



Galway City Community Network
Líonra Pobail Chathair Na Gaillimhe



Fáilte/Welcome

Galway City Community Network
The Public Participation Network in Galway City

Annual General Meeting 2017
Plenary March 2018

Part One – Annual General Meeting

- Welcome & Introductions
- Minutes of previous AGM and Matters Arising
- Annual report
- Financial report
- Elections to the Secretariat
- Close

Part Two – Plenary Meeting

- Minutes and Matters Arising
- Elections
 - Joint Policing Committee
 - City and County Childcare Committee
 - Local Community Development Committee
- Brief update on GCCN activities
- Representatives' Updates
- Motions
 - Establishment of Associate Membership
- AOB

Agenda





Annual Report 2018 - Highlights

2017 GCCN Membership

Members	December 2017
Registered	131
Social Inclusion	52
Environment	12
Voluntary	67

**BECOME
A MEMBER**



2017 GCCN Members' meetings



Grouping	Meetings
Plenary	4
Secretariat	11
Environment LG	9
Social Inclusion & Community Development LG	3
Housing & Accommodation LG	5
Sports LG	1 (newly established)
Arts & Culture LG	4 (In process of establishing)
Economic Development & Enterprise Support LG	In process of establishing
JPC pre-meeting	2

2017 GCCN Submissions

As well as informing & supporting our members to make submissions on a wide range of issues, GCCN policy submissions included:

- Citizens' Assembly on Climate Change
- Ardaun Local Area Plan
- Parks, Beaches & Open Spaces Bye Laws
- Busking Bye-Laws – and planning a second
- Ireland 2040 - the National Planning Framework
- Open Government Partnership -joint PPN submission

