

JAN-JUN '22
ISSUE 1



EASTERN
REGIONAL
COUNCIL

EASTERN REGION NEWSLETTER



INTRODUCTION

Why a newsletter?

The Eastern Regional Council has decided to publish a virtual newsletter twice a year to relive past projects and promote the ones to come.

The Eastern Regional Council newsletter will be published twice a year January to June and July to December.

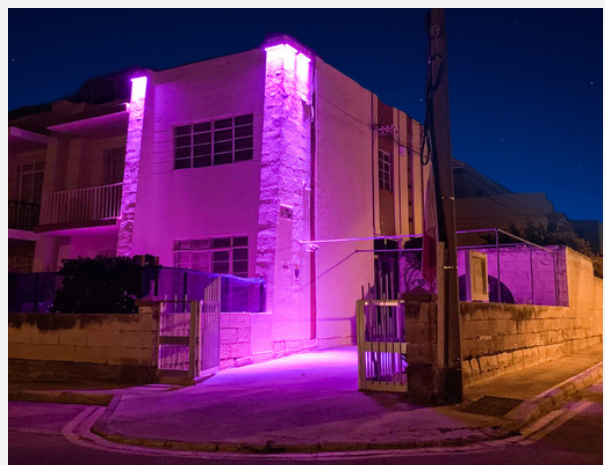
Office Opening Hours*

Monday - Friday
7am - 3pm

*During the month of August: 7am - 1:30pm
'Mabruka', Triq il-Qasab, San Ġwann

MAIN HEADLINES

- UPCOMING EVENTS
- CHANGE IN NAME
- WEBSITE
- EUROPEAN REGION OF SPORTS 2023





WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT



Mr. Anthony Chircop

Since being elected President of the Eastern Regional Council in January 2022, I have continuously worked to bring about a positive change to the Eastern Region. I believe that with my experience as Sliema Mayor in the past 10 years helped me to better understand the Local Council's difficulties and issues they are faced with. Today, together with the newly appointed Regional Managers and Officers we can better coordinate and conduct projects. I welcome this new challenge and will do my utmost to bring a positive change to the Eastern Regional Councils as well as to the residents that reside in any of the 12 localities.

WORDS FROM THE EXEC. SECRETARY



Ms. Jeanette Galea

Since the start of my career as the Executive Secretary of the Eastern Regional Council, I have seen a gradual but notable increase in our responsibilities. The most significant change occurred during January 2022 when the Regional structure of the Maltese Islands was altered. In addition to this geographical change, each Regional Council was required to appoint six Regional Managers and Officers. With my experience together with the increased staff, we are now more able to conduct various projects to the benefit of our localities, as can be seen in this newsletter. In conclusion I am eager for the Region's future and my aim is to continue putting the Eastern Regional Council on the map and earn the respect of our residents, with new and innovative projects that will benefit everyone.



SCAN ME



UPCOMING EVENTS

Funding Seminar

Birkirkara Local Council

12th July 2022 @ 10am to 12pm

Chess Tournament

Swieqi Local Council

20th July 2022 @ 7pm to 9pm

Starter Pack

Eastern Regional Schools

26th September 2022-15th October 2022

MOVE for Pink October

Pembroke Gardens

18th October 2022 @ 5pm to 7pm

Bolol Reġjonali

Malta Postal Museum & Arts Hub

21st October 2022-4th November 2022

Regional Sport Day(s)

11, 18 and 25th November 2022

Movember Event

Venue TBA

24th November 2022 @ 6pm to 8pm

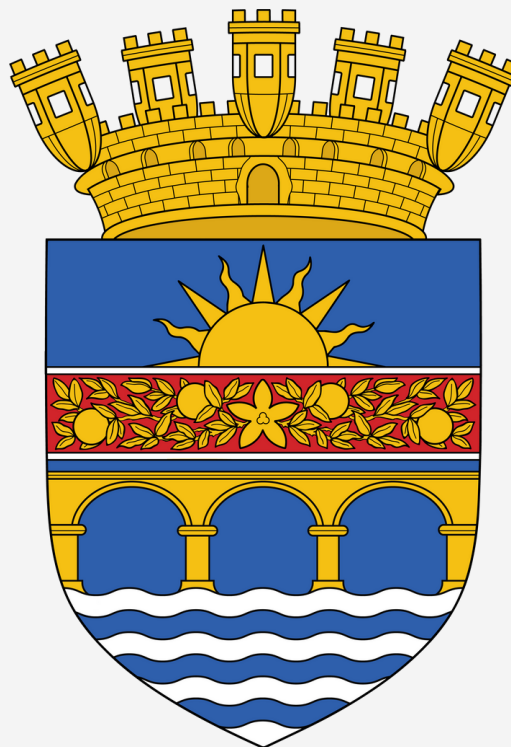
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SCAN ME

