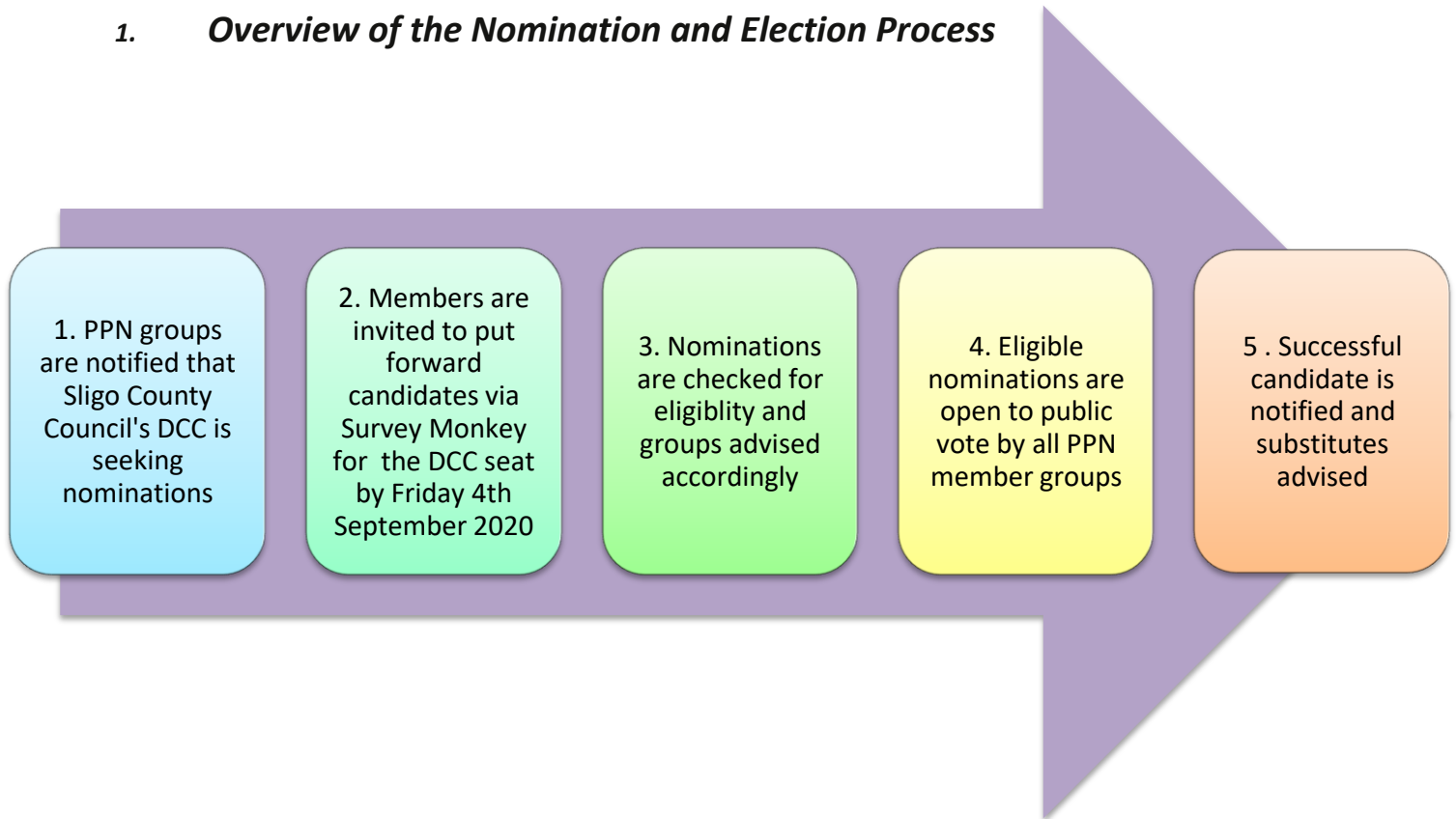


# Nomination and Election Procedure

## Elections to Disability Consultative Committee (DCC)

### 1. *Overview of the Nomination and Election Process*



### 2. *Nomination Procedure*

- 2.1. All members of Sligo Public Participation Network are invited to put forward nominations for the Disability Consultative Committee (DCC).
- 2.2. Only eligible groups registered with Sligo PPN will be able to nominate and vote for candidates to the Disability Consultative Committee.
- 2.3. In the case of groups who are affiliated to county wide governing bodies only the county wide governing body will be eligible to vote. (e.g. large organisations with several local branches or clubs e.g. GAA or Foroige have only one vote. Clubs or branches can vote in municipal elections where the County governing structure has not registered.)

- 2.6. Nominees for DCC seat must meet the eligibility criteria set out for Disability Consultative Committee **(See No 4 below)**.
- 2.7. A returning officer, selected by Sligo County Council, will decide on the validity of the nomination form and groups will be advised once all nominations have been processed.
- 2.8. Nominations must be submitted via 'survey monkey' (a link will be sent to each PPN member) by 4pm on Friday 4th September 2020. For alternative nomination processes, please contact Sligo PPN at 071 91 14430.

### **3. Voting Procedures**

- 3.1. All fully completed nominations received by the PPN Unit, City Hall, Quay Street, Sligo by 4pm on Friday 4th September 2020, which are deemed eligible, will be put forward for election.
- 3.2. Online voting will open on Friday 11th September 2020. Voting will close 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020
- 3.3. Each group will have only one vote.
- 3.4. Voting should be completed by the person nominated to represent the group – ie one of the individuals whose details are registered with the PPN as a primary contact. Each named representative can vote on behalf of one group only.
- 3.10. Officers appointed by Sligo County Council will verify the final ballot
- 3.11. Where the number of candidates nominated equals the number of seats, these candidates will be automatically deemed elected.
- 3.12. Where the number of candidates exceeds the number of seats, the seat on the Disability Consultative Committee will be allocated as follows:
  - 3.12.1. The seat will be allocated to the highest polling candidate.
- 3.13. Candidates must receive at least one first preference to take a seat.
- 3.14. In the event of a tie between two or more candidates, the vote will be opened again featuring just these tied candidates. In the event of a further tie, the seat will be

determined by lot. The names of tied candidates will put in a hat. The first name drawn out will be deemed to be elected.

- 3.15 In the event that a clear preference is not indicated on the voting form, it will be deemed a spoiled vote and will not be counted.
- 3.16 Nominated delegates who are unsuccessful will be deemed 'substitute Disability Consultative Committee members' in the event that the successful nominee resigns her or his seat over the lifetime of the Disability Consultative Committee. The unsuccessful candidate, with the second highest number of votes, will be the first substitute and so on. In the event that there is no substitute that meets the criteria set out, a by-election will be held for the post.

#### **4. Eligibility Criteria**

The following generic criteria applies to the election of PPN Representatives to policy making bodies

- 4.1. Representatives cannot be a PPN Representative on more than one policy making body
- 4.2. Elected representatives of Local Authorities cannot be nominated
- 4.3. If anyone nominated through this process subsequently decides to enter electoral politics he/she must immediately resign their PPN representative role and the relevant nominating PPN unit (electoral college/Linkage Groups) will choose a replacement.
- 4.4. A person who has been an elected representative of any level of Government (local or national) should not be chosen to represent the PPN in any representative role for one year after completing their term of office.
- 4.5. Employees/ professionals - where there is a conflict of interest cannot be nominated.
- 4.6. All PPN representatives must meet the criteria laid down by the unit that nominates them to their representative role.
- 4.7. Nominees must meet the criteria of the body seeking representatives (in this case the Disability Consultative Committee). Nominations will be validated by the SEO, Corporate Section, Sligo County Council.
- 4.8. Groups that have a county-wide governing structure which is also registered with the PPN voting unit/linkage group will have one vote at County level e.g. GAA, ICA, Foroige

## **5. Appeals and Queries**

Appeals on the nomination and election process, can be made in writing to Dorothy Clarke, Director of Services, Sligo County Council, Quay Street.

*Any queries in relation to the nomination and voting process can be made to the PPN team by contacting 071-9114430 or emailing [ppn@sligococo.ie](mailto:ppn@sligococo.ie)*