

Clare PPN
& Clare Environmental Network

**Zoom meeting to discuss
submission on draft County
Development Plan 2022-'28**

2nd November 2020

2019 Climate Adaptation Strategy submission

Submission from Clare PPN & Clare Environmental Network re Draft Climate & Biodiversity Emergency Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024.

August 2019

Full submission is here:

<http://clareppn.ie/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Clare-PPN-Submission-in-respect-of-Clare-Draft-Climate-Change-Adaptation-Strategy-August-2019-1.pdf>

2019 Climate Adaptation Strategy submission

Request the following actions:

1. Declare & use term Climate and Biodiversity Emergency.
2. Include a definition of biodiversity in DCCAS.
3. Appoint a full-time biodiversity officer.
4. Set up a Climate Change & Biodiversity SPC.
5. 'Shannon Green infrastructure'-style plan for each town.
6. Publish inventories of: Peat, bog & wetlands; Council-owned land; 'Brown-field' sites in Clare; Trees in Clare; Historic & cultural sites at risk.
7. DCCAS to detail all risk of poverty from Climate & Biodiversity Emergency & plan supports for communities.

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ENERGY

- a) No new fossil fuel infrastructure. No Shannon LNG.
- b) No imported resources in future energy infrastructure.
- c) Council to encourage community micro generation with community ownership.
- d) Make remote working more feasible.
- e) Just transition for fossil fuel industry workers.
- f) Proper use of substations and decentralised energy generation to avoid loss in energy transport.
- g) Seek funding for retrofitting all buildings.

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ENERGY

- h) Research & pilot anaerobic digestion technology.
- i) Proper community consultation on wind and wave energy.
- j) Require data centres to provide own renewable energy;
secondary use of heat from data centres in other applications.
- k) More focus on educational initiatives & community participation.
- l) Expand willow wetland sewage systems with a view to biomass production.

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Biodiversity and Soil Health

- a) Solid funding for Seedsavers as a national resource.
- b) Council to fund & use CELT for training.
- c) DCCAS to urge banning of Non-Organic Pesticides/Herbicides.
- d) Bylaws to reduce sewage & slurry pollution.
- e) Incentivise land owners to allow wildflowers & weeds to grow.
- f) Prioritise regenerative agriculture.
- g) Support for rare breed herds.
- h) Roads & housing to include native tree planting.
- i) Forestry - less Sitka Spruce, more mixed native.
- j) Council to affiliate to All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.

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Biodiversity and Soil Health

- k) Diversification of farming.
- l) Seek to ban ecocide in Clare.
- m) Council to 'rewild' a % of council hedgerows/ idle land.
- n) Timing of hedgerow cutting to have lowest impact on nesting & biodiversity.
- o) Soil protection & regeneration in all Council developments.
- p) No approval for plans that risk soil damage.
- q) Use qualified tree surgeons on public land.
- r) Plastic waste: Education, incentive & sanctions re plastic waste.
- s) Segregated waste bins in all public areas.
- t) Make Clare a 'bio' and slow food region

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Air Pollution and Waste

- a) Moneypoint - just transition for workers.
- b) Moneypoint to cease coal burning.
- c) Allow objections to plans in adjacent areas eg. Irish Cement.
- d) Increase public transport.
- e) Shannon Airport: restricted to civilian flights only.
- f) Monitor air quality & report ever 6 months
- g) Extend 'bike to work' scheme to electric bicycles etc
- h) Waste services back to Council operation.
- i) A report on how waste disposed of by private operators.
- j) Composting zones on public land.

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- k) Awareness on how to legally dump large items.
- l) Bi-annual large waste removal service.
- m) Small chemical waste collection days.
- n) Supports for low income large/chemical waste disposal.
- o&p) Zero Waste/Award scheme for zero waste community.
- q) 'Community Responsibility Plans' for zero waste.
- r) Public drinking water fountains.
- s) Toilets in national park & outdoor amenity settings.
- t) Planning permission for compost toilets.
- u) No plastic bottles/disposable cups in Council settings.
- v) Support breastfeeding.

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Community Resilience, Health and Well Being, Awareness Raising and Education

- a) Emergency community plan/group in each area.
- b) Groups would train in emergency responses.
- c) Identify location of vulnerable community members.
- d) Recognise and prepare for migration as an impact of emergency
- e) Inventory of emergency equipment.

