

Snapshot of the Year 2024



An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe
agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta
Department of Rural and Community
Development and the Gaeltacht



Public
Participation
Networks
Ireland

20,421 MEMBER GROUPS



16,383

Community and Voluntary Groups

3,217

Social Inclusion Groups

817

Environmental Groups



Public Participation
Networks Ireland

2024 was an important year
for the PPNs as it marked the
10th anniversary



2024 was also a
year of change
and renewal for
the Irish political
landscape with
**local, European
and national
elections held.**

834

PPN REPRESENTATIVES

sat on **341** Boards and Committees bringing the voice
of the community to the decision-making table.



Global events

continued to impact locally in 2024
with households still experiencing
rising costs, hitting the lowest income
households the hardest. With increasing
levels of conflict and climate chaos across
the world more people are on the move,
including to Ireland. All of this has led to
increased tensions and impacted on social
cohesion in our communities.



As always, the Community and Voluntary
sector proved to be a vital part of the
national response to these issues at a local
level highlighting time after time, just how
necessary and vital the Community and
Voluntary sector is.

**Local knowledge
was key.**



Local elections took place in May 2024, which resulted in SPCs having to be stood down and then reconstituted.

There was continuous engagement with member groups, ensuring that vital information was widely disseminated.



Limerick PPN and Limerick City and County Council hosted the 6th National Public Participation Network Conference in October.

This year's event marked the 10-year anniversary of the establishment of the PPNs across Ireland. The conference welcomed 160 delegates representing community and voluntary groups, social inclusion and environmental organisations from across the country, alongside local authority officials, elected representatives, and others who support the work of PPNs. The theme for this year's conference, "Collaboration for Resilient Communities," celebrated the essential partnerships needed for the delivery of government programmes at both national and local levels. The PPNs 'play a crucial role in facilitating these collaborations by providing representatives on committees and steering groups, sharing information, building capacity, and offering support'.¹



The PPN Implementation Roadmap was published in July 2024. It was drafted by the Roadmap Working Group, made up of PPN stakeholders including PPN volunteers and staff, civil society groups, CCMA and relevant government departments. The Roadmap sets out tangible actions to strengthen PPNs and enable them to more effectively fulfil the overall objectives set out for them in the 2014 *Working Group Report on Citizen Engagement with Local Government*.

The PPNs continued to adapt in response to the changes experienced by their communities and develop innovative solutions using a bottom-up approach to problem solving.

Consultations continue to be a vital part of the work of the PPN and took place across a wide variety of topics.



**The PPNs continue to make
a real difference to the
communities they serve.**

¹ <https://www.limerickppn.ie/national-ppn-conference-2024/>