Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Pobail Chiarraí
Public Participation Network Kerry

Kerry PPN Weekly Newsletter

Friday 5th June, 2026

Welcome to the Kerry PPN Weekly newsletter packed with funding opportunities, community events and information about upcoming public consultations. Please feel free to share this information with your group so all members can keep up to date.

If a group member would like to subscribe directly to the newsletter please ask them to email their name and email address to ppn@kerrycoco.ie

To have your community event included in our upcoming newsletter please email the details to ppn@kerrycoco.ie

Kind Regards

Caroline and Kathy.

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Website: www.kerryppn.ie

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KERRY PPN
ANNOUNCEMENT

Kerry PPN Updates

Don't forget to re-register your PPN membership!

By now the primary contact we have listed for each PPN member group should receive an email from us asking them to re- register the group's membership.

If your group has not received an email please contact us at ppn@kerrycoco.ie

We are required as per PPN National Guidelines to ask all of our members to re-register. This process will ensure we are GDPR compliant.

All you have to do is click on the link in the email you receive and complete the relevant form.

When you click on the link you will have 3 options to choose from. This will enable you to give us your organisation's correct details.

There is an opportunity to supply any new information, or indeed, if your group is no longer in existence or does not wish to be part of the PPN network, you can choose the opt out option.

We will update, amend or remove accordingly

This re-registration process is **very important** and we urge all members to submit it to us as soon as possible to keep our records correct.

We look forward to hearing from you and working with all member groups as we continue to inform, strengthen and empower community groups.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact Caroline or Kathy at ppn@kerrycoco.ie or 087 488 8360.

Registration Link

Save the Date: Literacy and Wellbeing Conference

When: 11th June (Half Day Conference)

Where: The Rose Hotel, Tralee

Supporting the Unmet Literacy Needs of Service Users

Literacy and wellbeing are deeply interconnected, yet unmet adult literacy needs remain largely hidden across health, education and community services. One in five Irish adults experience difficulties with literacy including reading, numeracy, digital skills, health and financial literacy.

An Introduction to AI for Older Adults

No Jargon, no hype, just facts.

Designed for older adults (over 55yrs+).

Join us over three mornings to explore what AI is, how it already is impacting your life and how you can live a more informed life in a world of technology.

A practical course with hands on experience delivered by the Academy for Good (Maynooth University) in partnership with Kerry Public Participation Network and the Older People's Council Kerry.

Date: 18th, 24th & 25th June (Participants must attend all three sessions)

Time: 10.30am- 2.30pm

Location: Listowel Family Resource Centre

To book contact Caroline or Kathy on 066 7183686 or email ppn@kerrycoco.ie or use the booking link below

Booking Link

Grants & Funding News

Community Centres Investment Fund 2026 - Refurbishment Grant

The Community Centres Investment Fund 2026 - Refurbishment Grant is providing funding for the improvement and refurbishment of existing community centres in both urban and rural areas.

Funding is being made available under 2 Categories, with grants of between €10,000 and €100,000 available.

How to Apply:-

The scheme will be delivered in conjunction with Pobal.

All applicants must register as 'users' on the online portal here in advance of the application process which will open on 29th May, 2026. Community organisations that applied for this fund previously will not need to register again but should check that their details are still correct.

Community organisations are strongly advised to get their application and paperwork ready in advance of the application process opening.

The Portal for online applications will open on 29th May, 2026 at MyPobal Portal and will remain open until **13th July, 2026.**

Further Information

The SEAI National Energy Funding Call 2026 is now open

The 2026 National Energy RD&D Call is now open for applications. The Call supports projects which contribute to Irelands transition to a clean and secure energy future. We look forward to hearing from researchers and innovators across the energy sector.

The Call comprises of two funding streams:

1. an **Open Strand**: applicant-led, innovative energy RD&D projects, which fall within SEAI's remit
2. a **Thematic Strand**: applicants submit proposals that address one of the energy research priority areas identified in the Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment's '*Statement of Research and Innovation Needs*'.

The application deadline for the RD&D Open Call is **13:00, Tuesday 30th June 2026.**

Further Information

Full Circle Awards 2026

These awards recognise outstanding individuals and groups who are making reuse, repair, repurposing, sharing and upcycling part of everyday life across the country.

The winners will receive:

- €2,000 prize to support their circular work
- Unique handcrafted trophy made from upcycled materials
- Media exposure through Circular.ie and associated press

Award categories include:

- Repair and Reuse Champion
- Community Circular Champion
- Creative Circular Design
- Circular Living Advocate
- Best Community Campaign
- Circular Sports Champion

They're looking for people who are genuinely making a difference through their circular practices and inspiring others to follow suit.