CENTRAL REGIONAL COUNCIL BECOMES EASTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL



Eastern Regional Council Coat of Arms

In the beginning of 2021 the Maltese Islands had a Regional reform; in which, the Central Regional Council bid farewell to Attard, Balzan, San Ġwann and Santa Venera Local Councils, and welcomed Għargħur, Pembroke and Swieqi Local Councils. Resultantly, the Central Regional Council transformed into the Eastern Regional Council, due to the geographical locations of the new Local Council additions. Thus, the Eastern Regional Council immediately formed a panel composed of members within the Region to submit a new emblem fitting the new name.

Eastern Regional Council Coat of Arms Explained

- The coat of arms portrays the sunrise from the East.
- The orange tree was first located in Lija.
- The bridge symbolises Mdina and the connection of coastal localities with those of the countryside.

BOARD OF FUNDS & FINANCE



Mr. Anthony Chircop



Mr. Max Zammit



Mr. Anthony Dalli

During the beginning of this legislature, the Eastern Regional Council felt that a board should be constructed for the purpose of Regional funds and finance.

Board Composition

The President of the Region – Mr. Anthony Chircop

The Vice President of the Region and Ta' Xbiex Mayor – Mr. Max Zammit

Lija Mayor – Mr. Anthony Dalli

The Executive Secretary – Ms. Jeanette Galea

BOARD FOR MALTA CO-OPERATION FEDERATION



Mr. Anthony Chircop



Mr. John Pillow



Dr. Dorian Sciberras

In March 2022 the Eastern Regional Council met with representatives of the Malta Cooperation Federation on their service and assistance. The members agreed that a board should be constructed to delve further into their programs' potential. Future updates to come.

Board Composition

The President of the Region – Mr. Anthony Chircop

Iklin Mayor – Dr. Dorian Sciberras

Sliema Mayor – Mr. John Pillow

The Executive Secretary – Ms. Jeanette Galea

REGIONAL SERVICE

Surveillance of Playing Fields

The Central Regional Council had issued a call for the professional service of a Mechanical Engineer which includes:

- A monthly inspection and a report of deficiencies and hazards
- Service to be provided again after a public call is issued

Meanwhile the previous contractor will be providing this service until a new public call is issued under the new region.



PUBLIC CALL

Domestic Waste Collection Service using Low Emission Vehicles in the Eastern Region

During the last reform, one of the functions given to the Regional Councils was to issue a regional public call for the waste collection service as from 2022.

Over the past few weeks the Eastern Regional Council has been in constant contact with localities on public call development.

This call was published on Thursday 19th of May 2022, and will close on Tuesday 21st of June 2022.

This Region will continue to update the Local Councils in all developments.



RECRUITMENT

Regional Officers

Currently, The Eastern Regional Council has appointed three Regional Officials:

- Environmental Manager – Ms. Andrea Borg Brincat
- Managing Officer responsible for Waste Management – Mr. Ryan Zammit
- Cultural Officer – Ms. Nikki Demajo Albanese

We are currently looking into employing a Project Management Officer, European/Local Funding Officer and an ICT Officer.



Starting from the left: Ms. Andrea Borg Brincat, Mr. Ryan Zammit and Ms. Nicola Demajo Albanese



A.E.D.S

Automated External Defibrillators (A.E.D.s)

Last year the Local Councils' Association (LCA) issued a public call on behalf of each Region.

The Eastern Regional Council did not participate in this initiative, as it was already in the process of purchasing the A.E.D machines. However, the LCA inadvertently included the Eastern Region in this call.

The Eastern Regional Council believes that an additional machine is always required and for this reason every Local Council will be given a second machine.

This call is currently being suspended due to an appeal.

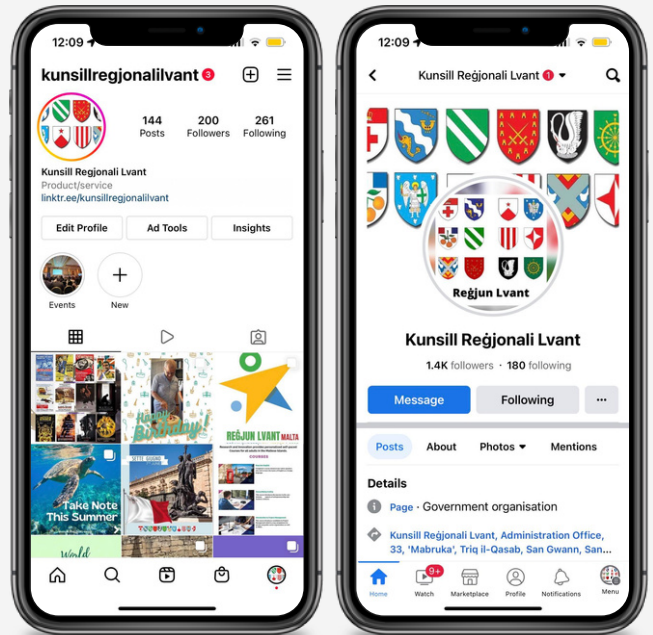
More information to be provided.

SOCIAL MEDIA

@kunsillregionalilvant

Since March 2022, through the Regional Officials, this Region is making use of social media by conducting an educational campaign.

So far this campaign has been about waste and the environment. There is also cultural information related to the localities within the Region.



NUDDING ACTIVE TRAVEL

Active Travel Workshop

In November 2020 the Central Regional Council signed a contract proving collaboration with University of Malta, supported by Transport Malta, the Ministry of Health, the Environment and Resources Authority, the Planning Authority and the Office of the President of Malta.

The objectives of the project are:

- Identifying and mapping safe travel;
- Raising awareness about the need for active travel and its impacts on transport, health and the environment;
- Provide up-to-date information infrastructures on the ground and on social media.

Active Travel Workshops are being organized around the Eastern Region to identify the measures required for active travel within the locality. Two workshops were held on 22/09/21 and 16/03/22.



VR TOURS

Regjun Centru 360°

'Regjun Centru 360°' came to fruition In 2020 at the beginning of the pandemic, serving as an opportunity for both foreigners and Maltese citizens to virtually visit historic sites.

In 2021, the Central Regional Council submitted a proposal to the Malta Tourism Authority (MTA) to carry out this project on a larger scale – € 90,000.

A public call on EPPs will be published in the coming weeks to identify around 120 sites in Malta and to prepare a VR Tour for each site.

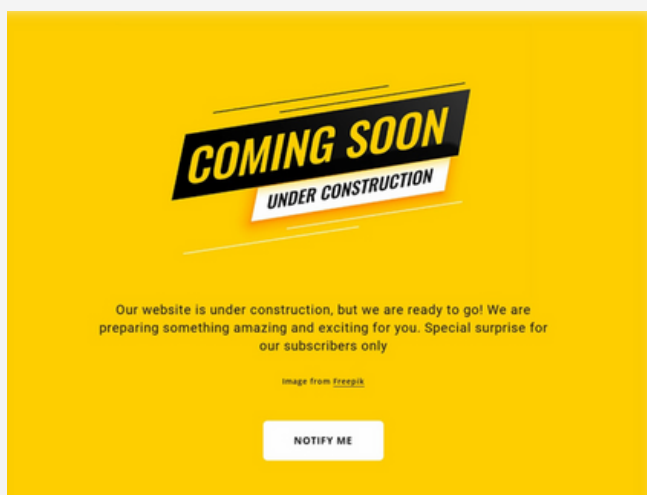


WEBSITE

www.regjunlvant.com

The Eastern Regional Council is working on an official website, where one will be informed about any items relating to the Region and the Local Tribunal.

The website will be launched in the coming weeks.



KISBIET MINSIJA

Kisbiet Minsija involves women over the age of 70 who have a story to tell about an important moment in their lives that they feel proud of.

For this reason, interviews were conducted with women from the Eastern Region and their stories aided in preparing a performance based on their life experiences.

The official launch was held on 21/05/22 at The Imperial in Sliema. Over the coming weeks, the performance will be given in nursing homes and day centers within the Eastern Region. and Spazzju Kreattiv.



EUROPEAN REGION OF SPORTS 2023

Towards the beginning of 2022 the Eastern Regional Council's bid was accepted as the European Region of Sports 2023.

The Maltese Sports Authority will be launching a number of initiatives during the same year and the Directorate of Education, in collaboration with the Local Councils will be doing its utmost to strengthen a sports culture within our educational institutions.

Six representatives from ACES Europe were present in Malta from 23/05/22 - 26/05/22, where the application submitted was justified.



REGJUN LVANT MALTA
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ART FOR ALL

This project is aimed at students between the ages of 11 and 15 in public schools who would like to learn arts but have never had the opportunity.

This 30 session course will started on 1/04/22 and will be held in Birkirkara Local Council' hall.

At the end of September 2022 , each student will choose one of the drawings to be displayed during an exhibition evening.

Sponsor

Vee Gee Bee will be offering the essential tools required for these sessions. The Eastern Regional Council will provide a sketchbook to each participant as well as a bottle of water.



BOĠOL REGIONALI

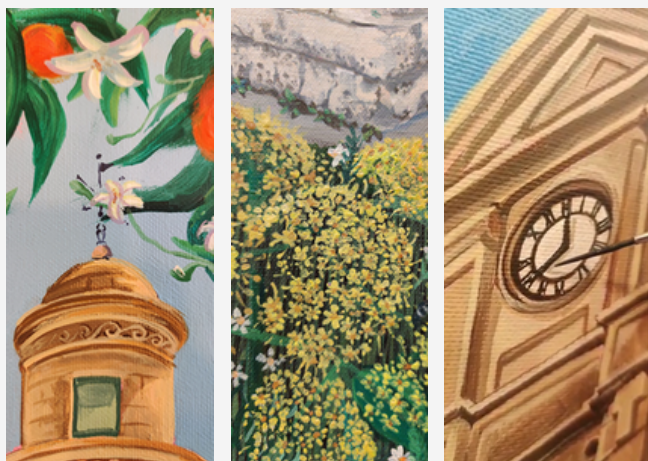
In collaboration with Malta Post

The aim of this project was to create stamps as a Region, where each locality will have a dedicated stamp containing a historical monument or a place in the locality, and an endemic/indigenous plant that has some significance within the locality.

The artist – Lara Vella

The official launch of this project will be on 21/10/22 at the Malta Postal Museum.

The exhibition will be open to the public for two weeks at the Malta Postal Museum.



STARTER PACK

The Eastern Regional Council will be providing sustainable stationery to 1st year students (aged 5 to 6). Equipment includes; bamboo ruler, wooden sharpener, wooden pen, paper pencil, eraser, Sprout pencil and a set of 12 pencil colours.

State, private and independent schools within the Eastern Region will be a part of this project.

The aim of this project is to encourage students to opt for more sustainable stationery.



TREASURE HUNT

In collaboration with ActionBound

The Eastern Regional Council is creating a Treasure Hunt that will allow users to explore, learn and discover the 12 localities within the Eastern Region.

Accompanied by explorer Sam and Bertu I-Ballotra, both young and old will be able to participate, using the ActionBound App on their mobile phones, and the Explorer Passport which will be given to 7-year olds.

The launch of this project will take place in 10/22.



DEVELOPMENT PLANNING FUND

This Region welcomes applications from both Local Councils and NGOs.

2021 Applications:

Pieta Local Council and Neptunes.

2022 Applications:

Sliema Aquatic Sports Club, Birkirkara and Msida Local Council.



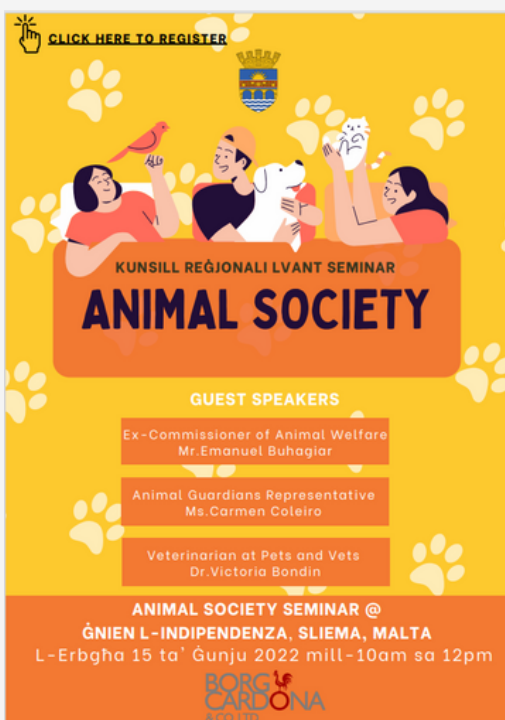
Starting from the left: Ms. Jeanette Galea, Mr. Anthony Chircop, Ms. Mandy Farrugia and Ms. Joanne Debono Grech.

ANIMAL SOCIETY SEMINAR

Following the Public Consultation about the National Animal Welfare Strategy, the Eastern Regional Council held a seminar mainly dedicated for registered Local Council cat feeders.

This seminar was held on 15/06/22, at the Independence Garden in Sliema.

Professionals on this subject were present to provide educational information on relevant matters.



PINK OCTOBER & MOVEMBER

In 2021 the first two events in support of Pink October and Movember were held to raise more awareness on the subject to Mayors, Councilors, Executive Secretaries and staff.

This year the Eastern Regional Council plans to hold similar events to further raise awareness about breast and prostate cancer.

Kindly refer to the 'Upcoming Events' section in page iii.



REGIONAL SPORTS DAY

Every October the Central Regional Council was organising a Regional Sports Day, uniting children from Year 4 state schools. However, between 2020 and 2021 this event could not be maintained due to the unprecedented situation.

In November 2022 the Regional Sports Day will resume into three different parts.

Kindly refer to the 'Upcoming Events' section in page iii.

The Eastern Region Council looks forward to various sporting activities affecting various ages, over the year.



INTRODUCTORY MEETINGS

Several introductory meetings were held with each Local Council within the Eastern Region at the beginning of this legislature.

These meetings served to better understand the localities' problems, as well as to get to know better Councilors and Executive Secretaries who make part of the Eastern Region.



REGIONAL OFFICERS SEMINAR

The Eastern Regional Council organised two informative seminars, in which the three officials were able to communicate ideas and projects which may potentially be implemented.

The seminars were held on 9/04/22 for Mayors and Councilors, and 15/04/22 for Executive Secretaries

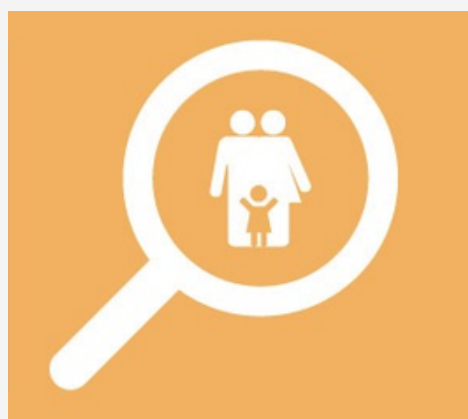
This seminar was beneficial as the Eastern Regional Council listened to suggestions and ideas put forward from those present.



SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Taking care of the Social Impact Assessment within the Region has been one of the functions assigned to the Eastern Regional Council in the last reform.

The Local Government - Policy Strategy and Implementation Division has initiated discussions to determine how a public call is issued to enable this study to be conducted on a Regional basis.



AGREEMENT WITH THE CLEANSING & MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

On 29/04/22, a meeting was held with the Director General, Mr. Ramon Deguara to discuss the Eastern Regional Council's proposals for waste separation during the festivities and keeping the localities clean.

The Cleansing and Maintenance Department will provide a set of bins, for a period of 3 days (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) at local feasts and will be regularly cleaned by the same department. No later than two days after the end of the holiday, there will be a cleaning service in the mostly frequented areas of the locality.



DIALOGUE WITH THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY AND ENTERPRISE

On 17/05/22 the Eastern Regional Council met with the Hon. Miriam Dalli – Minister for the Environment, Energy and Enterprise.

Regional Environmental Manager, Andrea Borg Brincat, presented potentially implemented environmental projects within the Eastern Region.

Pocket Parks Collaboration

Each locality has the opportunity to identify underutilised areas to transform into a beautiful garden.



ECAD

ECAD is a non-profit organization incorporated in Sweden, the purpose and aims of which is to develop through democratic means drugfree cities and societies, and to promote and develop our common efforts against illicit drugs. The purpose of ECAD is to provide experience and knowledge about the work for freedom from illicit drugs, and against drugs and drug abuse at local, national and international levels. ECAD will work for democracy and development in the towns and cities of Europe. The spread of drugs and drug abuse constitute a threat to democracy and development. The long-term aims of ECAD are to contribute to a Europe free from drugs.

The Eastern Regional Council strongly believes in these principles and has recently paid the membership for all 12 localities as well as for the Regional Council's.



ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY OFFICE

Since January 2022, this Region has decided to adopt the use of more environmentally friendly systems by

- Copies of documents distributed during the meeting will not be printed..
- An eco-friendly ink is used.
- And the use of recycled paper.

We encourage the administrative offices of the Local Councils to start adopting this measure as soon as possible.



WE ARE MOVING!

In the coming days, the Eastern Regional Council will be issuing an expression of interest so that the administrative office, as well as the Local Tribunal can be brought to an adequate place in one of the 12 localities.

In the past few weeks the Eastern Regional Council has asked the Local Councils to present places that may be suitable for an administrative office. Thank you for your help!

