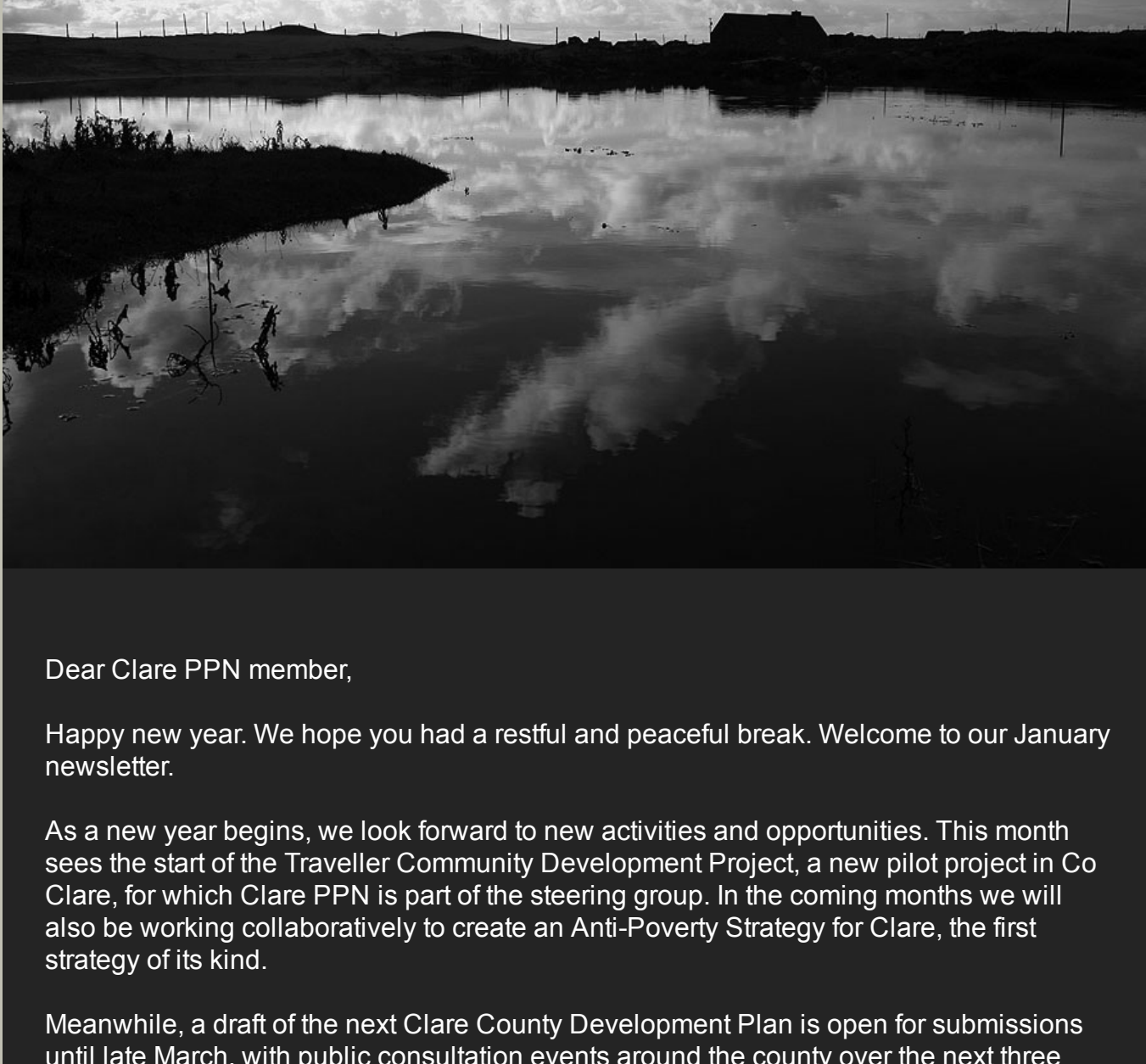


NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2022



Dear Clare PPN member,

Happy new year. We hope you had a restful and peaceful break. Welcome to our January newsletter.

