Kerry PPN Weekly Newsletter

Friday 11th September, 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.

Tel: 0874888360 / 0667183686 **Email:** ppn@kerrycoco.ie
Website: www.kerryppn.ie

Contents:

Kerry PPN Updates

- Kerry Community Awards - Finalists Announcement
- Global Citizenship Education - Kerry Mental Health and Wellbeing Fest 2026

Community News

- SICAP Newsletter
- Have you an old mattress you want to dispose of?
- Age Friendly Ireland Newsletter
- Relove Fashion 2026 Competition Now Open for Young People Aged 12-19

Upcoming Events

- **Ballybunion**
  - Community Alert & Text Alert - Property Branding
- **Fenit**
  - Join for Dip for Jigsaw!
- **Kenmare**
  - Kenmare Memory Café ***Location Change***
- **Listowel**
  - A Day at the Races | Inaugural Exhibition
  - Active Ageing Festival Listowel
  - Be Active Be Well
  - Listowel International Storytelling Festival
  - Community Culture Evening
- **Tralee**
  - SportsAbility Day! ***Venue Change***
  - Invitation: The Open Forum – Building a Fairer Ireland: The Growing Wealth Gap
  - Culture Night at Kerry Women's Centre
  - Musical Instruments Project - Workshop
  - Al-Anon First Meeting
  - Social Enterprise Forum
  - Cooking on a Budget
  - Arts Alive!
  - Physical Activity Leader (PALs) Training
- **County Wide**
  - Sustainable Development Goals Week
  - Kerry Mental Health and Wellbeing Fest 2026 - Now open for bookings
  - HSE South West launches free information evenings to help people plan for the future
  - Culture Night
- **Online**
  - Save the Date! Online Volunteer Info Session with Foróige Clubs Kerry

Grants & Funding News

- Vacant Property Refurbishment Grants Information Sessions
- Protecting Wildlife and Nature Before Its Too Late, New Grants Available
- Sustainable Sporting Summit
- Local Environmental Action Fund (LEAF): NEW €100,000 FUND for Community Climate Action Initiatives
- Rural Tourism Fund 2026
- Built Heritage funding schemes for 2027 applications
- EUFunds: Sponsorship Opportunities to enhance Communication and Visibility of Cohesion Funds

Training & Education Opportunities

- Discovery Day - Kerry

Public Consultations

- Have your say on Community Safety in County Kerry

Kerry PPN Updates



Kerry Community Awards - Finalists Announcement

The Kerry Community Awards are delighted to announce the finalists for 2026!

There was **88 applications** in **7 categories** which the judges had a difficult decision to make as there is **21 finalists**!

A huge congratulations to all of the groups and organisations who have been shortlisted. The finalists represent the remarkable work taking place in communities across Kerry — from supporting community wellbeing and empowering young people, to protecting our environment, celebrating our culture and heritage, and creating more inclusive communities.

They are delighted to recognise the dedication, energy and commitment of everyone involved.

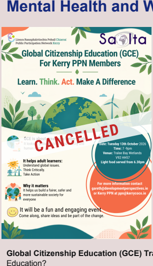
- **Age Friendly Community**
  - Corca Dhuibhne / West Kerry Active Retirement Association
  - Killarney MensShed
  - Laune Rangers
- **Arts, Culture and Heritage**
  - Blackwater Women's Group / Drama Group
  - Valentia Island Development Company C.L.G.
  - World Fiddle Day Scartaglin Community Group
- **Climate Action & Biodiversity**
  - Fenit Coast Conservation
  - Fossa Climate Action Group
  - The Dingle Hub
- **Community Achievement**
  - Forbairt na Dromoda Teo
  - Friends of ABLE CLG / Tralee Tidy Towns
  - Spa Tidy Village Group
- **Community Wellbeing**
  - Ballyduff Family & Community Support Forum CLG – Bud's Family Resource Centre Ballyduff
  - Fáilte Isteach Gach Duine Moyvane / Moyvane Village Hub
  - Recovery Haven Kerry – Cancer Support House
- **Community Youth**
  - Irish Red Cross Tralee Branch Youth Section
  - Music Generation Kerry (Kerry ETB)
  - Sliabh Luachra BC
- **Inclusive Community**
  - Kerry Canoe Club
  - Listowel Autism Friendly Town
  - NEWKD Craft Circle

Congratulations to all the finalists!