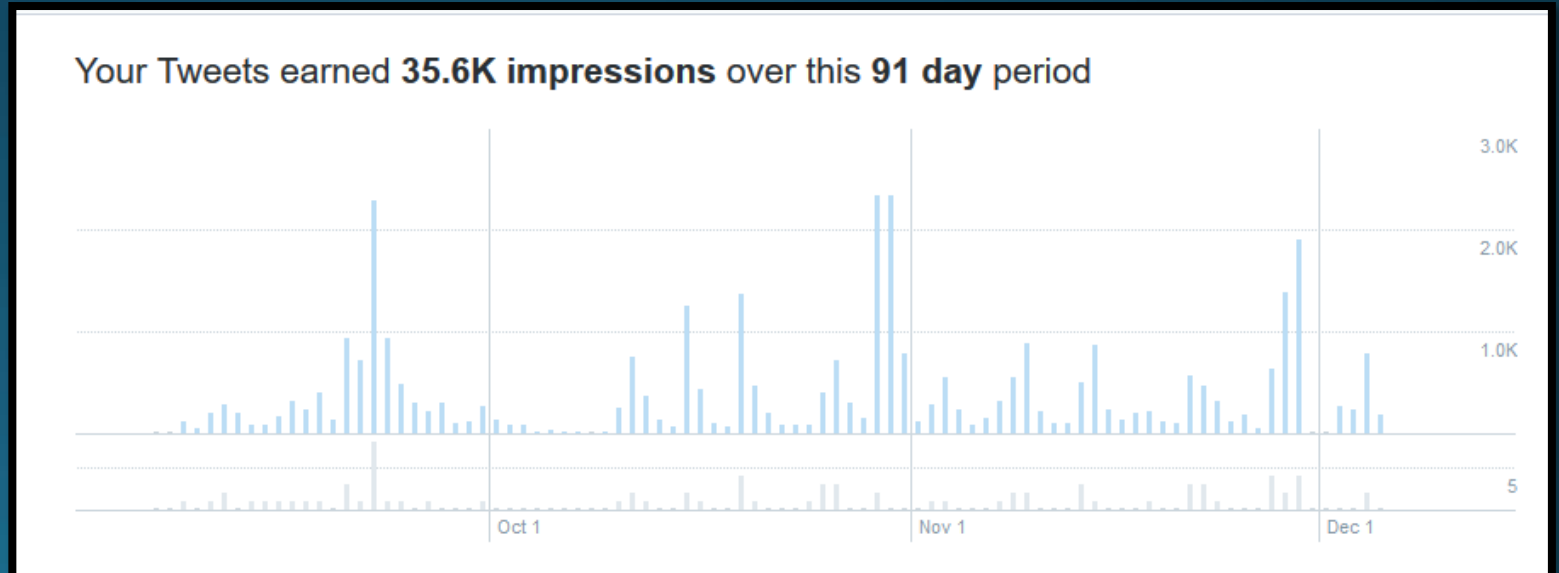


Communication

Our Facebook followers have grown 1/3 in 2017 to 600



Our Tweets now regularly reach over 500 people & up to 2,500 people... adding up to 35,600 in last 3 months alone!



GCCN Network News



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GCCN Network News 4th August 2017



GCCN Sports Linkage Group
19.30-21.00, Monday 16 Oct
Westside Resource Centre

Join us for our network's first Sports Linkage Group where we'll be electing our three community reps to the Galway Sports Partnership. The Linkage Group will be discussing issues like grants, facilities and training for sports groups.

[Find out more](#)



"Nothing about us without us"
10.00-13.00 Tuesday 17 Oct
ILAS Building, NUI Galway

An morning discussion for people with disabilities & those who work with them exploring how to have your say on issues like transport, access, sports facilities & social inclusion in Galway City.

[Register for the event](#)



Suicide Prevention Plan
The HSE have devised a draft Suicide Prevention Plan and are looking for comments. This is an issue that touches many communities. To see the draft click on the button below.

Submissions to be made to Mary O'Sullivan, Resource Officer for Suicide Prevention with the HSE at her email mary.osullivan@hse.ie

[Download the Prevention Plan](#)



GCCN Reps' Charter

The GCCN Reps' Charter provides our reps with guidance on their role, what support they can expect and what is expected of a GCCN



Creating Inclusion
11am-2pm, Monday 16th October in Tribeton

With a focus on disability inclusion the **Creating Inclusion** event will showcase a range of local initiatives that are supporting the inclusion of



Ardaun Local Area Plan
Consultation deadline: 20th October 2017

A drop-in clinic is being held in the Galway City Council Planning Department every Thursday afternoon from 2.30pm to



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GCCN Network News 24th October 2017



Galway Climathon 2017
Friday 27th October
NUIG

Galway Climathon 2017 seeks **Climate Innovators** who are willing to work for 1 day in multi-disciplinary teams to develop real solutions to Galway city's climate challenges. Innovators, entrepreneurs, students, professionals and change agents from all sectors and communities welcome

[Register to attend](#)



Report from the Transport SPC

Galway City Council's Transport SPC met on Thursday 19th



Implementing the Public Sector Equality & Human Rights Duty
9.00-14.00, Friday 17th November
Limerick

A half day workshop exploring the implementation of the Public Sector Duty to eliminate discrimination, promote equality and protect human rights. This western regional event will take place in Limerick

[Find out more](#)



Updates for Environmental Groups in PPNs

The Irish Environmental Network has established a programme of support for environmental groups to support them to engage with



#ProjectUs ending poverty event
18.00, Thursday, 26th October
Harbour Hotel

Concern Worldwide's Sustainable Development Goals #ProjectUs is hosting a **coffee conversation** on the topic of **No Poverty (SDG 1)**.

The themes of nationwide discussions will be recorded for a report produced before Ireland reports to the UN on its progress in implementing the SDGs.

[Download the flyer](#)



Traffic Data "Storython"
Friday 27th October
ILAS Building NUIG (G006)

The event will involve multi-skilled



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GCCN Network News November 2nd 2017



Housing Strategic Policy Committee

Galway City Council's Housing SPC met on Thursday, 19th October. GCCN reps Diarmaid O'Sullivan and Paul Hargedan were there and their report is now available.