As a new year begins, we look forward to new activities and opportunities. This month sees the start of the Traveller Community Development Project, a new pilot project in Co Clare, for which Clare PPN is part of the steering group. In the coming months we will also be working collaboratively to create an Anti-Forestry Strategy for Clare, the first strategy of its kind.

Meanwhile, a draft of the next Clare County Development Plan is open for submissions until late March, with public consultation events around the county over the next three weeks. Clare PPN will also be organising opportunities for collaborative submissions on this important document for our members in February – scroll down to our Public Consultations section below for more info.

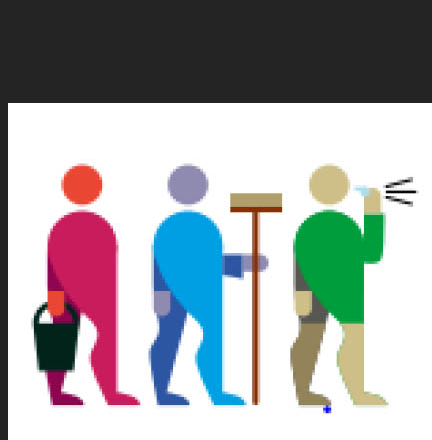
Finally, two online meetings next week will be of interest to many of our members. On Tuesday the new Community Action Tenants Union will hold an introductory meeting in Clare, while on Wednesday, Clare Environmental Network and Clare PPN's Environmental College are getting together to chat about priorities and ideas for 2022. Both events are open to all.

Read on also for news of trainings, webinars, funding opportunities and public consultations and if you'd like to see something included in future, please email newsletter@clareppn.ie.

All the best,

Sarah Clancy, Sarah Ferrigan & William Hederman

Clare PPN
Clonroad Business Park
Ennis, Co. Clare
V95 N62T
Mobile: 087 1617375

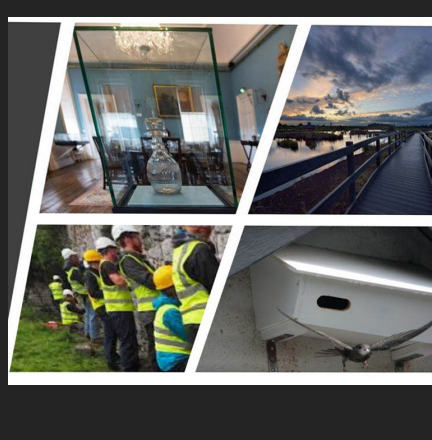


MEMBERS RE-REGISTRATION – KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR INBOX

Clare PPN takes your privacy and consent seriously, in line with EU data protection regulations (GDPR). We endeavour to keep our contact details up to date and hope that you want to remain a member. In order to do this, we periodically re-register all our member groups and will be emailing you all individually over the coming months. Please keep an eye on your inbox as you will have to respond to stay on our database. Looking forward to having you with us through 2022 and beyond.

TRAVELLER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

We are delighted to announce that Bridge Casey has taken up the role of Co-ordinator of the new Traveller Community Development Project, supported by a steering group consisting of Clare PPN, Clare Local Development Company, Clare Women's Network (CWN) and the HSE's Mid-West Traveller Health Unit. The project will be sharing office space with Clare PPN and CWN at our premises in Ennis once it is safe to do so. Clare PPN's involvement in this pilot project stems from concerns raised by our Social Inclusion member groups who have sought ways to improve the living conditions and wellbeing of the approximately 900 Travellers who are part of the community in Clare.

