



Kilkenny Older People's Council - Elections Information

Are you interested in serving on the Executive Committee of Kilkenny Older Peoples Council? If so this Election Information, and the attached Nomination Form are of relevance to you.

Kilkenny Older People's Council

Aim of the Kilkenny Older People's Council

The Kilkenny Older People's Council is a key part of the structure of the local Kilkenny Age Friendly Programme. It brings the concerns and experiences of older people to the Age Friendly Alliance and the voice of the older people to the decision-making process in both the Age Friendly Programme and in other fora.

The Kilkenny Older People's Council is a two-tier structure that comprises a wide membership base of **Individual Older People** and older people's **Groups** and also an **Executive Committee** of elected individuals.

Purpose of the Kilkenny Older People's Council

- To ensure that older people in Kilkenny participate in decisions which affect their lives.
- To provide an active channel of communication between the Older People's Council and the Age Friendly Programme.
- To provide the opportunity to comment on and influence local Age Friendly strategies, plans, and projects.
- To work cooperatively and represent the views of older people at local, regional, and national level.
- To identify and inform key actions for implementation with the local Age Friendly Alliance and strive to achieve a number of the objectives in the local Age Friendly Strategy.
- To monitor the implementation of the Age Friendly Strategy in the local authority area.
- To represent the views of older people and keep older people up to date on key Age Friendly initiatives and structures.

The Executive Committee

The Purpose of Executive Committee is:

- To actively organise meetings and ensure widespread participation of older people within the Older People's Council.
- Nominated members including the Chairperson attend the Age Friendly Alliance meetings and report back to the Older People's Council on the Age Friendly Strategy.
- To organise Annual General Meeting(s) and ensure all members receive updates and information in relation to the Age Friendly initiative.

Tenure of Office of Executive Committee:

Members of the Executive may serve a minimum term of 2 years to ensure that there is consistency in work undertaken for a period of time. At the end of this term, all of the Executive Committee members will step down and the Older People's Council will nominate and elect new Members. Outgoing Executive Committee members may seek re-election.

Membership of Executive Committee:

The Executive Committee shall be filled from the membership of Kilkenny Older People's Council. If a person wishes to stand for elections and is not currently a member, that person may complete a membership form. This should be submitted to Kilkenny OPC with the lodgement of their Nomination form. Members of the Executive Committee will be elected at the AGM from Municipal Districts or co-opted from particular sectors to represent the voice of older people as follows:

There are 3 Older People's Council members from each Electoral Area are required to be elected at the AGM, filling up to a total of 12 seats, to ensure this occurs voting shall be on an Electoral Area basis and as outlined in the requirements below.

The Executive Committee, when formed may invite up to 4 people with relevant skills, experiences and involvement with but not limited to any of the following: community and voluntary groups, people with dementia, people living in residential care, of different ethnicities or foreign nationalities, representatives of more vulnerable older people who can be advocated for by formal/informal carers and/or public health nurses, active retirement groups.

Elections**Election of members to Executive Committee of Kilkenny Older People's Council - Requirements.**

- A person nominated by the outgoing Executive Committee will act as Returning Officer. The Returning Officer may engage the services of other persons to assist in the running of the election process.
- Older People's Council Members seeking election shall complete a nomination form which should be received by the Returning Officer, by the date specified by the Returning Officer. If there is not sufficient number of candidates nominated for an Electoral Area, by the date of the elections, the Returning Officer may accept completed Nomination Forms on the day of the elections, prior to the holding of the Poll.
- A Nominated Candidate cannot seek to be elected to an Electoral Area seat outside of the Electoral Area in which he/she normally resides.

In relation to elections to Executive Committee held at the AGM, the following shall apply: Completed Nomination forms will be arranged by Electoral Area by the Returning Officer, who will display at the AGM, a list of nominated candidates for each Electoral Area.

Filling of Electoral Area seats

The filling of Electoral Area seats shall take place at the AGM unless there is insufficient number of candidates elected to fill them. Where seats are not filled at the AGM the seat(s) may be filled through invitation by the newly formed Executive Committee. Every effort will be made to have a geographical spread of members in such circumstances.

There are 4 Electoral Areas, each with 3 seats as follows:

Electoral Area	Number of Seats
Castlecomer	3
Callan - Thomastown	3
Kilkenny City	3
Piltown	3
Total	12

The following shall apply in respect of the Electoral Area seats (4 x 3 seats = 12 seats)

**(The specified date is Friday 20th June 2025)*

1 Nominated Candidate by the specified date*	Where there is only 1 nominated candidate in an Electoral Area by the specified date, he/she shall be deemed to be elected in that Electoral Area. The remainder of the seats not filled shall be regarded as vacant seats.
2 Nominated Candidates by the specified date *	Where there are only 2 nominated candidates in an Electoral Area by the specified date, both candidates shall be deemed to be elected in that Electoral Area. The remainder of the seats not filled shall be regarded as vacant seats.
3 Nominated Candidates by the specified date*	Where there are only 3 nominated candidates in an Electoral Area by the specified date, all 3 candidates shall be deemed to be elected in that Electoral Area.
4 or more Nominated Candidates by the specified date*	Where there are 4 or more candidates in an Electoral Area a poll shall be taken by the Returning Officer in respect of that Electoral Area.
Insufficiency of Nominated Candidates by the specified date*	Where in an Electoral Area, there is less than 3 nominated candidates by the specified date the Returning Officer may accept completed Nominations up to the time of the Elections. Where the number of nominated candidates exceed the number of vacant seats, a Poll shall be held amongst the candidates whose nominations were accepted after the specified date of 20 th June 2025.

The following Voting Arrangements shall apply:

Each member of Kilkenny Older People's Council attending the AGM is entitled to vote.

The Returning Officer will issue **one** ballot paper to each attending Kilkenny Older People's Council member in respect of **Each Electoral Area**.

The voter will indicate his/her preference in respect of Each Electoral Area by writing the name of their preferred candidate standing in their respective Electoral Areas on the voting papers issued. The voter will then place the completed ballot paper(s) in the ballot box(es) or other receptacle provided by the Returning Officer.

As soon as the Returning Officer closes the poll the Returning Officer will sort the votes cast and count the numbers of votes cast in respect of each candidate in each Electoral Area.

Whereas a result of that poll, the candidate(s) receiving the highest, second highest and third highest number of votes shall be deemed to be elected,

In the event of an equality of votes, the names of candidates to be elected, shall be drawn by lot.

Where all seats have been filled the Returning Officer shall declare the results in respect of each Electoral Area in the following order: Castlecomer, Callan -Thomastown, Kilkenny City, Piltown.

Important Dates

Friday 20th June 2025 at 4pm	Deadline for submission of Nomination Forms: Post or by hand: Age Friendly, Kilkenny County Council Community Department. Patricks Court, Patrick Street, Kilkenny. R95N28F Email: agefriendlykilkenny@kilkennycoco.ie
Tuesday 1st July 2025 at 11am	AGM - Election of Committee Members. Venue: Rivercourt Hotel, John Street, Kilkenny

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