[Read the SPC report](#)



First Sports Linkage Group meeting

GCCN's first Sports Linkage Group took place on Tuesday, 24th October. At the Linkage Group, Aidan Reade, Chris Hickey &



GCCN submission to the Ardaun Local Area Plan

GCCN recently made a submission to Galway City Council on the draft Ardaun Local Area Plan.

You can download the submission from the link below.

[Read the submission](#)



Final draft of the National Planning Framework

Submission deadline: Friday 10 November
The final draft of [Ireland 2040- the National Planning Framework](#) is open for consultation until Friday



Charities Regulator Consultation meeting

7pm, Monday, 6 November
Connacht Hotel,
The Charities Regulator will host a public meeting in Galway on 6 November to capture the opinion of the general public and everyone who has an interest in Irish charities on how charities should be governed.

[Register to attend](#)



Constitutional Rights for Children - Five Years On

A conference organised by Barnardos, Children's Rights Alliance and the ISPCW
Wednesday 8 November 2017, Alexander Hotel, Fenian

Engaging with key Galway City initiatives



Galway City Community Network CLG
Westside Community Resource Centre
Seamus Quirke Road Galway
Phone: +353 (0) 87 9326467/087 4328489
Email: info@galwaycitycommunitynetwork.ie
Website: www.galwaycitycommunitynetwork.ie

October 27th 2017

Making the European Green Leaf a Success for Galway City Environment & Community

Galway City Councillor, a chara,

I am writing to you on behalf of Galway City Community Network, the Public Participation Network in Galway City with over 130 member groups and organisations in the community, voluntary and environmental sectors.

We are writing to ask for your support in this year's City Council budget allocation to make the European Green Leaf year a success that delivers tangible legacies for the environment and communities in Galway City.

At the beginning of this year, GCCN welcomed and pledged its support for the Green Leaf initiative, believing that it presented an opportunity to ensure a significant and sustainable legacy for Galway City.

Later in the year, while GCCN expressed deep concern at the slow rate of progress, we welcomed Galway City Council's commitment to a programme of Green Leaf activities well into 2018.

GCCN remains concerned.

However, we continue to be passionate in our belief that the European Green Leaf is an opportunity to be imaginative in our thinking and bold in our actions working towards sustainability and wellbeing for Galway City. We believe that delivering a Green Leaf legacy for Galway City's environment and communities will require a close and creative collaboration between Galway City Council, environmental groups, communities, statutory agencies and businesses.

In an attempt to constructively engage with the potential of the Green Leaf, we have made a number of suggestions for a cross-sectoral approach that would deliver legacy projects for Galway. This would go beyond merely funding individual organisations, actions or projects and towards a collaborative, partnership approach to deliver high-impact projects.

We are now requesting your support. We are asking you to ensure that a budget is allocated to the Green Leaf in 2018 but only on the condition that the Green Leaf takes this approach. A programme budget for the European Green Leaf support for innovative multi-stakeholder actions and initiatives for 2018 that go beyond the work already being undertaken by individual groups and ensure a significant Green Leaf legacy for Galway.

We look forward to your support.

