



## Minutes of Mayo County Plenary and Information Event

24<sup>th</sup> June 2024 – Online

Mayo PPN County Plenary and Information Event took place on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2024 via Teams.

**PPN Coordinator, Mary Costello** welcomed all to the meeting and gave an update on the events and activities Mayo PPN has undertaken to date. Mary highlighted to groups in attendance that following on from the recent Local Elections, Mayo Co Council will be seeking representatives from community groups to be part of a Strategic Policy Committees. (SPCs)

*Mayo Co Council we have 6 Strategic Policy Committees - SPCs*

**Roads & Sustainable SPC, Climate Change & Environment SPC, Housing SPC, Community, Integration & Recreation SPC, Planning & Corporate Development SPC, Economic & Enterprise Development.**

Mayo Co Council will be seeing assistance from Mayo PPN in sourcing PPN members to be part of those committees. Mayo PPN will commence with a nomination and election process.

**Secretariat Convener Maureen Timlin** welcomed and introduced the line-up of speakers for the event, including members of the PPN Secretariat Committee.

**Deirdre Finnerty, Head of Community and Integration Section**, with Mayo County Council talked about community supports available to community groups. Information on the Leader Programme 2023/2024, Town and Village Renewal Scheme, Local Enhancement Programme 2024, Community Recognition Fund 2024/2025.

**Darren Forde, Community First Responder**, gave a comprehensive overview on the importance of defibrillators in our communities. Tips on how to raise funds to have a defibrillator set and placed in your locality.

**Garda Olive Lafferty, Community Policing Unit**, talked about crime prevention and gave tips and advice on the role of the Community Garda. How to protect against fraud and scamming, online bullying and the danger associated with the use and abuse of social media among young people. Advice on romance fraud, tips on safety in our homes and the importance of fitted alarms.

**Ger Costello, Muintir na Tire**, Western Region, Development Officer presented to the members on Community Alert Scheme.

Community Alert is, when Members of the Community, the Gardaí, Statutory and Voluntary Agencies and Voluntary Agencies work together to: Prevent Crime – Prevent anti-social behaviour – Reduce the fear of crime – Promote inter-agency problem solving – Improve the overall quality of life and safety of the Community in general.

Community Alert is, about more than Text Alert or Signs or Alarms. It is a voluntary Community service to learn within, to receive and to share information with people in the Community.

Community Alert is, about Initiatives which help to foster and promote the agreed objectives of the

a) The promotion of measures to reassure people living in rural Ireland particularly the elderly.  
b) To raise the level of awareness amongst all people of the need for greater social inclusiveness including crime prevention measures.

c) To foster greater collaboration between the community and An Garda Síochána.

Ger gave details on how to set-up and manage Community Alert in your local area.

**Presentation - Elina Kovale, Clann Credo, Community Finance Ireland**



**Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Pobail Mhaigh Eo**  
**Public Participation Network Mayo**

Elina gave a detailed outline on Lending Opportunities for Community Groups and cover all aspects of lending in relation to the following topics:

**In-depth knowledge of grants:** specialised loan products for LEADER, Sports Capital, CLÁR, Community Recognition Fund, ORIS, etc.

**No personal guarantees required:** we recognise the contribution of community leaders and volunteers and don't expect individuals to take on guarantees.

**Simple application process:** we start with the information on your grant application.

**Competitive interest rates:** Interest rates track the EURIBOR.

**No early repayment penalties:** Applies to all loans.

**Track record of over 28 Years:** since 1996, Clann Credo has €200 million loaned to over 2,000 community organisations.

**Regional staff:** Regional Managers and Social Finance Executives based in your area are assigned to your project from start to finish.

Following each of the presentations there was an opportunity for participants to engage and ask questions in relation to each of the topics.

This was a very engaging and informative Plenary and Information Event and the feedback received from the participants was very positive.

The meeting concluded at 9pm.

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