



LAOIS PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NETWORK

August 2019 Newsletter

WELCOME!!

Membership of Laois PPN grew by 6 in July, with the total number of groups registered now totalling 538.

Laois PPN welcomes these groups to the network. We look forward to keeping you all informed and working with you all in 2019 and beyond.

Shanahoe Community Hall Committee
MakePort Marketplace
Corrig Glen Residents Committee
Laois Syrian Group - Sustainable Eco Project
Round Tower Rovers Soccer Club

Did you Know?

To date Laois PPN has taken part in 59 scheduled events, meetings and training sessions (Jan - July 2019). They varied from

- Laois Connects Meetings
- ISL Training - 5 Week Course
- Midlands Region PPN - Tidy Town Sub Committee Meeting
- Community & Voluntary Awards Meetings
- Midlands Region PPN - Environmental Showcase Event Sub Comm Meetings
- Secretariat Monthly Meetings
- Midlands Regional PPN Meeting - Hosted by Laois PPN
- Consultation on Rural Ireland - Woodford Dolmen Carlow
- "Access for All" Disability Report Launch
- Laois Africa Day - Film Premiere

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LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL DRAFT CLIMATE ADAPTATION STRATEGY 2019-2024

Notice is hereby given that Laois County Council has prepared a draft Local Authority Climate Change Adaptation Strategy in accordance with the provisions of The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015 and the National Adaptation Framework (NAF), 2018.

Climate change is recognised as a global challenge with policy responses required in terms of both mitigating the causes of climate change and in adapting to the inevitable consequences of our changing climate. The Climate Change Adaptation Strategy represents a proactive step by Laois County Council in the process of adaptation planning to build resilience and respond effectively to the threats posed by climate change.

Purpose of the Strategy:

The Climate Change Adaptation Strategy takes on the role as the primary instrument at local level to:

- (i) ensure a proper comprehension of the key risks and vulnerabilities of climate change
- (ii) bring forward the implementation of climate resilient actions in a planned and proactive manner and,
- (iii) ensure that climate adaptation considerations are mainstreamed into all plans and policies and integrated into all operations and functions of Laois County Council.

Environmental Reports:

Accompanying the draft Climate Change Adaptation Strategy is:

- (i) A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Report in accordance with the SEA Directive (DIR 2001/42/EC) and pursuant to European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 (SI 435 of 2004 as amended by SI 200 of 2011) and,
- (ii) An Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report in accordance with the requirements of Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC).

Display Details:

A copy of the draft strategy, SEA and AA screening reports may be viewed on the Councils' website: <http://www.laois.ie/> or inspected during the period June 25th to July 26th 2019 at the following location during normal business hours:

Laois County Council, Aras An Chontae, Portlaoise, Co. Laois

The adaptation strategy, SEA screening report and AA screening report may also be viewed on the Government Public Consultations Portal at <https://gov.ie/consultations>

Making a Submission:

Submissions or observations may be made by 4.00 pm on 31st July 2019 by e-mail to environmentadmin@laoiscoco.ie or in writing to Donal Brennan, Director of Environmental Services, Laois County Council, Aras An Chontae, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.

Submissions or observations should state your name, address and where relevant the organisation/body etc. represented. Please make your submission by one medium only i.e. post/hard copy or email.

Any written submissions or observations received within the timeframe will be taken into consideration before the making of the strategy. You are invited to make written submissions/ observations in respect of the draft strategy and the accompanying SEA and AA screening reports.

Data Protection:

Please note that all submissions may be available for public viewing during the period of making the strategy. Laois County Council will treat all personal data as confidential and will retain data for no longer than is necessary for the purpose of this Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and in accordance with the Council's Retention Policy and relevant Data Protection legislation.





GRANTS FOR MERGERS

This fund is currently open

In the face of current challenges facing the Irish Community and Voluntary sector, all organisations are looking at ways of working differently. In certain limited circumstances, some organisations may see benefit in exploring merging permanently with another organisation, or consortium of like-minded organisations. We have a small fund which might allow such organisations or consortiums to explore this. It is for the facilitation of early-stage discussions and negotiations, and not the process of merging in action.