Each of these groups and organisations makes an important contribution to community life in Kerry, and we look forward to celebrating their achievements at the **Kerry Community Awards**.

We wish all of our finalists the very best of luck and look forward to celebrating with you all.

Global Citizenship Education - Kerry Mental Health and Wellbeing Fest 2026



Date & time:

13 Oct @ 19:00 - 21:00

Venue:

Tralee Bay Wetlands Eco & Activity Park, Tralee, V92HH57

Organiser:

Kerry Public Participation Network / Saolta, Development Perspectives

Facilitator:

Gareth Conlon

Global Citizenship Education (GCE) Training What is Global Citizenship Education?

Global Citizenship Education (GCE) is about understanding the connections between our local community and the wider world. It encourages us to think critically, act responsibly, and work together to create a fairer, more sustainable future.

During this engaging workshop, we'll explore topics including:

- Global justice – understanding fairness and equality in an interconnected world.
- Sustainability – how our everyday choices impact people and the planet.
- Human rights – promoting dignity, inclusion, and respect for all.
- Climate action – responding to environmental challenges through community action.
- Active citizenship – empowering individuals and groups to make a positive difference locally.

Whether you're involved in a community group, a volunteer organisation, or simply interested in creating positive change, this practical and interactive session will provide ideas, tools, and inspiration that you can bring back to your community.

Registration Link

Community News



SICAP Newsletter

The Social Inclusion & Community Activation (SICAP) newsletter is **attached**

Take a look to catch up on their latest updates, news and upcoming events.



Have you an old mattress you want to dispose of?

Households only - No Commercial Customers

Clean Dry Mattresses only will be accepted **Free of Charge**

Maximum of **2 mattresses** per vehicle

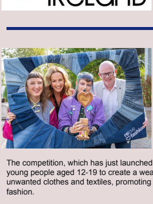
Saturday 12th September, 9am - 3pm at North Kerry Landfill, Muingnaminnane, Kielduff, Tralee V92 K44V

Saturday 19th September, 9am - 3pm at Kenmare Co-Op Mart, Mart Road, Gortamullin, Kenmare V92 R761

Age Friendly Ireland Newsletter

Download the latest edition of the Age Friendly Ireland Newsletter: 11th September Edition

Download Newsletter Here



Relove Fashion 2026 Competition Now Open for Young People Aged 12-19

The competition, which has just launched for its third nationwide year, invites young people aged 12-19 to create a wearable fashion piece by upcycling unwanted clothes and textiles, promoting creativity, repair, reuse, and sustainable fashion.

With finished outfits due at the end of January, it serves as the perfect term project for schools and youth groups.

Those who register their interest before 30th September will be entered into a draw to win a sewing machine, and all participants can receive a free bag of unwanted textiles from participating charity shops to upcycle, if they so wish.

Further Information

Upcoming Events

Ballybunion



Community Alert & Text Alert - Property Branding

Mark it! Brand it! Get it Back!

When: Saturday 12th September, 11am - 2pm

Where: Ballybunion Mens Shed

Property Branding deters criminals and ensures stolen property is returned to its owner

Everyone Welcome!

Please note: Your driving license number will be used for engraving on the day, so please ensure you have your license with you

This is a **free service** but a donation on the day would be welcome to cover the costs of running this event

Fenit



Join for Dip for Jigsaw!

When: Saturday 12th September at 9:30am

Where: Fenit Strand

This charity dip is dedicated to bringing the community together to support youth mental health.

Here is the schedule for the morning:

- **9:30 am: Registration:** Come by our information table to sign in for the dip, learn more about Jigsaw, and leave a positive message at our creative wellbeing station.
- **10:00 am:** A moment to move, stretch, and try some light breathwork on the beach.
- **10:30 am:** The dip begins on the main beach.
- **After the swim:** Warm up with complimentary tea or coffee from Mike's Café and join us for a get-together to celebrate our community and youth mental health.

