

Electoral Procedures of Cavan Public Participation Network (CPPN)

Preamble

The CPPN was established under The Local Government Act 2014. Its aim is to support the voice and development of community interests in each county. The method through which the CPPN elects community representatives is via the Linkage Groups, public engagement events where registered community groups may put forward and elect representatives to the various bodies the CPPN holds representation upon on behalf of the community groups of County Cavan.

Identified Bodies

To fulfil this the CPPN supports a number of elections to various bodies identified to empower and represent community representation and civic participation:

Environmental Linkage Group	Ballyjamesduff Linkage Group
Social Inclusion Linkage Group	Cavan/Belturbet Linkage Group
Community & Voluntary Linkage Group	Bailieborough/Cootehill Linkage Group

(elected onto the Secretariat of the Cavan Public Participation Network)

Cavan Local Community Development Committee
Joint Policing Committee
County Childcare Committee
Housing, Community, Social & Cultural Strategic Policy Committee
Environment & Planning Strategic Policy Committee
Transport & Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee
Economic Development & Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee
Social Inclusion Measures Unit
Cavan Heritage Forum
Cavan Sports Partnership
Cavan Peace Partnership
Regional Drugs Taskforce
Breffni Integrated Ltd.

Term & Rotation

Each representative shall serve a three year term, eligible for re-nomination and appointment. However, representatives shall serve no more than 2 consecutive 3 year terms (or as laid out by the representative body they sit upon). The selection of representatives from the Community and Voluntary groups should be guided by the following general principles:

- (a) Representation should be from Community and Voluntary organisations, and representatives should have a clear mandate from their nominating organisations; and
- (b) Nominating community organisations should have a proven track record of community development work including social inclusion and/ or rural development work and be committed to the partnership processes.

Equality Provisions

It is CPPN policy that there has to be a minimum of 30% males and 30%

females elected within its own structures and with regard to representatives elected on external bodies to ensure a balanced gender representation.

It is CPPN policy that there has to be a minimum of 30% under 50 year olds and 30% over 50 year olds elected within its own structures and with regard to representatives elected on external bodies to ensure a balanced representation of age profiles.

Conduct & Timeline of Elections

To guarantee the free, open and fair conduct of elections the CPPN holds that:

- Each registered community group shall nominate and elector from within their own organisation for election purposes. Any change in the name of that elector shall be presented to the CPPN at least two weeks prior to an election.
- Calls for nominations for elections shall be sent to registered community groups and publicly advertised one month in advance of the election.
- The deadline for nominees for representative positions (by a proposer & seconder) shall be presented to the CPPN two weeks prior to the election, whereupon those names shall be immediately made public.
- Each elector shall receive a voting card on the night of the election with the names of the proposed candidates and instructions shall be given on the organisation of voting.
- The ballot shall be run and organised by the Resource Worker of the CPPN with an independent person in observation and support (note: this person must not belong to a community and voluntary group).
- The election, when there are multiple candidates, shall take the form of an STV (Single Transferable Vote) to achieve greater proportional representation.