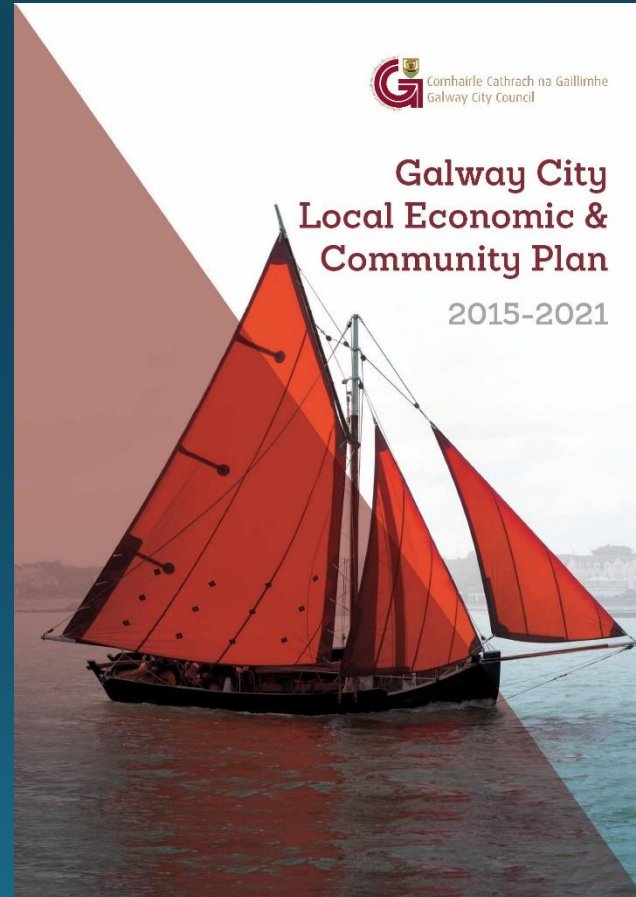
Yours sincerely,

Professor Terence McDonough, GCCN Environment Linkage Group Convenor

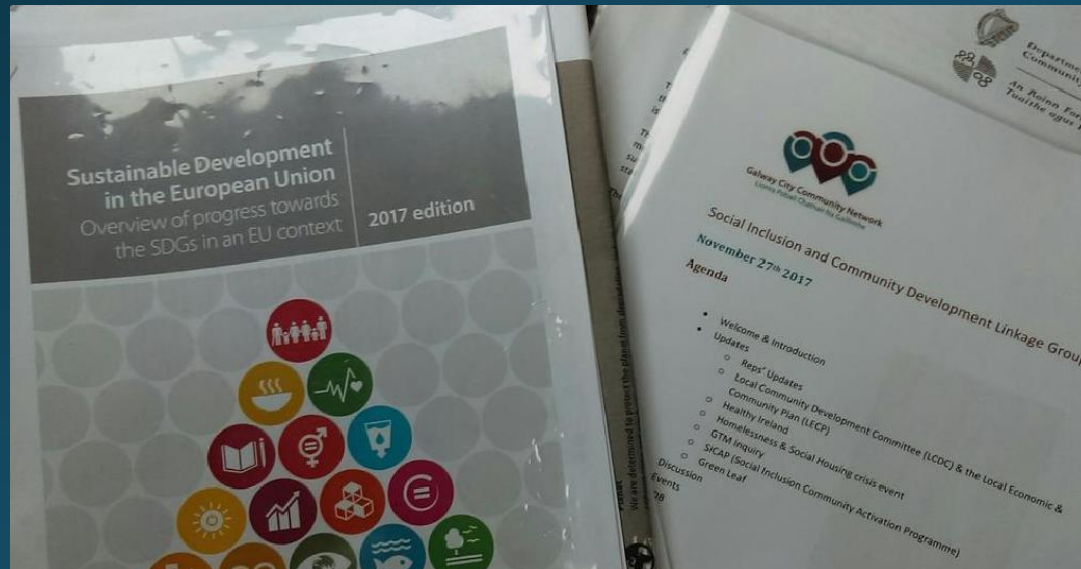


Supporting the Healthy Ireland Fund

- GCCN supported the LCDC's successful application to the Healthy Ireland fund
- €100,000 secured for projects agreed by LCDC by April 2018



