Galway County Public Participation Network (PPN)

Where did PPNs come from

- Outlined in "Putting People First" Local Government Reform Programme
- Section 46 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 which enables local authorities to take all appropriate steps to consult with and promote effective participation of local communities in local government
- Report of Task Force on Citizen Engagement

Key Functions of the PPN

- >Official platform for representation on policy making boards and committees of local authority/other
- To identify issues of collective concern and work to influence policy locally and contribute to local decision making/planning of services
- ➤ To work to develop the Environmental, Social Inclusion, Community and Voluntary sectors

PPN Structure

County PPN

- ➤ All groups in County
- >Will meet formally twice a year
- ➤One group one vote
- Environmental / Social Inclusion / Community & Voluntary Colleges
- Decision making body of PPN

PPN Structure

Municipal District PPN

- ➤ All groups in a Municipal District (MD)
- ➤One group one vote
- ➤ Will meet formally twice a year
- Come together to develop a vision for the area
- Liaise with County Council in that district regarding services
- > Elect members to a County Secretariat

PPN Structure

Secretariat

- Manages processes, selection of representatives, communications and liaison with resource worker/Council
- ➤ One representative from each of the Municipal Districts and two representatives (minimum) from each of the electoral colleges (Environment, Social Inclusion, Community & Voluntary)
- Secretariat had their inaugural meeting on January 12th 2015

Linkage Groups

- Are composed of all organisations interested in a particular topic, elects representatives and advises and informs those reps
- All member organisations are enabled to participate in shaping the decisions that affect them that are being developed by any structure of the County Council
- All member organisations play a direct role in choosing their participants in County Council structures addressing particular issues

What Boards will the PPN have representatives on

- Local Community Development Committee (LCDC), which will have a significant role for community development including SICAP (social inclusion)
- ➤ Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs)
- ➤ Joint Policing Committee (JPC)
- ➤ Others such as Education and Training Board, County Childcare Committee, Drugs Task Forces (subject to confirmation)

PPN next steps

>Step 1 PPN Established

The initial PPN register database was established in October 2014 and has approximately 410 groups now registered.

- ➤ Step 2 Nomination and election process for the PPN Secretariat This process was completed in December 2014
- ➤ Step 3 Establishment of the Linkage Groups
 The first list of linkage groups are based on the
 Strategic Policy Committees (SPC's) of the Council
 and the Council Joint Policing Committee (JPC)

PPN next steps

- ➤ Step 4 Nomination and election process for SPCs and the JPC Will be completed in February 2015
- ➤ Step 5 Voting for Nominated Persons to SPCs and the JPC Will be completed in February 2015