Registration Link

Kenmare



Kenmare Memory Café

When: Tuesday 29th September, 11am - 12:30pm

Where: Lansdowne Hotel, Main Street, Kenmare

Topic: Safety in the Community and Home with Guest Speaker Sergeant Jamie Cullen from An Garda Síochána Kenmare

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

For more information, contact Niamh Murphy niamh.murphy@alzheimer.ie or at 087 [illegible]

Listowel



A Day at the Races | Inaugural Exhibition

You are invited to A Day at the Races, the inaugural exhibition by Visual Artists Listowel, celebrating the creativity, individuality and unique perspectives of local visual artists.

Taking place at the iconic St. John's Theatre & Arts Centre, the exhibition brings together a vibrant mix of artistic practices, including painting, sculpture, mixed media, printmaking and photography.

Date: Saturday, 19th September

Time: 10:30 am

Location: St. John's Theatre & Arts Centre, Listowel

Cost: Free event

The official opening will be performed by Jimmy Deenihan, former TD and Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

Come along and celebrate one of Listowel's oldest and most cherished traditions through the creativity and vision of our local Visual Artists.



Active Ageing Festival Listowel

The Active Ageing Festival has been an annual event since 2022. Kerry Recreation and Sports Partnership and Age Friendly Kerry are bringing the event to North Kerry for the first time this year. It aims to provide an opportunity for older adults by providing attendees an opportunity to try activities such as Pulse Walking, Floor Curling, Walking Football etc. The event will also have a keynote speaker John Lonergan, to address the audience and it will also host stands allowing local organisations such as local charities, the HSE, SKDP and men's shed etc. to showcase their services to attendees.

Date: Friday 18th of September

Location: Listowel Community Centre

Times: 10.00-2.30 (refreshments provided)

Cost: FREE

Bookings



Be Active Be Well

Are you ready to bring more activity into your life, but unsure where to start? The Be Active, Be Well programme is here to help. Be Active Be Well isn't an exercise class – it's a behaviour change course designed to empower you to make positive, sustainable changes to your physical activity habits.

The Health Promotion Department in the HSE South West will be running a **Be Active Be Well programme** in **Listowel Family Resource Centre** in October.

Is it for you?

If you're someone who finds it hard to meet the recommended levels of 2.5 hours of activity per week, but wants to be more active, this could be exactly what you need.

The programme will take place on these dates (all Thursdays from 11:00am - 1:00pm):

- 1 October
- 8 October
- 15 October
- 22 October
- 10 December

Each session blends expert guidance, group reflection, personal reflection, and practical exercises to create a truly supportive and empowering experience.

Contact Gráinne Mulligan, Health Promotion and Improvement Officer on [illegible] or email grainne.mulligan2@hse.ie to book your place or for further information.



Listowel International Storytelling Festival

From 17–20 September, **Listowel International Storytelling Festival** brings four days of storytelling, music, poetry, theatre and conversation to the town.

Discover performances, workshops, family events, free Culture Night experiences and a special celebration of Kerry storyteller Eamon Kelly.

Full programme and tickets



Community Culture Evening

What could you bring to the table?

When: Wednesday 16th September, 6pm – 8pm

Where: Listowel Community and Family Resource Centre

An evening celebrating the cultures, traditions and talents that make the community unique.

They want you to be a part of it!

Whether you've lived here all your life or are new to the community, they'd love to hear from you.

If you're interested in getting involved or want more information, contact Kerry Social Inclusion Team on [illegible]

Tralee



SportsAbility Day! "Venue Change"

Join Kerry Recreation and Sports Partnership for a FREE and fun day to [illegible] adaptive sports available in Kerry.

Date: Sunday 20th September 2026

Event: 11:00-3:00

Location: Kerry Sports Academy (MTU-North Campus), Tralee ([illegible])

Cost: Free

Who: This is a pan-disability event geared towards adults and children with disability and their family members, local clubs, support services and groups interested in learning more about adaptive sport and recreation.

Register online by Thursday 17th September 2026

Registration Link



Invitation: The Open Forum – Building a Fairer Ireland: The Growing Wealth Gap

Across Ireland, communities are facing mounting pressures from the housing and healthcare crises to the rising cost of living. While the world has never been wealthier, the gap between the richest and the rest continues to widen.

