

Welcome to our third news brief in September.

Plenary - 10th October 2017

Woodquay Venue 6-8pm

The Dublin City PPN Plenary will be held on **10th October 2017** from 6-8pm in the Woodquay Venue.

For this Plenary, we are trying something different. We are bringing on Connect the Dots, who specialise in designing events that are guaranteed to be as valuable and as impactful as possible. This is because unlike other workshop designers, they design from the bottom up rather than top down - first consulting the attendees on their preferences, preferred outcomes, and topics they want to talk about. Then, they use these insights to design an event that matches what the attendees are looking for. For our Plenary, they will be designing and facilitating a workshop, focused generally on how to improve the PPN and its workings.

You can RSVP [here](#) and have your say in the topics and outcomes of the Plenary workshop.

For further information on the Plenary please contact Nina Farrell, Coordinator at nina.farrell@dublincity.ie or 01-2223851.

PPN Elections

Vacancies on LCDC, Arts & Culture SPC & Secretariat

One of the main roles of the PPN is to provide a nominating structure to elect community representatives onto decision making committees. The PPN is tasked with electing external (Non-public sector) members to the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) and Strategic Policy Committees (SPC) in Dublin City. There is currently 1 vacancy available under the Community and Voluntary Pillar for the LCDC and 1 vacancy on the Arts, Culture and Recreation SPC. It is also seeking to fill 2 vacant

seats for the Environmental Pillar on the Dublin City PPN Secretariat, which is the administrative body of the PPN.

Groups are now being requested to nominate suitable candidates. Groups registered within the Community & Voluntary pillar can nominate a representative to the LCDC while groups registered within the Environmental pillar can nominate a representative to the Secretariat. Any pillar can nominate a representative to the Arts, Culture and Recreation SPC.

Nominations must be made using the attached forms (to be submitted no later than **5pm on Monday 2nd October 2017**), and candidates being nominated should have the relevant knowledge, experience, commitment and meet the qualifying criteria (listed below).

Role of the LCDC

The LCDCs were established in all local authority administrative areas 'for the purposes of developing, coordinating and implementing a coherent and integrated approach to local and community development'. Since July 2014 the LCDC has responsibility for strategic planning and oversight of local and community development interventions at City level. It is responsible, in conjunction with Dublin City Council, for developing a 6 year Local Economic and Community Plan for the City and pulling together on an area basis a range of local and community development spending from different programmes and structures. Following a period of consultation in June 2015 a Dublin City Local Economic and Community Plan 2016 – 2021 was adapted with twelve high level goals. An action plan to achieve specific objectives under each of the high level goals will be developed on an annual basis. Further information is available on <http://www.dublincity.ie/lcdc>

Role of the Strategic Policy Committees:

Representing the PPN on the Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs) is an important task. It is the task of the SPC's, as committees of the council, to advise and assist the council in its work. The SPC system is intended to give councillors and sectoral interests an opportunity for full involvement in the policy-making process from the early stages. Therefore, if the SPC system operates satisfactorily, much of the preliminary and background work, discussion and recommendation should be completed at SPC level for final consideration and ratification by the council.

In order to ensure that representation is informed and based on knowledge of the policy area and on commitment to the PPN, the following criteria for PPN representation will apply:

- An awareness of general policy in the area you are seeking to represent on
- The ability of the nominee to effectively represent the views of the entire PPN linkage group. They are not representing their own

organisation.

- A knowledge of the relevant areas and plenary decisions and a commitment to policy development where necessary.
- A commitment to attending all meetings of the LCDC/SPC
- Support new representatives should the need arise
- A commitment to convene, attend and report back to the linkage group relevant to the committee you are sitting on
- A commitment to issuing a report on each meeting for publication by the PPN Coordinator
- All LCDC members are required to maintain proper standards of integrity, conduct and concern for the public interest.
- No more than one board member and/or employee of any single community or voluntary organisation, community development body or local development body will be validated for membership of the LCDC.

A fundamental role of the elected PPN representative to the LCDC/SPC will be to represent and to give feedback to the PPN on the outcomes of the policy meetings, and the issues being raised. This will be achieved through the representative's interaction with their "Linkage Group". A linkage group is formed when members with a particular interest in the work of the LCDC/SPC come together to elect the PPN representatives to that committee.