Supporting our members to implement the Sustainable Development Goals in Galway



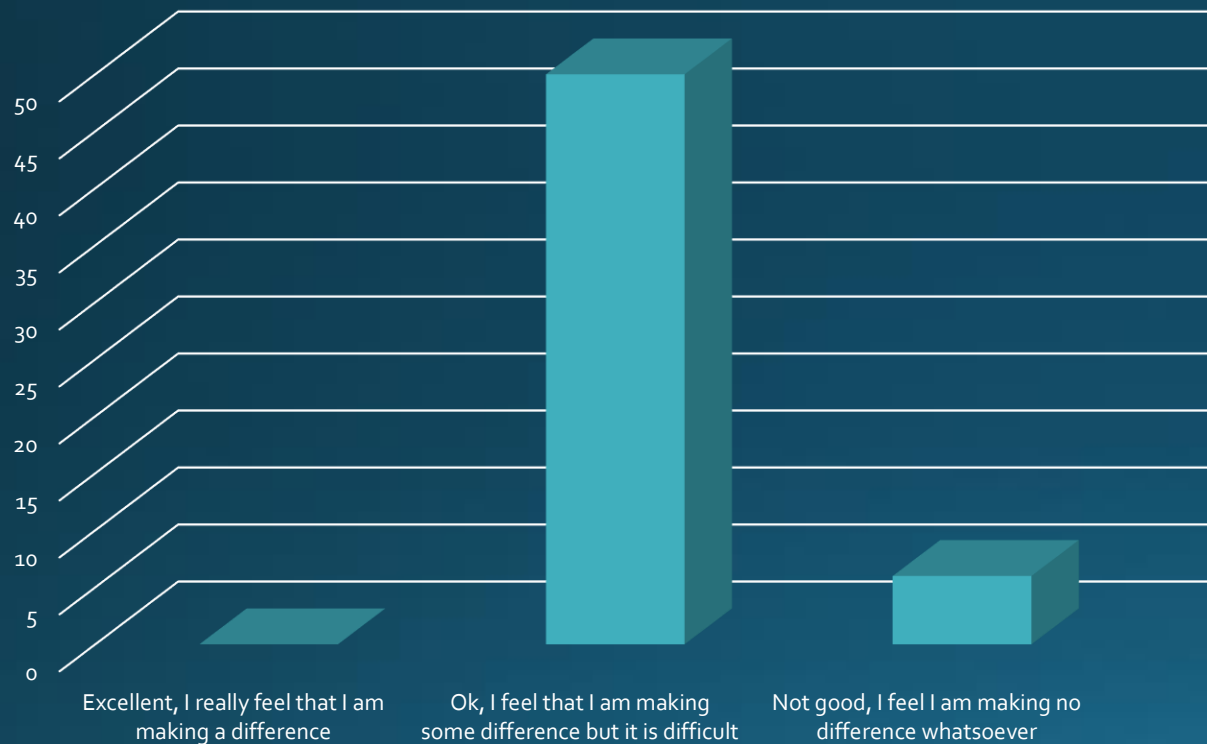
Training & Capacity Building

- Provided training in:
 - Charities Regulation
 - Data Protection
 - Governance



Reps' Training & Support

Experience of representation



Collaboration – deliberate policy



GCCN Members



GCCN Financial Report 2017

GCCN Income & Expenditure 2017	
Income 2017	
Galway City Council	€30,000.00
DECLG	€50,000.00
GCCN Income Generation	€575.60
Total	€80,575.60
Expenditure	
Item	Cost
Staff Salary (incl. PRSI)	€62,121.00
Staff Expenses (incl. T&S)	€525.01
PPN Rep T&S Expenses	€424.03
Rent / Hosting	€4,620.00
Postage / Telephone	€647.88
Office Supplies / Stationary	€1,443.93
Light & Heat	€0.00
Insurance	€330.00
Bank Charges	€88.75
Auditing / Accountancy	€1,512.00
Training & Development	€931.40
Equipment & Maintenance	€2,159.52
Website / Hosting	€1,568.00
IT Support & Maintenance	€300.00
Marketing and Promotion	€326.50
Projects / Activities / Events	€44.00
Room Hire / Refreshments	€1,192.75
Plenary Costs	€1,307.00
Company & recruitment	€290.00
Consultancy	€0.00
Total Expenditure	€79,831.99

Secretariat 2017

Secretariat		
Derrick Hambleton	An Taisce	Environment
Terry McDonough	Environmental Pillar	Environment
Imelda Gormally	Galway City Partnership	Social Inclusion
James Coyne	Westside Resource Centre	Social Inclusion
Margaret Ó Riada	Galway Traveller Movement	Social Inclusion
Marian Maloney	Galway Centre for Independent Living	Social Inclusion
Nichola Tierney	Westside Age Inclusion	Social Inclusion
Joe Loughnane	Galway Anti-Racism Network	Voluntary
Garry Lohan	JCI Galway	Voluntary
Shane Foran	Galway Cycling Campaign	Voluntary
Tommy Flaherty	Ballybane Community Resource Centre	Voluntary
John Rabbitte	Woodvale Residents' Association	Voluntary