To address these challenges, **NEWKD**, with the support of the **Social Solidarity** [illegible] **Forum** – a new series of public conversations bringing together local activists, community leaders, researchers, and engaged members of the public to explore the root causes of systemic inequality and map out collective solutions.

Our First Conversation: The Growing Wealth Gap

Our inaugural discussion will focus directly on [illegible]. Together with guest speaker **Dr Darragh Delghan-Gregory** from [illegible] **Robert Carey** we will examine:

- **The Root Causes:** [illegible]
- **Tax Justice:** [illegible]
- **Community Solutions:** [illegible]

The presentation will be followed by an open floor discussion where every voice and perspective is welcome.

Date: Thursday, 17 September

Time: 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Venue: Áras an Phobail, Atlantis, Tralee

Admission: Free

Who Should Attend?

Whether you are already actively involved in community work, or simply care about the future of your community, this forum is for you.

Come along to exchange ideas, connect with like-minded people, and help shape a fairer, more sustainable future.

Registration Link



Culture Night at Kerry Women's Centre

DATE: 18th September

TIME: 7 pm

WHERE: [illegible], Rathass, Tralee [illegible]

Gather round the flame for an intimate night of true stories and the kindling of culture.

Hot food and Music on the Night!



Musical Instruments Project - workshop

Music for all

When: Thursday 17th September, 2:30pm to 4pm

Where: Tralee Library

Join for a hands-on music workshop featuring donated instruments, electronic sounds and musical surprises for all ages.

All welcome

Under 18s must be accompanied by an adult.



Al-Anon First Meeting

Help and Hope for families and friends of alcoholics

Open to men and women

Free & Confidential

Date: Thursday 17th September

Time: 7p.m - 8p.m

Venue: Rath Oraigh Community Centre

Social Enterprise Forum

When: Wednesday, September 16, 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Where: Austin Stacks GAA Club, Tralee, Kerry, V92 X952

Lunch is included and the event is free but please register by emailing johnny@wheel.ie.

Are you a social enterprise, a social entrepreneur with a good idea, or just want to learn more about this growing sector? Join us in Tralee on 16 September for a morning of connection, shared learning, and practical discussion.

The forum will explore key challenges facing social enterprises, including funding, leadership development, and marketing. We will also hear from local social enterprise leaders and learn about the support structures available in the region.

Funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht and delivered in partnership by The Wheel, LDCN (Local Development Companies Network), SERI (Social Enterprise Republic of Ireland), and ISEN (Irish Social Enterprise Network).

Registration Link

Cooking on a Budget

Learn to cook **Delicious**, **Nutritious**, **Meals without Breaking the Bank!**

When: Monday 14th of September, 6pm - 8pm

Where: Shanakill Family Resource Centre, Tralee, V92PF30

Cost: €20 for the 6 weeks

To register, please contact: Shielagh Griffin 083 387 2727

Arts Alive!

Location: Siamsa Tíre Theatre & Arts Centre, Tralee

When: Friday 18th September

Free Events for All

Further Information/Booking Link

Time	Event
All Day	Art Exhibition 'Threading Memories'
4:30pm - 8:30pm	Face painting/balloon modelling
5pm, 6pm, 7pm & 8pm	Puppet shows (15mins)
5pm - 9pm	Circus acts (Main entrance)
5pm & 6pm	Photography workshop (45mins) ***Booking advised**
5:30pm, 6:30pm & 7:30pm	Afro beat dancers (30mins)
6pm - 9pm	Pop-in knitting, stitching & crochet workshops with NEWKD Craft Circle & artist Gráinne Mulligan
6:30pm & 7:30pm	Literary Lounge open mic (30mins) ***Booking advised**
7pm - 7:45pm	Next stage Theatre ***Booking advised**
7pm & 8pm	Irish dance workshops (20mins) ***Booking advised**
8pm & 8:45pm	Indian (Kerala) dance & drumming (20mins) ***Booking advised**

Physical Activity Leader (PALs) Training

PALs (Physical Activity Leaders) is an initiative which trains older people how to lead sport and activity sessions in their local groups and communities. Once an older adult becomes a PAL you will be trained to lead activities like short exercise routines, games, dances and sports.