Role of the Secretariat

The Dublin City PPN Secretariat is made up of nine members with three members drawn from each pillar: Social Inclusion; Community & Voluntary; Environment. The role of the Secretariat is to:

Identify, coordinate and facilitate activities of the PPN which are of benefit to its members

- Communicate with all PPN members and disseminate information concerning all PPN activities
- Ensure the proper functioning of the PPN
- Devise a work plan and proposals to present to the Plenary
- Work closely with PPN Staff to enable them to deliver the PPN objectives
- Support the strategic development of the Dublin City PPN
- Work to ensure that the profile of the PPN is raised and inclusive
- Work to ensure that representatives and linkage groups are participative
- ONLY MEMBERS OF THAT PILLAR CAN NOMINATE FOR THAT PILLAR for example, only groups registered within the Environmental Pillar can nominate within that pillar.

The Secretariat meet on a monthly basis (or as required) and are required to attend regional meetings (twice a year) and PPN events.

Persons being nominated to the Secretariat should have some or all of the

following skills and attributes:

- A keen interest and awareness of general issues in the pillar you are seeking to represent
- Be working on the ground, on a voluntary or paid basis, in a community group
- Good organisational skills
- Experience of taking part on a board or committee
- A commitment to attend meetings and PPN events and participating fully in the duties of the Secretariat

Nomination and Election Process

Completed nomination forms should be returned by 5pm on **Monday 2nd October 2017**, by e-mail to ppn@dublincity.ie or by post to: Dublin City PPN, Block 3, Floor 1, Civic Offices, Wood Quay, Dublin 8.

Once collated, and based on the nomination information submitted, a candidate information document will be circulated to all PPN groups, in advance of the election.

The election will be held at our Plenary on **Tuesday 10th October** from 6-8pm in the Wood Quay Venue, Dublin City Council.

If you have any queries please e-mail: ppn@dublincity.ie or phone Nina Farrell, PPN Coordinator at (01) 222 3851

Community Grants Scheme

Dublin City Council aims to support community groups with their activities and projects by promoting participation and involvement in the City through the community grants scheme. The community grants scheme is run on an annual basis. Community Groups make their applications while taking into consideration the key priorities of the scheme such as:

- Community Development
- Social Inclusion
- Integration
- Local Area Issues
- There is a separate category for Informal Adult Education.

The two application forms available under the scheme, Community Grant and Informal Adult Education are attached in English and Irish.

The closing date for applications is **Friday 27th October**. There will be an information desk at the PPN plenary on 10th October where you can ask any questions about making your application to the grants scheme.

For Further Information please email doce@dublincity.ie or phone 01-2222148.

Free Talk on Brain Health

As part of Positive ageing week 2017 Dr. Sabina Brennan will give a free talk on Brain Health in Bluebell Community & Youth Centre on **Tuesday 29th September from 7.30pm -9pm.**

Dr. Sabina is a research psychologist and award winning science communicator and currently works as a Research Assistant Professor in the Institute of Neuroscience at Trinity College Dublin. Dr. Sabina's research focuses on understanding dementia risk and protective factors to establish how decline in cognitive function can be prevented.

To book a place for this talk please contact Carmel McCartney at carmel.mccartney@dublincity.ie or phone 01-2224672.

River Basin Management Plan Engagement and Feedback on Areas for Action

The draft River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) for the second cycle of the Water Framework Directive was published on the 28th February 2017, for a six month public consultation period which ended on the 31st August. During this time the Local Authorities Water and Communities Office (LAWCO) convened a series of meetings to engage with communities and other stakeholders, whilst Dublin City Council engaged with the Council members, Area Committees and the Environmental Strategic Policy Committee. The comments received will now be considered in preparing the final River Basin Management Plan to be published in early 2018, by the Department of Housing Planning & Local Government.

In addition, a characterisation and prioritisation assessment was carried out on all the water bodies within Ireland and a selected number of water bodies were chosen as priority areas for action. These will now be included within the RBMP. The Dodder and Santry Rivers are to be prioritised in the Dublin City Council administrative area.

Dublin City Council invites you to an information session to provide feedback on the selected 'Areas for Action', on **Wednesday 27th September in the Atrium, Civic Offices, from 4-6pm.**

The briefing session will consist of a short presentation on the draft River Basin Management Plan consultation, an outline of the 'Areas for Action' and the reasons for selection, followed by an opportunity for question and answers.

This is an opportunity for you to express any concerns or comments before the River Basin Management Plan is published.

For further information please contact Sinéad Hurson, Community Water Office at shurson@lawco.ie or 0858083725

Environmental Pillar

Steven Doody is a member of the Secretariat under the environmental pillar. Steven is requesting input from all groups registered on the PPN under the Environmental Pillar. He is looking for members to email him their top ten wish list for items relating to protecting the environment, for example; A national tree growing program or banning herbicide use. The wishlist can be sent in simple bullet form and include ideas that will have the most impact. If possible please include any relevant links leading to the science, reasoning and documentation which back up these points for anyone who has interest in this depth of knowledge.

Steven's email address is stevendoody@eircom.net
