



**DLR PPN**

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown  
Public Participation Network

## Motion Submission Form

### ***What is a motion?***

A motion is a proposal to change something about how the PPN is run or the what it does in order to make it better. All full members of DLR PPN can propose a motion and PPN members at the Plenary meeting vote for whether the proposal should happen or not. A motion can relate to the governance, activities, structure or strategy of the PPN, or anything that seeks to improve its effectiveness.

#### **Proposed motion:** (brief outline of suggested action)

That the DLR PPN will actively support community-based initiatives to alleviate loneliness and isolation and build a sense of purpose for people aged 80+ in the community.

#### **Name of proposing DLR PPN member organisation or group:**

Monkstown Village Tidy District  
Watson Killiney Residents Association  
Otter Swimming Club

#### **Name of proposer:**

John Edmondson - Monkstown Village Tidy District  
Mary Ó'Broin - Watson Killiney Residents Association  
Mick MacMahon – Otter Swimming Club

#### **Reason for, or background to motion:**

According to the CSO there were nearly 8000 people over 80 in Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown in 2016 of whom 3000 lived alone. These numbers will double by 2031. UK research suggests that nearly 30% of the over 80s there report very high levels of loneliness, more than twice the rate for 65s-79s. This would suggest that possibly 2500 of the oldest people in our county are experiencing very high levels of loneliness with consequent serious implications for their wellbeing.

There are excellent organisations in DLR already working to tackle loneliness and isolation, some of whom are members of DLR PPN, and DLR has an excellent and

comprehensive Age-Friendly Strategy. However more could be done through leveraging the resources of the PPN network and the PPNs connections with the organisations already working in this area.

**How would this action be carried out and by whom?:**

Five volunteers (including the 3 proposers) who participated in the UCD/DLR Touchstone course identified this issue. They have committed themselves to supporting it appropriately for a period of 18 months. The first step is to meet DLR management - the Director of Community and Cultural Development is aware of the initiative and would like to see it explored further. Following this, there will be discussions with PPN members, representatives and Secretariat to establish a roadmap about exactly how to progress the initiative.

**Approximate cost, if any:**

PPN manager and member's time, no immediate financial cost.

**Desired outcome:**

In the short/medium term, an evidence-based strategy for developing the services aimed at alleviating loneliness already provided by PPN members, as well as introducing new complementary initiatives.

In the medium/longer term, a decrease in the measured levels of loneliness reported by the over-80s, and an increase in observed engagement by the over-80s in the activities of a wide range of PPN members across the county.

Signed: John Edmondson

Position: Chair, Monkstown Village Tidy District