Dates: 6 Tuesdays starting 6th of October until Tuesday 10th of November

Location: St John's Parish Centre, Castle Street, Tralee.

Times: 10:00-3:00 (refreshments provided)

Cost: FREE

Booking Link

County Wide

Sustainable Development Goals Week

Sustainable Development Goals Week is taking place this year from **19th – 27th September**.

SDG Week forms part of the wider European Sustainable Development Week (ESDW) which this year, will run from **18th September – 8th October.** Last year almost 100 events were organised across Ireland, with nearly 4000 activities taking place across 39 countries in Europe.

For more information on sustainable development, SDG week and ideas for taking part, please go to: Sustainable Development Goals

Registration Link

HSE South West launches free information evenings to help people plan for the future

The HSE South West is running six free information evenings across Kerry this September and October. The 'Plan Today For Peace of Mind Tomorrow' series will help people, families, and carers plan for their future health and care needs.

The project is a partnership between the HSE South West, SAGE Advocacy and Healthy Age Friendly Homes. The main goal is to give practical advice so people can live safely and independently at home for as long as possible.

Attendees will get clear, simple information on topics such as: Local health services and community support; tips for keeping homes safe and age-friendly; independent support from SAGE Advocacy; making decisions and setting up legal protections including Enduring Power of Attorney and how the Fair Deal nursing home scheme works.

Everyone is welcome to attend and **no booking is required**. **All events start at 8pm** at the following locations:

- **Tuesday, 15 September**
  - RDI Hub, Killarney Road, Killorglin, V93 KP68
- **Tuesday, 29 September**
  - Sacred Heart University, John St, Dingle, V92 V593
- **Tuesday, 13 October**
  - Cahersiveen Social Services, The Parsonage, Cahersiveen, V23 R726
- **Tuesday, 20 October**
  - Killarney Heights Hotel, Cork Rd, Killarney, V93 XKR4
- **Thursday, 22 October**
  - Meadowlands Hotel, Oakpark, Tralee, V92 DC83

Kerry Mental Health and Wellbeing Fest 2026 - Now open for bookings

THE programme of events for the 2026 Kerry Mental Health & Wellbeing Fest has been finalised online, with bookings open from 9am this Friday, September 11.

This year's Fest will run from Saturday October 10, World Mental Health Day, to Saturday, October 17, with a wide variety of free events taking place throughout County Kerry.

With events like Pilates, gardening, art, yoga, clay modelling, bee keeping, ice-cream making, self defense, mindfulness, storytelling and guided walks, there is an event there for everyone.

For more information visit KerryMentalHealthAndWellbeingFest.com or email kerrymhwfest20@gmail.com

Further Information

Culture Night

Friday 18th September

Culture Night returns across Ireland for another year of free, all-island celebration of the arts.

The night gives people of every age across Kerry the chance to try something new, meet local artists and makers, and take part in a huge range of cultural activity, all free of charge

Check out the programme

Online

Save the Date! Online Volunteer Info Session with Foróige Clubs Kerry

Foróige is a youth organisation with a difference – where young people are supported to take charge of their capabilities, set their own agendas, and shape their journeys through life. But none of this would be possible without kind, caring, fun, and reliable adult volunteers—just like you!

Foróige volunteers are connected and supported at every single step of their journey. Whether you have 2 hours a week or 2 hours a month to spare, they'd love to invite you to learn more.

Find out how to get involved in your local Foróige Youth Club or set up a new Youth Club in your community:

When: Thursday, 17th September 2026

Time: 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Where: Online via Google Meet

If you have any questions or would prefer to arrange a separate time for a chat, please feel free to reach out directly to Trudy McQuaid (Foróige Club Support Officer) at 086 834 4978 or trudy.mcquaid@foroige.ie.

Click here to reserve your spot

Grants & Funding News

Vacant Property Refurbishment Grants Information Sessions

There will be two additional information sessions to be held in the Gaeltacht areas on the expansion of the Vacant Property Refurbishment Grants.