- Those stepping down willing to serve again
- Interest from Fiona Jennings, ISPC

Brief update on
GCCN activities



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March 2018 Plenary

Vacancies

Thanks to Jamie

Welcome to Fiona

- **Childcare Committee** – thanks to Loretta
- **Joint Policing Committee** – interest from Regards John Cleary, Galway Age Friendly Older Peoples Council
- **Local Community Development Committee** - thanks to Irene Murphy



Galway Childcare Committee
Coiste Cúram Leanai na Gaillimhe



LCDC

Coiste um Fhorbairt Pobail Áitiúil
Chathair na Gaillimhe
Galway City Local Community Development
Committee



Membership & Linkage Groups

Members	March 2018
Registered	134
Social Inclusion	54
Environment	13
Voluntary	67

- **Social Inclusion**
- **Environment Linkage Group – established the Galway Environment Network**
- **Housing & Accommodation**



Submissions

- Submission to the new National Action Plan for Social Inclusion
- Submission to the **Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy**



Housing & Accommodation Crisis event

- Held in February
- Good participation from arrange of stakeholders
- Thanks to all involved



Moving to action roundtable one- key points

What collaborative actions could be taken now to begin to address immediate homelessness needs in Galway?

- Rent Pressure Zones require adequate enforcement & need to be matched with increased supply (*Ann Bret, GCC*)
- 21,000 homes at risk from vulture funds, putting serious pressure on families in terms of mental health, relationship stain etc... The Housing Agency not private vulture funds need to act (*Karen Golden, Galway Simon*)
- We need a bottom up approach to housing that links to the City Partnership, ETB & unemployment schemes to provide construction jobs (*Tony Buckley, GCP*)
- This crisis needs to be taken out of the market's hands (*Louise Byrne, Galway Housing Action Group*)
- Set up an interagency Housing Action Team in Galway City ASAP (*Paul Haragadon, Respond!*)
- Clarify the number of vacant properties in the City & County ASAP (*Kathleen Aspel Mortimer, Cluid*)
- The local authority must declare a housing crisis, re-convene the Regional Homelessness Forum and allow it to be accountable (*Margaret Brehony, NUIG*)
- Amend RTA act to increase security of tenure in the Private Rental Sector (*Karina Timothy, Threshold*).

From Immediate Need to Sustainable Solutions:
Preventing Homelessness in Galway City

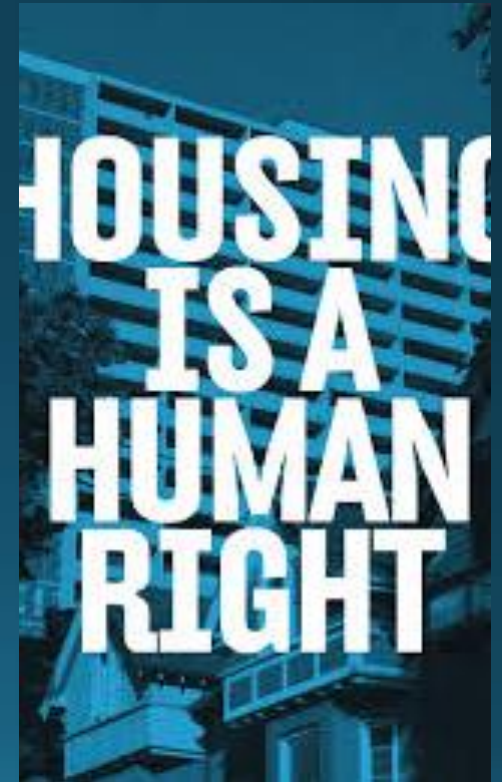
A solutions-focused event bringing together the Community & Voluntary sectors with key statutory agencies and the Local Authority to explore innovative solutions to the prevention of homelessness in Galway City, now and into the future.

