

Galway City Community Network The Public Participation Network in Galway City

GCCN Anti-Racism Statement October 2023

In light of recent comments made at an SPC meeting where a GCCN Representative used a racist term, GCCN wishes to address the incident and reaffirm the network's values of Anti-Racism, Equality, Diversity and Anti-Discrimination.

As stated in the GCCN Policies and Positions document, GCCN is committed to combatting and challenging racism in all its forms while supporting initiatives that promote anti racism, interculturalism and respect for diversity. GCCN unequivocally condemns any form of racism, discrimination, or offensive language, and we hold ourselves to the highest standards when it comes to promoting a culture of inclusivity and respect within our organisation. GCCN is committed to anti-racism and to anti-racist practices and policies. We are fully committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive environment where all members and stakeholders feel safe, respected, and valued.

The role of a GCCN representative is to represent the agreed policy positions, values and interests of GCCN on the structure to which they are elected. The GCCN values motivate us in our work to advance human rights, equality, social inclusion, environmental protection and sustainable development. It is expected that representatives adhere to our values and principles when representing the network.

We deeply regret that this incident has occurred and want to assure everyone involved that we take this matter extremely seriously. GCCN will be conducting training for our members and representatives to reinforce our commitment to the network's values. Our Secretariat (Board of Directors) will discuss this matter further at their next meeting.

We are committed to learning from this situation and implementing measures to prevent similar occurrences in the future. We encourage open dialogue and constructive conversations to ensure that we continue to grow and improve in our pursuit of a more inclusive and intercultural community.

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