The information sessions will take place on the following dates:

Date	Time	Location	Venue
Tuesday 29th September	2pm to 6pm	Dingle	Páirc Ghnó an Daingin, Baile an Mhuilinn, V92 TX48
Wednesday 30th September	2pm to 6pm	Ballinskelligs	Gteic Uíbh Ráthaigh, Baile an Sceilg, V23 XK58

An information leaflet and all scheme documentation will be available at the events, in both languages, English and Irish.

The Gaeltacht Vacant Homes Coordinator Colm MacEachmharcaigh appointed by Mayo Co.Co. and in partnership with Údarás na Gaeltachta, will also be attending the events.

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

Further Information

Protecting Wildlife and Nature Before Its Too Late, New Grants Available

Communities across Ireland are being invited to apply for funding to protect and restore local biodiversity through a new grant round from Community Foundation Ireland and the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

More than 300 communities are already taking part in the initiative, delivering local projects that support forests, rivers, peatlands, coastal habitats and the species that depend on them.

The grants are provided through a strategic philanthropic partnership between Community Foundation Ireland and the National Parks and Wildlife Service, with applications now open for the 2026 funding round.

Established following the declaration of a National Biodiversity Emergency in 2019, the Biodiversity Fund has invested more than €2.5 million in helping communities work with expert ecologists to develop and implement local biodiversity action plans.

Funding is available under two strands:

- **Biodiversity Action Plan Development Grants** (€6,000 to €10,000) for communities seeking to work with an ecologist to assess local biodiversity, identify priorities and develop an action plan.
- **Biodiversity Action Plan Implementation Grants** (up to €12,000) for communities ready to put an existing plan into action.

The programme combines the commitment and local knowledge of communities, clubs and landowners with ecological expertise to increase understanding of local biodiversity and support practical conservation measures.

Further Information

Sustainable Sporting Summit

Here's how your club could win €10,000 towards an energy upgrade project

When: Saturday 19th September, 9am - 12:30pm

Where: SuperValu Páirc Uí Chaoimh
Ballintemple, Cork

SE Systems is hosting the Sustainable Sporting Summit, a free morning for clubs of all sizes and every sport across Munster.

Every club represented is entered into a prize draw for €10,000 or €5,000 towards an energy project, or a free energy audit.

Join on the day to find out how you can:

- Reduce your club's energy costs
- Access funding and grants
- Future-proof your club's facilities
- Protect your club for future generations

Marty Morrissey is hosting, and it's free to attend.

Spaces are limited, so register today

Registration Link

Local Environmental Action Fund (LEAF): NEW €100,000 FUND for Community Climate Action Initiatives

LEAF is designed to:

- Support environmental enhancement, biodiversity and climate action projects.
- Empower Tidy Towns committees and voluntary groups registered with the PPN.
- Encourage collaboration between community organisations and local stakeholders.
- Deliver visible, practical improvements in local areas.

Eligible Projects:

- from Tidy Towns/similar organisations registered with the PPN
- ranging between €1,000 and €25,000 will be considered with funding for up to 100% of eligible project costs
- should demonstrate a clear environmental and community benefit and involve collaboration with other community stakeholder groups
- need to be completed with funding drawn down by 5pm, Friday, July 30th, 2027.

Applications are to be submitted via KCC's consult.ie portal

Application Forms | Kerry County Council where further information on the fund is also provided.

(A hard copy of the application form will be available on request.)

Closing date is 5pm Friday, September 25th.

Queries to climateaction@kerrycoco.ie.

Kerry County Council Submission Portal

Rural Tourism Fund 2026

Closing Date: 16th of September

The Rural Tourism Fund is an Airbnb-supported initiative, in partnership with Historic Houses of Ireland, Ireland's Association for Adventure Tourism (IAAT) and the Vintners' Federation of Ireland (VFI).

Their objective is to recognise and celebrate the people, businesses and communities who make up the rural tourism and hospitality sector in Ireland. Following the strong response to their inaugural fund in 2025, Airbnb is extending and significantly increasing its investment in rural tourism, with €200,000 available this year, reflecting double the previous level of funding.