Nominate your Circular Champion here: Full Circle Awards 2026

The nomination deadline is July 24th

Information Sessions - Expansion of the Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant

The information sessions will focus on the four applications now available to support bringing vacant and derelict properties back into use:

- The existing Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant – available for a single dwelling, €50,000 for a vacant property, with a top-up grant of €20,000 available for a derelict property (structurally unsound and dangerous)
- The Vacant Above the Shop Grant – funding of up to €135,000 (contingent on the number of units) to bring above the shop vacant spaces into residential use, while the commercial element remains
- The Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant - Conversion of former Commercial - Public Use Building – additional top-up funding of up to €40,000 to the existing grant amounts to convert entire former commercial buildings into residential units
- The Expert Advice Grant – funding of up to €5,000 towards professional advice / services on converting above the shop / former commercial / public-use buildings to residential use

Date	Time	Location
Tuesday 9th June	3pm to 7pm	The Listowel Arms Hotel
Wednesday 10th June	3pm to 7pm	Cahersiveen Marina and ACARD Offices

An information leaflet has been prepared to summaries the various schemes. These will be available, along with the Scheme Outlines, Application Forms and FAQs, at each event. Electronic copies of the scheme information is available at www.gov.ie/vacancy and at Kerry County Council's webpage www.kerrycoco.ie/vacant-property-grants/.

The sessions are open to the Public, to come and review the information and schemes available, and ask the team any questions they may have.

Funding Opportunities Closing Shortly

Grant	Deadline Date	Further Information
Club Disability Capital Support Fund	10th June 2026	Further Information
AIB Community €1 Million Fund 2026	19th June 2026	Further Information

Overview of Funding Programmes from Kerry County Council

Upcoming Events

Carers Week

Carers Week, organised by Family Carers Ireland, begins on **Monday 8th June**. It is a wonderful opportunity to recognise and celebrate the invaluable contribution of family carers across our communities.

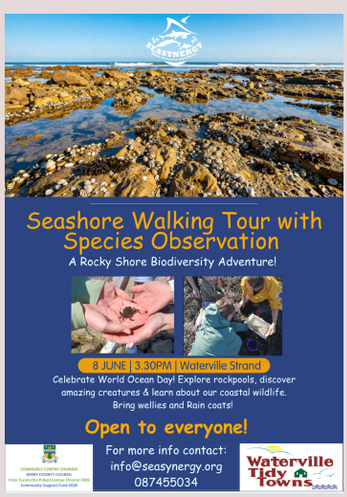
A full list of Carers Week events, both online and in person, is available here: https://familycarers.ie/carer-supports/family-carer-events-calendar/

- **Monday 8th June – Carers Mass**
  - St Brendan's Church, Ardfert (V92 AV80)
  - 10:00am
  - Join for a special Mass dedicated to family carers.
  - Carers who register and attend will receive a commemorative carers' candle as part of the service.
  - More information: https://tockify.com/familycarersireland/detail/2307/1780909200000
- **Monday 8th June – Tea, Coffee, Cakes & Conversation**
  - Shanakill Family Resource Centre, Tralee (V92 PF30)
  - 12:00pm – 2:00pm
  - Come along for a relaxed and welcoming get-together with fellow family carers.
  - Enjoy refreshments, conversation, and an opportunity to connect with others in your local community.
  - More information: https://tockify.com/familycarersireland/detail/2308/1780916400000

To book a place at any event, please email **Kerrycs@familycarers.ie**.

Please note that some events have limited capacity

Seashore Walking Tour with Species Observation



Join Sea Synergy for a FREE Seashore Walking Tour & Species Observation Event on Monday, 8th June at 3:30 PM on Waterville Strand.

Explore the fascinating rocky shore, discover amazing creatures living in our rockpools, and learn about the incredible biodiversity of our local coastline.

This fun, family-friendly event is open to everyone and is a great opportunity to connect with nature while celebrating World Ocean Day.

Where: Waterville Strand Car Park

When: 8th June at 3:30 PM

FREE OF CHARGE

Please bring:

- Wellies or sturdy footwear
- A raincoat (just in case!)

This event is funded through the Kerry County Council Community Support Fund 2026 and delivered in collaboration with Waterville Tidy Towns.

For more information: info@seasynergy.org

Kerry Wild Bee Festival 2026 launch talk with Jane Stout

The Kerry Wild Bee Festival 2026 is taking place on the 4th and 5th July at Tralee Bay Wetlands and we will be updating the festival page with events over the next few weeks.

We are delighted to announce that we will be hosting a festival launch talk with Jane Stout, who co-wrote the All Ireland Pollinator Plan. She will be giving an online talk on June 8th 7-8.30pm '*Reversing wild bee decline*', being screened in person at Tralee Bay Wetlands.

