortnight** -. Co-ordinated by Insight Inishowen

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

### July

#### July 1st 2017 - **The Plants and Bird Life of Keadew Machair, nr. Burtonport, Donegal**

A 3 hour guided walk with Ralph Sheppard Saturday 11am. The Blocks' beach car park.

<http://www.antaisce.org/local/donegal>

#### July 1st & 2nd 2017 - **Croi 8 Cultural Emergence - Ireland's 1st Foundation Course**

Saturday and Sunday 10am - 5pm Plus introductory event on Friday June 30th. A weekend connecting with nature. International facilitators bringing art, language and ecology together in a framework for creating positive social and environmental change. Greencastle, Inishowen. [http://theedgeschool.net/?page\\_id=141](http://theedgeschool.net/?page_id=141)

#### July 15th 2017 - **Dooley Dune System and Ballyness Bay, Co Donegal**

A 3 hour guided walk with Ralph Sheppard. Saturday 11am. Magheroarty Pier, near Gortahork.

<http://www.antaisce.org/local/donegal>

#### July 19th 2017 - **The Life in the River, Glenties, Co. Donegal**

Wednesday 7.30pm. Inland Fisheries Ireland. Examining the wildlife in a local river. 2 hour event with demonstrations. The Hatchery, Mill Road, Glenties

<http://www.antaisce.org/local/donegal>

### August

#### August 24th 2017 - **Farming for Nature-Strahack Farm, Inch Island**

Thursday 7pm – Walk and Talk featuring wildlife focused farming methods with Conservation Ranger Emmett Johnston and farmer Boyd Bryce. More info available Emmett Johnston or West Inishowen Heritage Society.  
<https://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=6600&d=vlqw2VPjpSMez1HLJIGk4QpEII4vL9PsA6I6LjIPZw&s=373&u=https%3a%2f%2fwww%2efacebook%2ecom%2finchislandpartridgeproject%2f>

## August 26th 2017 - **National Whale Watch Day - Inishowen Head & Bloody Foreland**

2 locations in Donegal Saturday 2pm-5pm. Tower at Inishowen Head and car park at Bloody Foreland.  
More info available from Celebrate Water and IWDG [www.celebratewaterinishowen.com](http://www.celebratewaterinishowen.com) and [www.iwdg.ie](http://www.iwdg.ie)

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## Friends of the Irish Environment-Survey on the Impact of the 2009 Charity Act

The Friends of the Irish Environment are currently undertaking a survey to assess the impact on environmental and heritage organisations of the 2009 Charity Act requirement that all organisations which receive funding from any source must register as charities. They would appreciate the help of the Environmental and Heritage organisations in Donegal in completing the attached survey and returning to [admin@friendsoftheirishenvironment.org](mailto:admin@friendsoftheirishenvironment.org)



2009 Charities Act  
Survey.doc

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## Regional Events and News

### National Heritage Week 2017

National Heritage Week is the largest cultural event in Ireland with almost 1,000 organisations and individuals involved in hosting over 1,800 unique events in 2016. The week attracts an annual audience of approximately 430,000 people. They are encouraging environmental, social inclusion and community and voluntary groups across Ireland to take part as event organizers. Please find attached their [100 Event Ideas Booklet](#) (also available [as Gaeilge](#)). Let them know how they can help you and your network get involved with Heritage Week 2017. **Niamh Donnellan**, Heritage Week Project Manager, Church Lane, Kilkenny, Co. Kilkenny, Ireland Tel: 1850 200 878  
Mobile: 087 6418440

**For further information:** [www.heritageweek.ie](http://www.heritageweek.ie)

**19<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2017**

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## Central Statistics Office

The Central Statistics Office employs 100 permanent interviewers to conduct household surveys throughout every country in Ireland every week of the year.

The household survey information that they collect is a vital tool in planning for the present and future needs of Ireland. It enables the CSO to measure our country's progress, on important social and economic issues, such as employment, poverty, childcare, health and crime.

Unfortunately, with the increase in rural crime people are understandably much more suspicious of people who knock on their doors, and this is making the job of the interviewers more challenging.

They are hoping that by informing people about the work of the CSO interviewers that households will be aware of the importance of the information collected and increase their willingness to participate in their surveys.

The Household surveys include: *The Census, The Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC), The Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS), The Household Budget Survey (HBS) and Planning Permissions.*

The CSO employs Field Officers in the collection of Household Survey Statistics. All CSO interviewers carry an ID card with a photo. In the case of some surveys, the interviewer will use a tablet computer to record your answers.

*If you have been asked to take part in one of our surveys, they will:*

- identify themselves as from the CSO whenever they contact you, displaying their logo on all letters and leaflets and on their interviewers' photo ID cards.
- when interviewing you in your home or by telephone, arrange a time convenient to you.
- try to make the experience of taking part in a survey as straightforward and as worthwhile as possible.
- only ask as many people to take part as necessary for the accuracy of our statistics.
- be honest with you about your participation being voluntary and give you a realistic idea of how long the survey may take.

### **Confidentiality**

Confidentiality is a priority for the CSO and all information given to the interviewer is encrypted, transmitted securely and is used for statistical purposes only. Results are published in aggregate format only, and it is impossible for individuals or households to be identified. This confidentiality is guaranteed by law under the Statistics Act, 1993.

**For Further Information:** If you would like more information on CSO household surveys you can contact [information@cso.ie](mailto:information@cso.ie) / [eolas@cso.ie](mailto:eolas@cso.ie). [www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie)

## Family Carers Ireland

### Digital Skills for Citizens Initiative: Free Training Nationwide

They are running **basic computer/tablet training nationwide**

The training will take place in 5 x 2hour classes and you will learn how to

**Send Emails-Search the Internet-Use Skype-Social Media-Internet Safety-Digital Photos-Online Payments.**

If you know anyone who would benefit from these courses, do let them know about the scheme, or if you feel that you would yourself like to avail of it, don't hesitate to contact them.

**For Further Information:** To register your own, a friend or a relative's interest, you can contact Sheena or Eithne in our Ennis office on 065 6866515/086 4121869, or you can drop in to your local Family Carers Ireland centre to enquire about the courses.

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## Creativity and Change

### Accredited Award now open for Application

**For Further Information:** Find out more about the Accredited award, connect to CIT online application and hear the stories of previous participants [here](#).

Find out more about the Creativity & Change programme and what else it has to offer with master classes, Creative fairs and training for youth workers [here](#)

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## EU Training for Female Entrepreneurs

Women are often facing here major obstacles which are reflected in low indexes of female-owned enterprises. In order to support sustainably their development and growth, as well as the development of female entrepreneurial competencies, University of Jena (Germany) together with partners from Chile, Austria, Cyprus and Colombia have created a training programme on the basis of a research of 300 female entrepreneurs in Germany and Ireland.

The courses consist of 4 Modules: one introductory seminar and three online modules. The tasks are designed in the way that the participants can evaluate their progress with the help of specially developed Competence Matrix. The digital exchange between female entrepreneurs and creative input of students of different specialties creates a great learning potential. The duration of the program is 16 weeks taking between 5 and 8 hours a week. The first course begins in June 2017.

The interested female entrepreneurs from Germany and Ireland can already register for the first 25 free places at our homepage:

**For Further Information:** [http://womenentrepreneurs.info/reg\\_form.html](http://womenentrepreneurs.info/reg_form.html)

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## Mental Health First Aid Courses

Mental Health First Aid Ireland is running 5 Mental Health First Aid Courses in Donegal this year.

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) is the initial help given to someone who is developing a mental health problem or who is in a mental health crisis. The first aid is given until appropriate professional support is received or until the crisis resolves. **Courses take place on the following dates:**

**20/21 May** – Merville Family Resource Centre, Inishowen

**23/24 June** – St Johnston Family Resource Centre

**12/13 Oct** – Dunfanaghy Family Resource Centre

**18/19 Nov** – Portnoo Family Resource Centre

**For Further Information:** visit [www.connectmentalhealth.ie/events](http://www.connectmentalhealth.ie/events)

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## Sail Training Ireland for Youth Development

Funding for voyages through various funding schemes is made available through the network of youth and community organisations. Sail Training on these “Nominating Organisations” to identify young people that are in need of and will benefit from our funded opportunities. They are able to offer important support to trainees during their preparation for voyages and when they return from the voyage. This helps to maximise the benefits of the experience for the participants. A list of voyages for 2017 is on their website [www.sailtrainingireland.com](http://www.sailtrainingireland.com) and they are now taking bookings through the website.

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