This investment reflects Airbnb's ambition to champion rural tourism as an important driver of balanced regional development. Rural tourism helps sustain local employment, supports small businesses, preserves cultural and natural heritage, and disperses tourism activity beyond traditional urban centres.

Rural tourism also drives regional competitiveness and the sustainability of rural SMEs, with clear links to the Irish Presidency of the Council of the European Union's programme and pillar of competitiveness.

The Fund is designed to support locally led projects that strengthen rural communities and improve visitors' experience. It is open to community groups, rural tourism organisations, small businesses and local enterprises across all 26 counties in the Republic of Ireland.

Applications will be invited across three categories:

- Outdoor & Activity
- Heritage & Arts
- Hospitality & Food,

The 2026 Fund builds on the impact of last year's programme, which provided more than €100,000 to a diverse range of projects, including Spanish Point Cycling Tours, Aughrim Tidy Towns, Skibbereen's Painted Past and the Doonbeg International Jazz Festival.

These projects demonstrate how targeted support can help communities enhance local attractions, develop distinctive visitor experiences and create longer-term economic benefits.

Further Information

Built Heritage funding schemes for 2027 applications.

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, and Kerry County Council have announced the opening of three key built heritage funding schemes to applications: the **Built Heritage Investment Scheme** (BHIS), **Historic Structures Fund** (HSF) and **Historic Thatch Buildings** (HTB) for 2027.

These three funding schemes are open to owners of historic buildings and structures and the funds support for buildings, streetscapes and traditional building skills.

Guidance booklet for Applicants attached to newsletter

The closing date for applications:

- Built Heritage Investment Scheme - October 30, 2026
- Historic Structures Fund - November 27, 2026
- Historic Thatch Buildings - October 30, 2026

Further Information

EUFunds: Sponsorship Opportunities to enhance Communication and Visibility of Cohesion Funds

For 2026 their aim is to provide a limited level of financial support to NGO's and other local and or community based organisations with the objective of reaching citizens to communicate and enhance the visibility of the Cohesion Policy Funds in Ireland. They will award an overall total of approximately €15,000, over one or more rounds, to a range of qualifying events and activities across the country, with a maximum award of €2,500 for any individual proposal.

When considering an application, it will be assessed on the basis that the organisation and their request for support aligns with one or more of the policy objectives of Cohesion Policy 2021-2027:

1. A more competitive and **smarter** Europe
2. A **greener**, low carbon transitioning towards a net zero carbon economy
3. A more **connected** Europe
4. A more **social and inclusive** Europe
5. Europe **closer to citizens** by fostering the sustainable and integrated development of all types of territories

Interested in applying:

Please send your completed application to cohesionpolicydialogue@per.gov.ie

Closing Date: 09/10/2026

Guidelines | Application Form

Training & Education Opportunities

Discovery Day - Kerry

Where: RDI Hub, Killorglin

When: Thursday 17 September • 10 AM - 4 PM

Free workshop for nonprofits & community organisations - learn practical tools and explore responsible AI adoption in your workplace.

Join in Kerry for the AI For Good Discovery Day, a free, hands-on workshop designed for nonprofits, social enterprises, and community organisations curious about artificial intelligence.

Whether you're just getting started or looking to deepen your understanding, this interactive session will introduce practical AI tools, real-world use cases, and guidance on adopting AI responsibly within your organisation.

Led by experienced facilitators, you'll take part in collaborative exercises, live demos, and discussions tailored to the needs of the sector. You'll leave with a clearer understanding of how AI can support your mission - and the confidence to take the next step.

Registration Link

Public Consultations

Have your say on Community Safety in County Kerry

Community safety is about people being safe and feeling safe in their own communities.

The Kerry Local Community Safety Partnership is inviting members of the public to take part in a community safety survey.

This survey will close on the 18th September.

The information gathered by this survey will play a key role in shaping the Kerry Local Community Safety Plan.

Further information :

- Communitysafety@kerrycoco.ie
- www.kerrycoco.ie/local-community-safety-partnership/
- www.gov.ie/communitysafety

Survey link

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.

Áras an Chontae, Ratass, Tralee, Co. Kerry, V92H7VT