The morning will be chaired by **Professor Siobhán Mullaly**, Director, Irish Centre for Human Rights
The afternoon session will be chaired by **Anastasia Crickley**, outgoing Chairperson of the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Speakers will include:

- **Minister Eoghan Murphy T.D.**, Minister for Housing, Planning & Local Government (TBC)
- Speakers from a **Homelessness Action Team**
- Speakers from the **Dublin Regional**

HARBOUR HOTEL
Monday 26th February





Healthy Galway City

- GCCN continued support for the Healthy Galway City initiative
- Host to the Healthy Food Made Easy, the Taste of Exercise and the Strategic Planning actions
- Member of the Healthy Galway City Steering Committee



Feedback

- What's new after your conversation?
- What will be accomplished in 2018?
- How much will it cost?



Green Leaf

- Collaborative workshop
- €10,000 set aside for legacy projects including a Sustainability Festival in September



Flowers for Magdalenes

- GCCN co-organised the Flowers for Magdalen's event in March
- This has become an important event in Galway City



Flowers for Magdalenes

Remembering the
Magdalene Women and
Children of Galway



European Region of Gastronomy

- Collaborating with Third Space, Galway Healthy Cities and others to initiate a Galway Food Policy Council as a means of addressing these concerns into the future as a legacy of the ERG



Data Protection



- Reminder of the new regulations and training for GCCN members
- April 19th at 2pm and 7pm

Reps' Reports

Key issues dealt with since last Plenary

Upcoming issues to flag to Plenary

Any questions of strategy for Plenary to consider

Any support required from the GCCN membership

Reps' Reports

- Local Community Development Committee
- Housing Strategic Policy Committee
- Planning Strategic Policy Committee
- Economic Development, Enterprise Support and Culture Strategic Policy Committee
- Transportation Strategic Policy Committee
- Environment, Recreation & Amenity Strategic Policy Committee
- Galway Sports Partnership
- Joint Policing Committee
- Galway City Partnership
- The Galway City and County Childcare Committee
- Comhairle na nÓg
- The Western Regional Drugs & Alcohol Taskforce
- European Region of Gastronomy

Western Region Drug & Alcohol Taskforce Reps' update

Key issues dealt with since last Plenary

- Planet Youth- This is a prevention based model that targets adolescent substance use. The model is based on 3 pillars; evidence-based practice, using a community-based approach, and creating and maintaining a dialogue between research, policy and practice.
- Galway City Strategy to Prevent and Reduce Alcohol Related harm- Current strategy nearing completion. Seeking a new 'home' for the new strategy.
- Three meetings of the WRDATF attended since December.
- Information provided at a recent meeting about the substance misuse counselling service in Galway.
- Continuing work carried out by the Taskforce and members groups to promote the lack of alcohol services in Galway City. The new HSE West Drugs Coordinator, Shane Mc Guire has requested a meeting with the Regional Manager to discuss same.

Upcoming issues to flag to Plenary

- Planet Youth initiative to go ahead. Needs the buy in of all secondary schools in Galway City. Extensive survey to be carried out with all Transition Year students in early October.
- Extensive training calendar available on the WRDATF website- a new list of courses will be available for booking in early April.

Questions of strategy for Plenary to consider

- *Consider devising a strategy around the issue of no counselling service available to over 18's with alcohol issues in Galway City. Only available to adults with a dual diagnosis- i.e. drug related substance misuse also.*

For more information please contact imelda@gcp.ie

For more information on the work of the WRDATF please go to wrdatf.

Associate Membership - Motion

Department guidelines allow for associate membership

- Intended for groups that **don't fully** meet criteria of GCCN membership— professional bodies, other networks, etc. but that hold GCCN values e.g. equality, empowerment, inclusivity, not for-profit, open to new members, etc.
- Groups may be national organisations but have a remit/client base in the city
- Benefits – sharing of information/ informing groups of work of GCCN/ influencing policy/ increased awareness of issues
- Associate members do not have voting rights and cannot nominate or represent GCCN
- Other suggestions from the floor?