

SUPPORTING
VOLUNTEERS

SUPPORTING
ORGANISATIONS

SUPPORTING
COMMUNITIES



Strategic Plan 2021-2026

Dún Laoghaire Rathdown
Volunteer Centre

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Volunteer Centre

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Dún Laoghaire Rathdown Volunteer Centre (DLRVC) is an independent non-profit organisation, which is part of a network of 29 Volunteer Centres and is affiliated to Volunteer Ireland.

We were established in 2008 to provide support and advice to people interested in volunteering and to support organisations to involve volunteers.

We are funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development and also receive funding from a number of other sources including Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council.

OUR PEOPLE

Dún Laoghaire Rathdown Volunteer Centre is a registered Charity and a Company Limited by Guarantee. (CRO 443866 / CHY 17883 / Charity Registration Number 20067441)

Our Board

The Centre is governed by a Voluntary Board of Trustees, who bring a wealth of experience and expertise to the Board.

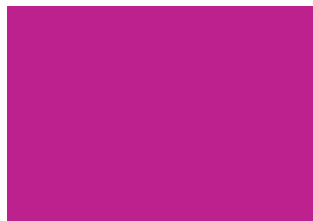
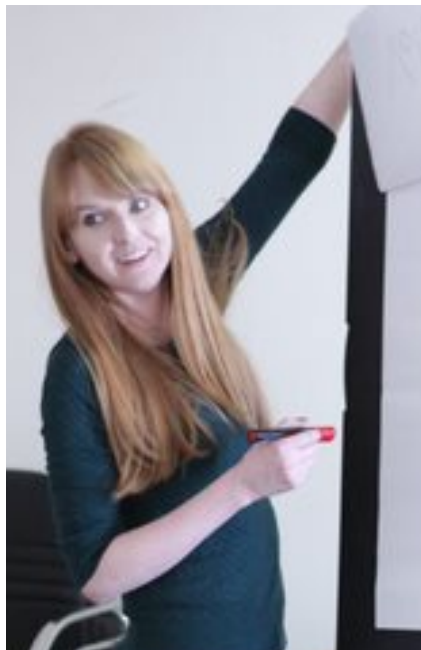
Current Membership

- Patricia Byrne – Chair
- Shane McArdle – Vice-Chair
- Thomas Doyle – Secretary
- Margaret Penny – Treasurer
- Mary O'Donohue
- Niall O'Connell
- Paul Fitzgerald

Our team

Is currently made up of three dedicated, passionate and innovative staff members.

- Claire Carroll, Manager
- Clare Cryan, Development Officer
- Briege George, Volunteer Engagement Officer





Wellbeing Benefits of Volunteering

"Thank you for your very useful information. I know we have lots of knitters in our group. I feel that with many of them having to cocoon at present this would give them an added purpose. It's so important for mental health to have a purpose in one's activity".

- Gabrielle Lowe, Dún Laoghaire Active Retirement



6,000

plus, volunteers registered with the Centre



Inclusive Volunteering

"I was more than happy to participate in this research project."

"As a disabled person, I can't engage with all volunteering opportunities. I'm glad to be able to do something."

- Sorcha, Volunteer with UCD School of Psychology



OUR SERVICE TO VOLUNTEERS

We support people interested in volunteering in the following ways:

Information on volunteering: We engage with people interested in volunteering by email, phone and in person.

Access to I-VOL: The national volunteering database which allows you to browse and express an interest in specific volunteer roles online. If you decide to apply for a role online, our team will put you in contact with the organisation you're interested in volunteering with.

Access to your Volunteer Profile: Where you can check in on the status of your applications through I-VOL, keep your details up to date and print out your volunteer history.

Access to specific volunteering initiatives: For example, we run the Dún Laoghaire Rathdown Volunteer Corps. Separate to our general volunteer referral service, this facilitates volunteering at a selection of once-off events.

Regular communications from the Centre: With a selection of volunteer roles hand-picked by our team.

Creating new ways to volunteer: Behind the scenes our team are helping develop new ways people could volunteer.

Serve the City - Ballybrack Foodbank

"In total 1,114 food hampers found their way to families and organisations.... in no small way, the Volunteer Centre was part of the success of this project. Without exception, every volunteer you recruited and referred to us was a pleasure to work with, I was continually impressed by the calibre of those you referred and I can safely say that we could not have successfully run the food bank without your support and guidance."

- Rónán Coffey - Trustee and Director



256
Active
Organisations

UCD School of Psychology

"We have reached over 1000 responses! I also wanted to say a huge thank you for all your help! Over the last month there has been a great number of responses, and I am sure many of them are a result of my role being included in the campaign on the website."

