



Smart Villages: Training Programme for Rural Dublin

April – June 2023



Smart Villages: *Training Programme for Rural Dublin*



Programme Launch – April 2023

The “Smart Villages Training Programme for Rural Dublin” is an initiative led by Fingal LEADER Partnership in association with KPMG Future Analytics. The project addresses the unique challenges facing Ireland’s rural regions today. With support under the Rural Development (LEADER) Programme 2014-2020, this programme aims to further strengthen the capacity of local communities to unlock innovative new solutions for the sustainable growth and development of rural areas across Dublin.

Rural areas across Europe are undergoing rapid change. While some persistent challenges (such as town centre decline) continue to put some areas under pressure, there are also new opportunities for rural residents and businesses arising from the key drivers of rural change in recent decades.

The term ‘Smart Villages’ broadly refers to rural communities that seek to build on and enhance existing strengths and assets through creative solutions and collaborative working; embracing innovation to create attractive and sustainable places in which to live and work.

The ultimate aim of the Smart Villages Training Programme is to assist local communities across rural Dublin in developing the knowledge and skills needed to produce local Smart Village Action Plans – which will outline a community vision for the future sustainable development of their local area.

The “Smart Villages Training Programme for Rural Dublin” will run between April and June 2023. Participants will be invited to attend 2 in-person workshops and 7 online sessions (all taking place between 18.30-20.30 and generally on Thursday evenings). Please see the Programme of Events overleaf.

6 Locations across rural Dublin have been selected as Smart Village Case Studies.

Pathways toward Smart Village Action Plans for these areas will be co-developed for as part of this training.



The Fingal Villages

Open to any rural groups or individuals based in or around Ballyboughal, Naul, Oldtown and Garristown.



Lusk

Open to any rural groups or individuals based in or around Lusk



Balbriggan

Open to any rural groups or individuals based in or around Balbriggan



Lucan

Open to any rural groups or individuals based in or around Lucan North & Castleknock-Knockmaroon



Glencullen

Open to any rural DLR groups/individuals



Rathcoole

Open to any rural South Dublin groups/individuals

One of rural Dublin’s greatest assets is the people that make up its communities. It is important that your voice helps to shape the Smart Villages Training Programme and its outcomes.

We wish to hear from you – the local community – on your thoughts and views on the strengths and opportunities for rural Dublin, and your suggestions for what the region needs to make it a thriving place to live, work and prosper.

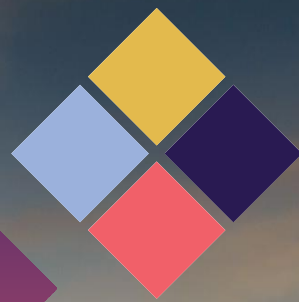
To participate in the Programme, please register at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7Y76PFG>

Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Smart Villages Training

Programme for Rural Dublin



PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Workshop	Date	Time	Format	Location
Launch Events: Introduction to Smart Villages - Promoting Collaborative Working (x3 events)	13/04/23 17/04/23	18.30-20.30	In-Person	- Balbriggan Bracken Court Hotel - Rathcoole Community Centre - Glencullen Community Hall
A Cohesive Approach to Smart Villages – The Role of Networking, Leadership, and Communication	20/04/23	18.30-20.30	Online	
Our Rural Future – The Role of Digitalisation	27/04/23	18.30-20.30	Online	
Building Resilient Communities – The Role of Health and Wellbeing	04/05/23	18.30-20.30	Online	
Analysing the Potential of the Local Area: Social Research Techniques	11/05/23	18.30-20.30	Online	
Building a Circular Economy – The Role of Sustainable Tourism and the Social Economy	18/05/23	18.30-20.30	Online	
Future-Proofing Our Strategies – The Impact of Climate Change, Renewable Energy and Emission Reduction	25/05/23	18.30-20.30	Online	
Creating a Smart Village Plan	01/06/23 08/06/23 15/06/23	18.30-20.30	In-Person	6 Locations TBC
Towards Smart Villages – Final Reflections	19/06/23	18.30-20.30	Online	

To attend some or all of these events, please register at:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7Y76PFG>

Please note that this Programme may be subject to minor amendments. Any changes made will be communicated to all registered participants.

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Project Launch Events

The “Smart Villages Training Programme for Rural Dublin” will launch in April 2023. Three launch events will be held – with one event each held in Fingal, South Dublin and Dun Laoghaire Rathdown. The launch events will explore what the concept of ‘smart villages’ means in practice; its growing relevance within a “post-COVID” context; and how it can apply within rural Ireland and specifically within the context of rural Dublin. The event will form the first of nine workshops.

The three launch events are as follows:



Fingal Launch Event: Balbriggan
Bracken Court Hotel:
13th April 2023
18.30-20.30



South Dublin Launch Event:
Rathcoole Community Centre:
13th April 2023
18.30-20.30



Dún Laoghaire -Rathdown Launch
Event: Glencullen Community Hall:
17th April 2023
18.30-20.30

If you would like to attend one of the launch events, please register here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7Y76PFG>

The “Smart Villages Training Programme for Rural Dublin” will run between April and June 2023. A series of in-person and online workshops will be held during this period. A full programme of events will be released soon.