

DLR PPN Workplan 2023

Introduction

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Public Participation Network (DLR PPN) is an independent umbrella network of community & voluntary, environmental and social inclusion groups active within the county. Public Participation Networks (PPNs) were established by the Irish government under the Local Government (Reform) Act 2014 to be the main link through which the Local Authority connects with these groups.

DLR PPN is governed by the Secretariat, a voluntary board elected from the DLR PPN membership whose responsibility is to oversee the development of the network and ensure that the objectives of the PPN are carried out. The Secretariat are supported by one full time manager and a part-time support worker who manage the day-to-day running of the PPN.

Funding for DLR PPN is provided by both the Department of Rural and Community Development and by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council through an annual allocation. The PPN in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown is hosted by Southside Partnership DLR CLG.

Government guidelines outline 3 main objectives for PPNs:

- Facilitate the participation and representation of communities in a fair, equitable and transparent manner through the environmental, social inclusion, community and voluntary sectors on decision making bodies.
- Strengthen the capacity of communities and of the environmental, social inclusion, community and voluntary groups to contribute positively to the community in which they reside/participate.
- Provide information relevant to the environmental, social inclusion, community and voluntary sector and act as a hub around which information is distributed and received.

These Government guidelines also specify a number of principles and values that PPNs are expected to operate by; they should be inclusive, participatory, independent, valuing diversity, transparent and accountable.

DLR PPN's 2023 Workplan incorporates the 3 main objectives of PPNs listed above as well as actions assigned to DLR PPN in the Local Economic & Community Plan 2016-2021 relating to building the capacity of community groups to create positive change in their communities and having a voice in local authority decision-making. The focus of DLR PPN's work in 2023 will be on:

- Supporting and building the capacity of our members and our representatives to engage with dlr County Council's policy-making structures.
- Building cohesive and engaged Community and Voluntary, Environmental and Social Inclusion pillar groups within the PPN who can support the work of our representatives.
- Continuing to engage with groups from under-represented communities, new communities and minority groups to make sure these groups have an opportunity to join the PPN and input into local authority decision-making.
- Completing the DLR PPN Strategic Plan for 2023 - 2028. This was put on hold for 2022 as the secretariat were awaiting the outcome and recommendations of the Mazars report and the National Communications Campaign.
- Updating policies for our organisation in line with DRCD recommendations.
- Updating our website to make it user friendly and a repository of resources for our community.
- Embrace Climate Action initiatives in DLR community.

We look forward to working on these aims with DLR PPN members and other stakeholders over the coming year.

DLR PPN Secretariat:

Community & Voluntary Pillar - Aileen Eglington, Kilternan/Glenamuck Residents Association

Community & Voluntary Pillar - Kay Gleeson, Sandycove & Glasthule Residents Association

Community & Voluntary Pillar - Tony McCarthy, Dun Laoghaire-Active Retirement

Environment Pillar - Bill O'Dea, Crann, Trees for Ireland

Environment Pillar - Gavin Harte, Friends of the Earth

Environment Pillar - Vacancy

Social Inclusion Pillar - Viola Di Bucchianico, DLR Integration Forum

Social Inclusion Pillar - Sharon Perry, Women's Collective Ireland DLR

Social Inclusion Pillar - Vacancy

DRAFT: Dún Laoghaire Rathdown Public Participation Network Workplan 2023

List of Abbreviations:

DLRCC Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council

DLR PPN Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Public Participation Network

DRCD Department of Rural and Community Development

GDPR General Data Protection Regulations SSP Southside Partnership				
Objective 1		Participation & Capacity building		
Key Action		Support PPN members to identify issues of collective concern, to take action on these issues and influence local policy.		
Planned actions/activities/outputs	Who is responsible	Who can help?	Timescale	Outcome/Impact/Target/KPI
Publish a proposed training schedule. Run training/ workshops/ seminars based on member's expressed and predicted needs.	Manager/ Support worker	Other organisations such as SSP/ DLR Volunteer Centre/ DLRCC	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training/workshops/seminars run for DLR PPN members focusing on capacity building. • Attendance numbers • Feedback from attendees to inform future training
Ensure PPN representation on decision making bodies	Secretariat/ Manager	DLR PPN representatives	As required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Run elections as needed to ensure PPN representative positions are filled, including new Secretariat members. • Develop a process of engagement to maximise the DLR PPN memberships' participation in all 6 SPC's.
Facilitate the development of appropriate Linkage groups to support the representatives on the various committees	Secretariat/ Manager	DLR PPN representatives	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a plan for creating and supporting linkage groups • Organise meetings between groups and representatives.
Support DLR PPN representatives on decision-making bodies	Secretariat/ Manager	DLRCC/ DRCD	as required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure induction training is provided to new DLR PPN representatives and Secretariat members. • Secretariat to meet with DLR PPN representatives to address any issues representatives are experiencing and to ensure they receive the support needed.

Support PPN members to take part in consultations	Secretariat/ Manager	DLRCC	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members are given timely information about upcoming consultations and are facilitated to take part. Work with DLRCC to run consultation workshops when appropriate, including online consultations
Improve inclusivity and accessibility of DLR PPN and its activities.	Secretariat/ Manager		Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Run relevant training DLR PPN events are held in accessible venues. DLR PPN organises pre-training on how to use online platforms for meetings. DLR PPN provides one-to-one support to members that are not confident in joining online meetings. Members are asked about accessibility needs.
Enhance links and engagement with minority groups to support community engagement and diversity.	Secretariat/ Manager	DLRCC/ DLR Integration Forum/ SSP	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Target groups under-represented communities, new communities and minority groups identified. Outreach to these groups undertaken. Increased involvement of target groups. Consider for social inclusion sectors ways to engage with hard to reach Community groups with regard to joining the PPN.
Hold Plenary meetings	Secretariat/ Manager	PPN members	Twice yearly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Plenary meetings Attendance at Plenary meetings Members input at Plenary meetings
Ensure key decisions and strategies made by the Secretariat are approved by PPN members	Secretariat/ Manager	PPN members	ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workplan and relevant policies and procedures ratified by PPN members. Updating policies approved by the membership.
Update members on progress	Secretariat/ Manager	PPN members	ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation on progress at Plenary Opportunity for members to ask questions from the floor at Plenary Annual report created and distributed to members and published on website Updates in ezine.

Engagement with voice of youth by continued support for Comhairle na nOg	Manager		ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DLR PPN manager sitting on Comhairle na nOg steering committee. • Promotion of Comhairle na nOg activities through DLR PPN.
Objective 2	Communications & Engagement			
Key Action	Increase understanding of the Public Participation Network within DLR PPN and externally, build relationships and improve communications.			
Planned actions/activities/outputs	Who is responsible	Who can help?	Timescale	Outcome/Impact/Targets/KPI
Take part in outreach opportunities and support community engagement and participation in DLR	Secretariat/Manager	DLRCC/ PPN members/ external organisations	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach activities undertaken, including relating to cultural diversity/social inclusion/age friendly (this includes online outreach)
National PPN Communications Campaign	Secretariat/Manager	DRCD/Alice PR	ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch of campaign is due Jan/Feb 2023 • Participate in communications training
Ensure DLR PPN events and activities are documented. Make information about these events publicly accessible.	Manager/Support worker		ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports of Plenary meetings available on website • PPN activities shared on website, social media and e-zine • Radio promotion available through Community Connections.
Provide support by email and phone to DLR PPN members and to groups looking to join the PPN	Manager/Support worker		ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level of engagement with DLR PPN members • New membership registrations

Distribute an Ezine with relevant information on a regular basis	Manager/ Support worker	PPN members	monthly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Level of engagement with ezine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ within the PPN ○ external to PPN
Maintain and develop the DLR PPN website	Manager/ Support worker		ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Update the website and maintain repository of resources for our community ● Evidence of website views ● Membership database completed for dlrppn.ie ● Membership applications coming through dlrppn.ie
Maintain and develop DLR PPN Facebook & Twitter	Manager/ Support worker		ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Relevant posts made regularly ● Interactions on social media
Objective 3	Community Wellbeing and Climate Action Awareness			
Planned actions/activities/outputs	Who is responsible	Who can help?	Timescale	Outcome/Impact/Targets/KPI
Vision for Community Wellbeing	Secretariat/ Manager	DLR PPN stakeholders	ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vision Statement being used by Secretariat, network manager and DLR PPN representatives.
Continue to support community-based initiatives to alleviate loneliness, isolation	Secretariat/ Manager	PPN members	ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Link in with other initiatives. ● Link in with Social Inclusion Week. ● Develop new initiatives of interacting online.
Embrace and support Climate Action initiatives in DLR	Secretariat/ Manager	PPN members. DLR PPN Stakeholders	ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promote awareness raising initiatives about Climate Action. ● Support legitimate local and regional climate action initiatives, in partnership with other PPNs and organizations ● Link in with Climate Action Week ● Identify the needs of groups for Climate Action training and funding.
Help inform the LECP 2023-2028	Secretariat/ Manager	DLR CC, PPN reps	ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Feedback given by representatives on drafting the LECP ● Bi-annual progress reports provided by the DLR PPN Manager

Objective 4		Operate the PPN in a transparent, inclusive and accountable manner		
Planned actions/activities/outputs	Who is responsible	Who can help?	Timescale	Outcome/Impact/Targets/KPI
Hold regular meetings of Secretariat members and Network Manager	Secretariat/ Manager		Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of meetings held Number of attendances at meetings
Manager's report to Secretariat on workplan.	Manager		Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report presented at each Secretariat meeting.
Minutes of Secretariat meeting on dlppn.ie website	Secretariat/ Manager		Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes posted on dlppn.ie
Continue to work on compliance with GDPR	Secretariat/ Manager		Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actions arising for data audit being completed.
Maintain a clear record of expenditure.	Secretariat/ Manager	SSP	ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2023 budget approved by Secretariat Finance sub-group Quarterly financial reports approved by Secretariat Finance sub-group Quarterly financial reports submitted to DLRCC. Any financial reports or returns must be signed by representatives of both DLR PPN and DLRCC
Financial report produced for DRCD	Secretariat/ Manager	SSP/ DLRCC	As requested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report submitted. Any reports or returns must be signed by representatives of both DLR PPN and DLRCC
Submit end of year report to DRCD	Secretariat/ Manager	DLRCC	When requested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report submitted. Any reports or returns must be signed by representatives of both DLR PPN and DLRCC
Monitor and evaluate annual workplan on an ongoing basis.	Secretariat/ Manager		Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluation information included in the annual report.