Grants of a maximum of €8,000 will pay for associated costs such as hiring an external facilitator, room hire, travel costs etc.

The fund is not for collaborative working or strategic partnerships Who can apply

Organisations/bodies and consortiums of organisations/bodies in the Irish Community and Voluntary Sector.

How to apply

Interested bodies and/ or consortiums should email the grants team at info@foundation.ie in confidence to discuss the suitability of submitting an application to the fund. Please only send a brief introductory paragraph setting out the proposed activity and level of funding required. There is no application form available and potential applications must be discussed in advance with us.

Deadline

Applications will be considered as and when received; there is no specific closing date.

Any approach or enquiries will be held in the strictest confidence. Suitable applications will be assessed by one of the Grants staff and the Chair of Grants Expert Panel. Following the process those involved will be asked to report their learning about the process to us with a view to this helping other groups.

We do not take a view as to whether any organisations should merge.

For more details visit:

<https://www.communityfoundation.ie/grants/types-of-grants/grants-for-mergers>

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURE FUND - SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES 2019

This year we committed to further supporting our Environment and Nature Fund and with match-funding from the Environmental Protection Agency we have established a fund of €100,000 to focus on creating Sustainable Communities through the Circular Economy and Sustainable Consumption and Waste. We are inviting community groups to apply who are interested in or already working towards these elements of sustainability through implementing local actions focused on national 'Circular Economy' priorities.

The benefits of reducing consumption and improving waste practices will assist communities socially, environmentally and economically by increasing the significance of all reusable resources. This grant has been developed with the Sustainable Development Goals in focus specifically Goal 12 which seeks to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns.

Within the scheme, three strands of grant funding will be offered:

Strand 1: Grants of up to €3,000 to develop a Community Action Plan focused on reducing consumption and waste in the areas of food waste, plastic and packaging, clothing/textiles and electrical items.

Strand 2: Grants of up to €5,000 to support community groups to trial new and innovative approaches around reducing consumption and waste in the areas of food, plastic and packaging clothing/textiles and electrical items.

Strand 3: Grants of up to €10,000 to support community groups to grow current small scale initiatives to reduce consumption and waste in the areas of food, plastic and packaging, clothing/textiles and electrical items that reach a larger number of users and could act as a viable demonstrator for other groups.

Closing Date: 4.00pm on 02nd August 2019

For more details visit:

<https://www.communityfoundation.ie/grants/types-of-grants/environment-and-nature-fund-sustainable-communities>



Community & Voluntary Support Grant for Older Persons

As part of a joint initiative by the Minister for Older People and the HSE, an extra €1 million funding is being made available to community and voluntary groups to continue to support older people, family carers and significant others stay well and remain connected with their local community.

It is envisaged that grants will range from €5,000 - €20,000.

Community and voluntary groups are encouraged to submit 'Older Persons' Friendly' projects that are in line with the;

National Positive Ageing Strategy.

Irish National Dementia Strategy.

Carers' Strategy.

Task Force on Loneliness Community & Voluntary

The closing date for receipt of applications for the Community & Voluntary Support grant is 15th August 2019 with funding allocated in September 2019

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/4/olderpeople/support-grant-for-older-persons/>



Coca-Cola Thank You Fund 2019 - Applications Now Open

The Coca-Cola Thank You Fund, support and rewards Ireland and Northern Ireland's most amazing youth-centric causes.

Any Irish non-profit organisation aimed towards promoting healthy, active lifestyles and environmental leadership in young people can enter, with monetary prizes from a €100,000 total fund up for grabs.

Applications are open until 12th July 2019.



Further info & to book

<https://www.coca-cola.ie/thank-you-fund>



The Good Governance Awards (GGA) is an initiative that recognises and encourages adherence to good governance practice by nonprofit organisations in Ireland.

The Awards were developed in 2016 by Carmichael and are supported by Boardmatch, Charities Institute Ireland, Dóchas, Enclude, Volunteer Ireland, The Wheel, together with our corporate partners; 2into3, Chartered Accountants Ireland, Davy, Dept. of Rural & Community Development, Mason Hayes & Curran, Mazars Ireland and The Governance Company.