- Clodagh Finn, researcher with UCD

OUR SERVICE TO ORGANISATIONS

We support local non profit organisations in the following ways:

- **One to One Support:** We are here to answer queries and provide guidance on all aspects of volunteer involvement.
- **Volunteer Recruitment:** We support organisations to register with us and engage volunteers.
- **Promoting Volunteer Roles:** We help organisations develop volunteer roles and share these through I-Vol, the national database for volunteering, with people interested in volunteering.
- **Training & Networking:** We provide and share training, events and other networking opportunities.
- **Garda Vetting:** We provide a garda vetting service for small non-profit organisations who cannot access vetting directly.
- **Resources:** We provide access to a number of different resources for organisations, including templates and sample policies



OUR VISION

A vibrant Dún Laoghaire Rathdown where every person feels connected to their community through active participation in voluntary activities.

OUR MISSION

To promote the value of volunteering and increase the range and quality of volunteering in Dún Laoghaire Rathdown.

OUR VALUES

In Dún Laoghaire Rathdown Volunteer Centre we hold five high level values and these are woven through our way of working and our commitment to volunteering.

Delivering Meaningful Work

We work to positively impact our community by delivering a quality service and projects that makes a difference.

Creativity

We believe in fostering an environment where we can think creatively, share ideas safely and bravely try new things.

Growth

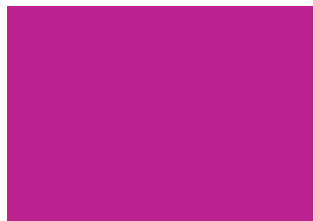
We value the ongoing learning and development of our team, the people we work with, volunteers, organisations and our wider community.

Respect

We respect ourselves and others in all our interactions. We believe in celebrating difference and facilitating people to choose what is right for them.

Collaboration

We value working with others to create positive outcomes.



OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- 1. Advance Volunteering**
- 2. Strengthen supports to Organisations**
- 3. Build understanding of Volunteering**
- 4. Operate a sustainable and innovative organisation**

OUR STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

The development of this strategic plan was a collaborative process that included consultation with the community of volunteers, volunteer involving organisations, the public and various other stakeholders.

It also reflects the insights of the staff team and Board of the centre and an analysis of the policy context for volunteering in Ireland.

The strategic plan provides direction for Dún Laoghaire Rathdown Volunteer Centre (DLRVC) to continue to build on the work that has been achieved in the previous strategy of developing volunteering locally through inclusion, innovation and collaboration.





Advance Volunteering

STRATEGIC PRIORITY ONE

Objective: To develop volunteering in new ways in response to emerging trends and opportunities.

We will achieve this in the following ways:

- Create opportunities for more flexible volunteering such as volunteering from home and task-based volunteering.
- Increase diversity in volunteering by creating volunteering opportunities that are open to everyone.
- Explore new volunteering opportunities and collaborations with others such as research institutes and the private sector.



Strengthen supports to Organisations

STRATEGIC PRIORITY TWO

Objective: To ensure that volunteer involving organisations are supported to maximise their positive impact on volunteering

We will achieve this in the following ways:

- Invest greater resources in supporting volunteer involving organisations such as appointing a dedicated member of the team with responsibility for organisation engagements.
- Re-develop the service we offer to volunteer involving organisations to ensure that it meets their needs and builds their capacity.
- Collaborate with volunteer involving organisations to pilot innovative projects and initiatives to raise awareness, enhance best practice volunteering and support best practice volunteer management.