Register Here

Cornelius Lyons Harp Summer Festival Returns to Finuge!

Following the success of last year's inaugural event, Teach Siamsa Finuge is delighted to welcome the 2nd Cornelius Lyons Harp Summer Festival, celebrating the rich harping tradition of North Kerry and Ireland.

Taking place in the heart of Finuge **June 19th-21st**, the festival honours the legacy of renowned Kerry harper Cornelius Lyons and features a weekend of workshops, music, heritage and community.

They are delighted to welcome acclaimed Kerry harpist Deirdre Granville as this year's tutor. An award-winning harpist, singer and educator from Dingle, Deirdre is recognised as one of Ireland's leading traditional harp performers and tutors.

Join for a special weekend celebrating harp music, tradition and the living legacy of Irish harping.

Further Information/Booking Link

Webinar: Protecting your Garden from Invasive Species

Ahead of Invasive Species Week 2026, join the National Biodiversity Data Centre on **Wednesday 17th June from 12:00–1:00pm** for a webinar with Kate Moore, NBDC's Invasive Species Engagement Officer, exploring the actions everyone can take to protect their garden or outdoor space from invasive species.

The session will cover:

- Buying plants for your garden
- Biosecurity best practices
- Identifying and dealing with invasive flatworms

Booking Link

Killarney Alzheimer Café

When: Wednesday 17th June 2026 11am - 1pm

Where: Coil na Darrach Community Room V93 VXY8

Speaker: Melissa Molyneaux - Dementia Advisor - Kerry ASI

For further details, contact: Lynda Phillips at 087 355 6508 or lynda.phillips@alzheimer.ie

The café provides a warm welcoming place for people to meet others also living with dementia/cognitive impairment, their carers and health & social care professionals

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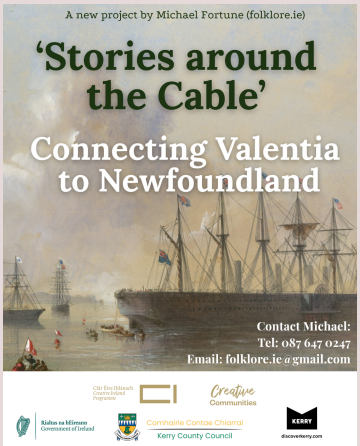
Stories around the Cable



Kerry County Council is pleased to announce a new folklore recording project, *Stories around the Cable*, led by renowned folklorist Michael Fortune of Folklore.ie.

Supported by Creative Ireland and the National Monuments Service, the project will explore and preserve the social history, memories, folklore and personal connections surrounding the historic Transatlantic Cable Station on Valentia Island and its links with Heart's Content, Newfoundland.

Michael will visit Valentia Island on 10th, 11th and 12th June to meet members of the community and record stories, memories, photographs and objects connected to the Cable Station and its legacy.

If you, your family, or your community group have stories or materials you would like to share, please contact Michael Fortune directly:087 647 0247 or folklore.ie@gmail.com

Help to preserve these important stories for future generations.

Kenmare Memory Café

When: Tuesday 30th June 2026 from 11:00am - 12:30pm

Where: The Lansdowne Hotel Kenmare, Main Street, V93 YRC8

With Guest Speakers from: Chime Killarney

Chime is Ireland's national charity for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people. Through advice, services and the community they support those who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, while also championing for equal rights and advocating for full inclusion in every part of society

Followed by refreshments and a singsong with the talented Suzanne & Tracy - song requests welcome!

For more info, contact Niamh Murphy at niamh.murphy@alzheimer.ie or 087 216 5104

Upcoming Events at Shanakill Family Resource Centre

Breastfeeding Support Group

Tralee Public Health Nursing Service would like to invite you to the in-person Breastfeeding Group

- They wish to invite you to attend the Group to offer support and guidance on your breast feeding journey
- Light refreshments provided

Date: Every Tuesday

Time: 11:30am - 1:00pm

Where: Shanakill Family Resource Centre, V92 PF30

Queries to Public Health Nursing Dept 066 710 4800

Infant Mental Health

Awareness Week Celebration

Join in the relaxed atmosphere that supports bonding & attachment with your baby to celebrate

Topics include:

- Understanding Infant Mental Health - Attunement & Responsive caregiving
- How babies learn through play & the joy of reading to your baby & singing!
- Infant massage taster
- Parent wellbeing

Light refreshments, chat & play area

Facilitators: Public Health Nursing & Community Familites, HSE

To register/contact: Shielagh 083 387 2727

Date: 10th June 2026

Time: 10:30am - 11:45am

Location: Shanakill Family Resource Centre, V92PF30

Queries: Alice Moore PHN/Coordinator Community Families 086 787 1963

Tabletop & Togetherness - A Social Group for Adults

When: Every Wednesday 2pm - 3:30pm

Where: Shanakill Family Resource Centre, V92 PF30

Call: 066 712 7831

Come along for an afternoon of board games, cards, conversation and a cuppa in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere

Whether you love games or just fancy a chat and good company

ALL ADULTS ARE WELCOME!

Community News

Community Smoke Alarm Scheme

The Community Smoke Alarm Scheme is an initiative to ensure vulnerable households are supplied with working smoke alarms in efforts to save lives. Vulnerable households include the elderly and people with disabilities. The cost of purchasing the alarms is funded by the Departments of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

The importance of having a working smoke detector fitted cannot be over emphasised. Most deaths and injuries caused by house fires can be prevented where a functioning smoke alarm is installed. Smoke alarms provide an early warning in the event of a fire and can significantly increase the chances of escape. Smoke alarms can save lives.

Under the Scheme, community and voluntary organisations identify vulnerable households where smoke alarms are not currently fitted and advise Kerry Fire and Rescue Service of the need for same. Kerry Fire and Rescue Service will then arrange for the supply, to the community and voluntary organisations, of the smoke alarms needed. The local community and voluntary group may well decide to assist with the installation of the smoke alarms where necessary.

A limited number of smoke alarms are now available. Request for alarms should include the following information:

- Requester Name.
- Requester Phone Number.
- Requester Email.
- Community Group / Organisation Name.
- No. of Smoke Alarms Requested.

For more information on the Community Smoke Alarm Scheme, please contact Kerry Fire and Rescue Service at communityfiresafety@kerrycoco.ie

Age Friendly Ireland Newsletter

Download the latest edition of the Age Friendly Ireland Newsletter: 5th June Edition

Download Newsletter Here

Join the Summer Stars Reading Challenge with Kerry Library this summer!!

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Kerry Library invites all children throughout the county to join in the adventure and discover the fun and pleasure of reading over the summer by taking part in our Summer Stars Reading Challenge.

From Saturday, 13 June, children are invited to visit their local Kerry library and collect a Summer Stars Reading Challenge card to track their reading, take part in competitions and enjoy free activities.

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Further Information

Training & Education Opportunities

Getting Grant Ready

The Sports Capital Programme has been rebranded as the Community Sports Facilities Fund — and to help clubs get ready, Kerry Recreation and Sports Partnership and 2into3 are hosting a FREE online “Getting Grant Ready” webinar!

- Wednesday, 10th June 2026
- 7–8pm
- Online via Zoom
- FREE

This session is ideal for club committee members preparing grant applications, especially those planning to apply to the newly named Community Sports Facilities Fund. Led by Patricia Keenan, Director of Funding at 2into3, who brings extensive experience supporting clubs to shape strong project ideas and submit high-quality applications.

What you’ll learn:

- What qualifies for funding
- • Who can apply
- • How to prepare a strong application
- • How the scoring works
- • Tips to maximize your score and boost your chances of success

After the webinar, you will:

- Know how to build a compelling, grant-ready project
- • Feel confident navigating the application process
- • Understand how to position your club for the best outcome

Register Now

Public Consultations

2026 Census of Social Enterprisels now open!

- *Minister Buttimer calls on every social enterprise to complete the survey*
- *Don't miss out on this opportunity for your social enterprise to be included and heard*
- *Important opportunity for social enterprises to influence future policy decisions, funding priorities, and support programme development*

The Census is open until 28th June and can be accessed: HERE

Action 51 of *Trading for Impact* the National Social Enterprise policy includes a commitment to periodically hold a Census of Social Enterprise.

Growing, strengthening, and realising the impact of social enterprises within communities are key goals of the Government's Social Enterprise Policy, and the information collected during the Census is key to the continued targeted delivery of this policy, and how the sector will be supported into the future.

Please provide only one response from each social enterprise

Have you news or an event you would like to share?

Our newsletter comes out weekly and is designed to keep you up-to-date with Kerry PPN news, local and national funding opportunities, open consultations, training and webinars, local events and our PPN member vacancies.

If your group has an upcoming event or news you would like shared in our newsletter please email the details, with any images and registration links to ppn@kerrycoco.ie before 3pm on Thursday to be considered for inclusion.

The Kerry Public Participation Network (PPN) is a network of 1,000+ community & voluntary, social inclusion and environmental groups in Kerry.

We connect Kerry County Council with our member groups facilitating community participation in local government decision making. We work to make sure our member groups have a say on local issues that concern them.

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