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- f) Support rainwater harvesting & micro generation.
- g) Council to do awareness raising at community events.
- h) Seats for young people on any new Climate and Biodiversity Emergency Committee.
- i) Public meeting on final CCAS.
- j) Strategy team to meet young climate activists.
- k) Climate breakdown to be a mainstream issue for Council.
- l) Climate award scheme.

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Water Quality, Flooding and Marine

- a) Don't divert the River Shannon!
- b) Allow Shannon banks to flood & compensate residents?
- c) Monitor and assess invasive species.
- d) Again: No Shannon LNG.
- e) Community oversight of river & estuary management.
- f) Continuous upgrades to water supply infrastructure.
- g) Actions to restore bogs, peatlands and wetland.
- h) River bank management plan.

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- i) House plans must include green spaces to absorb rainfall.
- j) Follow UNWT directives to protect shellfish waters.
- K) Total ban on glyphosate/pesticides.
- l) Support moves to ban single-use plastic.
- m) Investigate sustainable drainage systems.
- n) No more untreated sewage discharged into sea/rivers.
- o) Council to enforce regulations re slurry spreading.
- p) Work with Teagasc, Talamh Beo etc for training and support for changed farming practices.

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Travel, Transport and Housing

- a) Task force on public transport.
- b) Annual targets to reduce vehicle numbers on roads.
- c) Public transport to use zero or low emission vehicles.
- d) Expand & subsidise school bus services.
- e) Pedestrianise town centres.
- f) Upgrade / provide footpaths on all roads.
- g) Park & ride in commuter settlements.
- h) EV charging stations across Clare.

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- i) Council to recycle EV batteries.
- j) Cycle/walking/horse lanes, separate from roads, in long-term transport strategies.
- k) Support safe cycling.
- l) Promote local & micro food production.
- m) Water harvesting, grey water systems in housing plans & promote retro fitting.
- n) Clean air targets & measures in housing estates & houses.

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Food Security, production and land use

- a) Food security: (i) local access to food in emergency situations, (ii) promote diverse, local sustainably farmed food
- b) Support community & locally produced food.
- c) Promote alternative regenerative agriculture.
- d) Promoting silviculture & agro forestry and reduce mono crop.
- e) Encourage planting of native trees.
- f) Prohibit clear felling & promote continuous cover forestry.
- g) Investigate diversification in forestry industry.

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- h) Protect & restore bogs, peatlands, wetlands & native woodlands.
- i) Council to engage with farmers & organisations re need for changes to farming practices.
- j) Build on success of Wild Atlantic Way – e.g. greenways.
- k) Burren National Park: sustainability, conservation and expansion plan.
- l) Tourism related shuttle services.
- m) Investigate options for anaerobic digestion, biomass fuels, willow-based waste treatment & for bio-char production.

Vision for Community Wellbeing Survey

Some findings from our recent survey,
in which Clare PPN asked:

What kind of Clare do you want
for this and future generations?

Vision for Community Wellbeing Survey

Outdoor amenities

More cycle and walking paths, esp. in countryside

Car-free town centres with more trees

More access to open spaces

Vision for Community Wellbeing Survey

Infrastructure

Invest in public transport and cycling & walking routes

Use less concrete & more sustainable materials

Overhaul outdated sewage systems

End one-off housing

General

More community clean-up days

Community gardens

All county plans must have climate &
biodiversity crises front & centre

Vision for Community Wellbeing Survey

Energy

More renewable energy
- especially community-owned

Food & farming

Support for organic growers for local sale
Encourage people to grow their own food
Less slurry spreading
Ensure food security by growing fruit, veg & cereals

Vision for Community Wellbeing Survey

Biodiversity

Ban glyphosate

Less fertiliser & pesticide

Public green spaces to be left unmowed

More native trees

More environmental education

At school and for adults

School gardens tended by students

Vision for Community Wellbeing Survey

Work & Economy

Hubs for remote working

High-speed broadband

Community farms, farm shops & community cafes

A sustainable economy

Local businesses valued & supported

Low-impact eco-tourism, e.g. Greenways & Blueways

Subsidise environmentally friendly farming

Promote buying local produce