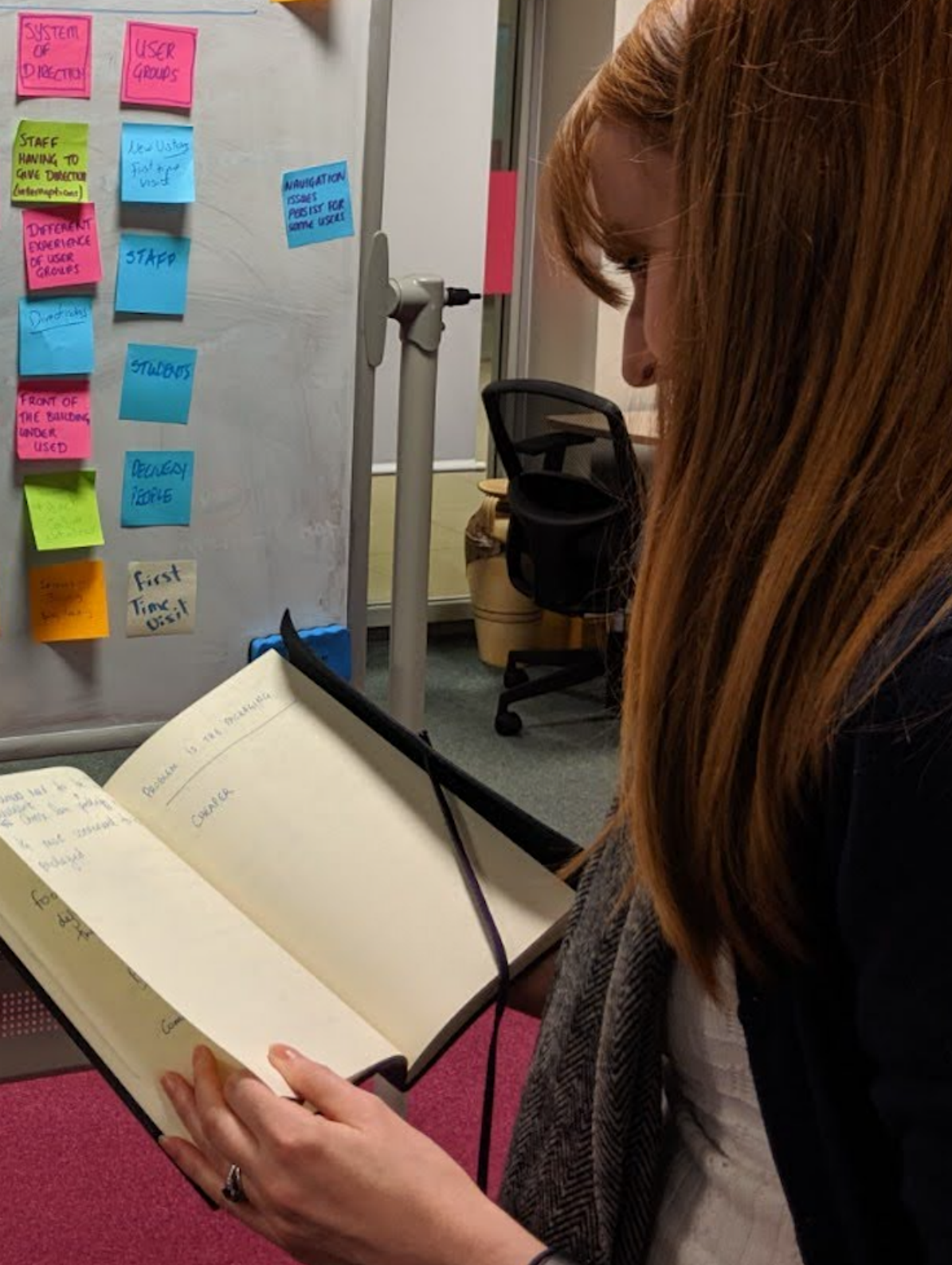
Build understanding of Volunteering

STRATEGIC PRIORITY THREE

Objective: To showcase the range of ways people can volunteer and the benefits for volunteers, organisations and the community.

We will achieve this in the following ways:

- Increase understanding of our service and promote our contribution to the community of Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County through stakeholder engagement and awareness raising campaigns.
- Position DLRVC as the voice of volunteering in the County and the primary source of knowledge about volunteering through high quality service delivery.
- Celebrate the value of volunteering and the positive contribution of volunteering through volunteer recognition campaigns.
- Promote the range of different ways people can volunteer using a variety of mediums to reach the widest audience.



Operate a sustainable & innovative Organisation

STRATEGIC PRIORITY FOUR

Objective: To commit to the highest standards of organisational development, good governance and financial stability.

We will achieve this in the following ways:

- Continue to support and develop our team of staff and volunteers through professional development and best practice human resource management.
- Explore opportunities to grow our income streams in line with our strategic priorities.
- Participate in the development of public policy that impacts positively on volunteering in collaboration with our stakeholders.
- Operate to the highest level of governance, management and financial accountability.



volunteer centre

Ionad d'Obair Dheonach Dhún Laoghaire Ráth an Dúin

DÚN LAOGHAIRE RATHDOWN

Dún Laoghaire Rathdown Volunteer Centre is an independent organisation, which works closely with the network of Volunteer Centres and Volunteer Ireland. We work to develop volunteering in the County, by supporting individuals to volunteer and organisations to involve volunteers. Read more about our work on our website.

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With thanks to our funders, Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council and the Government of Ireland.



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland