

July 2017



Hello everyone,

Apologies for the deluge of emails but there are two national consultations and one for county Clare which I need to make you aware of in case you wish to make submissions to them. I have also included a notice about the Clare Older Person of the Year Award which is now open for nominations.

Hope the summer is treating you all well.

Warm regards,

Sarah Clancy

Public Participation Network Coordinator

Unit 1 Westgate Business Park

Kilrush Rd,

Ennis

Co Clare.

Phone: 087 1617375

Email: sarah@clareppn.ie **Website:** www.clareppn.ie **Twitter:** @clare_ppn **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/clareppn/

Consultations:

1. Public Library Draft Strategy 2018- 2022 - concerns developing a strategy for the public library service in Ireland for 2018 - 2022 and the deadline for submissions is 28th July 2017. All details are here <http://clareppn.ie/national-consultation-on-a-new-strategy-for-public-libraries-deadline-july-28th-2017/>

2. National Consultation on the Public Service 'Our Public Service 2020': is Public consultation on Public Service Development and Innovation Framework.

This one has a longer run and is open until September 4th 2017. all details here- <https://per.consultation.ie/en/consultation/our-public-service-2020>

3. Draft Heritage and Biodiversity Plans - Draft Clare Heritage and Biodiversity Plans to go on public display on Friday 21st July and open for submissions until August 28th 2017.

Clare County Council is seeking observations and submissions from the public in relation to the Draft County Clare Heritage Plan and the Draft County Clare Biodiversity Plan. The objectives and actions of the Draft Plans, which cover the period 2017-2023, are available for public inspection from 21st July to 28th August 2017 at Áras Contae an Chláir in Ennis; De Valera Library in Ennis, the Local Study Centre in Ennis; all public libraries, and at all Clare County Council's Municipal District Offices in Shannon, Scarriff, Ennistymon and Kilrush. The Plans may also be viewed on www.clarecoco.ie from Friday 21st July.

First introduced in 2003, **the County Clare Heritage Plan** has played a key role in raising heritage awareness and activity across Clare. Key actions in the new Draft Plan include further improving access to heritage sites, providing heritage training for Tidy Town and other groups, supporting the implementation the Inis Cealtra Visitor Management and Sustainable Tourism Development Plan, undertaking an audit of oral recording material in the county, and promoting the restoration of rural industrial heritage such as lime kilns, distilleries, forges and cottage industries.

The Draft Clare Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2023 meanwhile, has identified how biodiversity can boost tourism, enhance the local environment, and assist organisations and individuals working in the area of conservation and heritage. Key actions include addressing the growing threat posed by Invasive Alien Species to native plants and animals and raising awareness of the importance of water quality for biodiversity conservation.

Councillor Tom McNamara, Cathaoirleach of Clare County Council, is urging community interest groups across Clare to have their say on the new Plans.

“Consultation with community groups and organisations is key to the development of these Draft Plans as they are the most effective tools in

addressing heritage and biodiversity challenges and opportunities,” he said.

“The Draft Plans outline objectives and actions that are deemed necessary to improve the conservation and promotion of our county’s heritage and rich biodiversity”, stated **Ms. Congella McGuire, Heritage Officer with Clare County Council.**

“We have built up a considerable network of community contacts since the first Clare Heritage Plan was introduced in 2003 and we are inviting input from all of these people in relation to the final details of the new plans, which will broadly inform heritage and biodiversity initiatives over the next six years,” added Ms. McGuire.

Submissions/observations in relation to either or both of the Draft Plans should be made in writing to the **Heritage Officer, Planning Department, Clare County Council, Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare between 21st July and 28th August 2017 inclusive.** Alternatively, submissions may also **be emailed** to forwardplan@clarecoco.ie (maximum document size by e-mail: 4MB). The closing date for receipt for submissions or observations is **4pm on 28th August, 2017.**

CLARE OLDER PEOPLE'S COUNCIL OLDER PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD 2017

Call for nominations:
Older Person of the Year Award 2017 - Clare Older People's Council have asked for your nominations for this year's Older Person of the Year. This award is designed to recognise and reward a person over 55 in Clare who has contributed to their community through volunteering. You can read details and print off the application form here: <http://clareppn.ie/get-your-nominations-in-for-clares-older-person-of-the-year-2017/>