There are 2 award types and 5 entry categories based on the income size of the organisation, from those with an annual income of under €250k to those with an annual income of over €15m.

Annual Reports Award

The Good Governance Award seek to acknowledge, encourage and promote good governance practice primarily in the area of annual reports.

Best Governance Improvement Initiative Award

This award will recognise initiatives that have been taken in the last 12-18 months to improve the quality of the nonprofit's governance. Nonprofits can submit their good governance initiatives, setting out (briefly – max 750 words) the governance issue(s) they addressed, the actions they took and the impact that this has had for the organisation.

Organisations may enter for either award type or for both.

Entry Criteria

To enter, the organisation must be an Irish nonprofit organisation (i.e. it has a registered office in the Republic of Ireland).

A nonprofit organisation must upload their entry to the GGA website by the closing date (13th September 2019). The 2019 Good Governance Awards are open for submission from 1st June 2019.

Shortlisted listed organisations may be asked to supply additional information to assist the judges in their adjudications.

See www.goodgovernanceawards.ie for more information.



BEYOND LIMITS¹⁹
Empowering young people with disabilities

Save the Date!
Beyond Limits is an upcoming event for children and young people with disabilities organised by the Ombudsman for Children's Office.

Saturday 19th October 2019, 11am–4pm
Croke Park Conference Centre, Dublin

What's it about?
Empowering children and young people with disabilities, showing them the opportunities open to them, talking about the issues they want to talk about and highlighting inclusiveness.

Who is it for?
1,000 people will attend on the day. We are aiming for at least 500 young people, alongside 500 parents, carers, siblings or those who work with children with disabilities.

We have confirmed some incredible speakers including Mark Pollock, Paralympians Micheal McKillop and Ellen Keane, Disability Rights Activists Joanne O'Riordan and Adam Harris.

There will also be an extensive exhibitors area showcasing sport, technology, science and much more as well as interactive break out sessions.

Tickets will be on sale for a nominal fee over the coming weeks.

#BEYOND LIMITS¹⁹ 

Beyond Limits, a summit organised by #YourOCO for young people with disabilities will take place @CrokePark on Saturday 19th October 2019. The event is open to all young people, their families and friends.

See poster for details.



Aware, Ireland's leading organisation providing support, education and information services for people impacted by depression, bipolar disorder and related mood conditions, is seeking new volunteers.

Aware relies on the passion and dedication of its volunteers to ensure that the organisation can continue to provide free support services nationwide, essential services that have a profound impact on individuals and families throughout Ireland.

Aware is currently recruiting volunteers across three services – Support Line, Support Mail and Life Skills Online. No prior qualifications or experience is required, as comprehensive training as well as ongoing support and education is provided by the organisation.

For more information on each opportunity, please see here: <https://www.aware.ie/volunteering/> or phone Emma on 01-2374926.



Great opportunity with Age Action for the over 55's. They are running a FREE beginners' computer classes.

Age Action are also looking for Volunteer Computer Tutors.

If you are interested in either please contact Age Action through email on gsvolunteer@ageaction.ie or ring them on (01) 4756989

AgeAction
For all older people

Getting Started Classes for the over 55's

Age Action runs FREE beginners' computers classes for older people who have little or no computer experience or for the absolutely terrified!

Learn how to:

- Search the Internet
- Send & receive emails
- Shop and books flights

- Small classes with one to one tuition by trained volunteer tutors
- Course will run for 2 hours once a week for five weeks

Classes are held in many venues throughout the country

For more information or to register on a course

PHONE: 01 475 6989

AgeAction
For all older people

VOLUNTEER COMPUTER TUTORS NEEDED

Age Action runs Getting Started, a FREE beginners' computers classes for older people who have little or no computer experience or for the absolutely terrified!

You will teach learners how to:

- Search the Internet
- Send & receive emails
- Shop and books flights

- Course will run for 2 hours once a week for five weeks

Classes held in many venues around the country

For more information on how to volunteer:

EMAIL: gsvolunteer@ageaction.ie

PHONE: 01 475 6989

Laois County Council
Free Mattress and Couch Amnesty!



Bring your old mattress, couch or armchairs to one of the following locations on the specified dates and we will recycle it for **FREE!**

- [Portlaoise Municipal District](#) at Portlaoise Civic Amenity Site: Sat. 3rd August to Sat. 10th August. Excluding Sunday and Bank holiday Monday. Opening hours Mon to Fri 8.00 am to 3.30 pm, Saturday 8.00 am to 1.00 pm
- [Borris-in-Ossory Mountmellick Municipal District](#) at – Brand Central Carpark, Rathdowney on Saturday, 10th August from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm.
- [Graiguecullen Portarlinton Municipal District](#) at Pedigree Corner, N78 on Saturday, 24th August from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm

**Domestic Customers Only! Limit of five mattresses per customer.
Furniture and mattresses must be dry.**



Public Consultation on a review of measures relating to the control of dogs in Ireland.

Public Consultation on a review of measures relating to the control of dogs in Ireland.

The consultation document, from the Department of Rural & Community Development, poses a series of 10 questions. Interested parties are invited to make written submissions or comments on the questions asked by 5.30pm on 6 September 2019.

Find out more copy the below link into your URL:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/a73d88-public-consultation-on-a-review-of-measures-relating-to-the-control/>

Public consultation on access to contraception

The Joint Committee on the Eighth Amendment of the Constitution has recommended:

“The introduction of a scheme for the provision of the most effective method of contraception, free of charge and having regard to personal circumstances, to all people who wish to avail of them within the State.”

Find out more copy the below link into your URL:
<https://health.gov.ie/consultations/>

Call for Participants - Research on Educational Experiences of Children with Disabilities

This is a survey for parents of people with disabilities, including intellectual disabilities and developmental disabilities such as autism, and those waiting for a diagnosis.

It asks questions about school and educational experiences of children, and the impacts on them and their families. Depending on your situation, it may take as long as 20 minutes or longer to complete, but you can stop and come back to it on the same device and it will remember your place.

Copy link into your URL to take part: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/education_and_disability

Tourism Strategy for County Carlow

Carlow Tourism and Carlow County Council are undertaking a new five-year Tourism Strategy for County Carlow. Future Analytics Consulting are preparing the Carlow Tourism Strategy 2020-2025 on behalf of Carlow Tourism and Carlow County Council.

As part of the research, they would like to find out what people think of County Carlow as a tourist destination, from those living outside the County and have asked Laois PPN to distribute this on their behalf.

Link to survey:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DGHNQJJ>



LAOIS PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NETWORK UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 2019

- 3rd September
Midlands Regional PPN Meeting
- 4th September
Laois PPN- Laois Connects Event - Details coming soon
- 11th September
Disability Meeting - Guest Speaker Sinead Kane
Where do we go from here?
The Midlands Park Hotel, Portlaoise
- 17th September
Environmental Showcase Event -
Lullymaore
- 16th September
Monthly Secretariat Meeting

OCTOBER 2019

- 10th & 11th October
National PPN Conference - Carlow
- 15th October
Laois PPN Plenary with guest speaker on Voice Ireland on Plastics
/ Guest Speaker on Insurance & PPN Elections
- 18th October
10th Annual Community & Voluntary Awards
The Midlands Park Hotel, Portlaoise
- 21st October
Monthly Secretariat Meeting
- 5th November
Vision for Community Wellbeing Consultation

More events to follow once finalised.

Is there an event you think Laois PPN could facilitate. Why not let us know.

ppn@laoiscoco.ie
057-8665661 or 086-7782551.



Do you have any events you would like to share with Laois PPN, or is there any events/capacity building training you think Laois PPN could provide?

Why not contact us on:

057-8665661 or 086-7782551

ppn@laoiscoco.ie

www.laoisppn.ie

Laois Public Participation Network
Lyster Square,
Portlaoise,
Co. Laois.