



Thinking about becoming a Strategic Policy Committee representative for DLR PPN?

What do Strategic Policy Committees do?

Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs) are local authority committees whose membership includes elected councilors, representatives of business, farming interests and trade unions. Environmental/conservation, social inclusion groups and community and voluntary interests are represented on these committees through the Public Participation Network.

The purpose of SPCs is to advise and assist the Council in **the formulation, development and review of policy**. Strategic Policy Committees give councilors and relevant sectoral interests an opportunity for full involvement in policy-making from the earliest stages. SPCs make recommendations on policy - however the final decision rests ultimately with the full Council.

An SPC has no responsibility for routine operational matters such as the delivery of services.

The policy areas of the SPCs currently being set up by dlr County Council are:

- Housing
- Economic Development and Enterprise
- Community, Culture and Wellbeing
- Planning and Citizen Engagement
- Environment and Climate Action
- Transportation and Marine

More information about the policy areas the SPCs cover and the knowledge and expertise requested of PPN representatives by the local authority can be found at <http://dlrppn.ie/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/dlr-SPC-Proposed-Policy-areas.pdf>

Each SPC agrees its annual work programme which is linked to the strategic policies and objectives in the Council's Corporate Plan. This work programme must also comply



with national and regional statutory provisions and regulations, fit in with any relevant statutory plans, and link realistically to financial resources.

What is the role of a DLR PPN representative on an SPC?

DLR PPN representatives bring additional knowledge, experience and expertise to the SPC. The role of DLR PPN representatives is to keep DLR PPN members informed about the work of the SPC, seek DLR PPN member's input into the work of the SPC and represent the viewpoints of DLR PPN members to the SPC. This is what gives DLR PPN representatives their mandate.

More information about the role, responsibilities and rights of DLR PPN representatives can be found in the DLR PPN Draft Representatives Charter at <http://dlrppn.ie/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/DLR-PPN-Reps-Charter-DRAFT-4.pdf>

What are the time commitments for being a DLR PPN representative on an SPC?

- 4 committee meetings per year, 1 per quarter, usually 5pm-7pm on weekdays.
- Preparation time to read documentation and reports for the committee meeting.
- Writing up a summary report for DLR PPN members after the meeting (responsibility shared with other DLR PPN representatives on the committee)
- Linking in with DLR PPN members to feedback and discuss relevant matters – 1 meeting per quarter.
- Time to put together any policy positions, questions or submissions to the SPC.
- One-off induction training from dlrCounty Council.
- One-off induction training from DLR PPN.
- Up to 2 DLR PPN representatives meetings a year.
- Travel expenses covered.

If you have any questions about the role, please get in touch with the DLR PPN manager Laura Howe at laura@dlrppn.ie or phone 087 6394506.