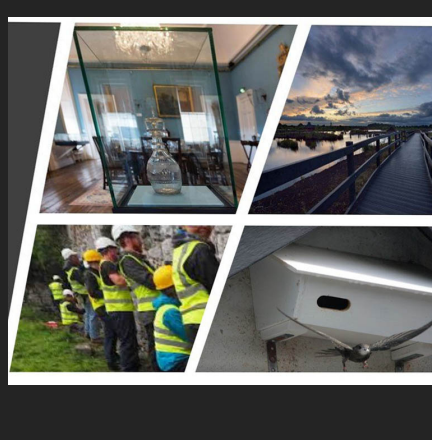


OUR NEW PLANNING & STRATEGY DOCUMENTS

Clare PPN recently adopted a Strategic Plan for 2022-2026. In it you can read about our strategic goals for the next five years and how we aim to fulfil our mission – "to make sure that community groups in Clare play an active role in the decisions made by Clare County Council for the county and all its people." The Strategic Plan can be viewed here: <https://clareppn.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Strategic-plan-2022-2026.pdf>

Our Work Plan for 2022 has also been adopted and you can download it at the link: <https://clareppn.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Clare-PPN-Draft-2022-Work-Plan.pdf>

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



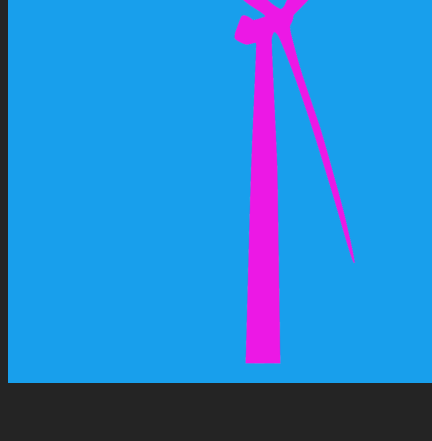
COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES FUNDING

Deadline 25th February: Clare LCDC (Local Community Development Committee) has launched the Community Activities Fund on behalf of the Dept of Rural and Community Development. Clare has received €278,514 to support community and voluntary groups throughout the county. Groups can apply for small grants to help with operating costs, or for larger grants of up to €10,000 for capital projects such as community centre upgrades and playground maintenance. Find out more and apply here: <https://www.clarecoco.ie/services/community/grants/communityenhancement/>



COMMUNITY HERITAGE GRANT SCHEME

Deadline 16th February: The Heritage Council invites communities and heritage NGOs to apply for its Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2022. The funding supports capital projects that apply good heritage practice to the managing of places, collections or objects, including buildings, and that improve access and inclusion to heritage sites. The scheme also supports the purchase of essential equipment. The closing date for applications is 16th February at 5pm. A Zoom clinic will be held on Thursday 20th January. See more info: <https://www.heritagecouncil.ie/funding/community-heritage-grant-scheme-2022>



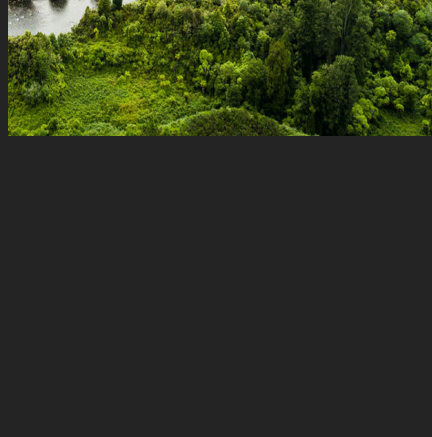
COMMUNITY WATER DEVELOPMENT FUND

Deadline 8th February: Applications for the 2022 Community Water Development Fund, worth a total of €380,000 will close on 8th February. The Fund, which is open to all community & voluntary groups, is administered by the Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO) and is designed to encourage and support local communities to engage in the delivery of local projects and initiatives on water quality, biodiversity loss and climate change. Grants may range from €500 to €25,000. Full details here: <https://lawaters.ie/community-water-development-fund-2022-now-open/>



SCHEME TO SUPPORT NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Deadline 24th February – NB: For national organisations only: Administered by Pobal on behalf of the Department of Rural and Community Development, the overall aim of the SSNO is to provide multi-annual funding towards the core costs of national community and voluntary organisations in Ireland. Grant awards of between €30,000 and €100,000 per annum for up to three years funding. The online application opens on 10th February and closes on 24th February. For more information, including webinars on how to apply, see: <https://www.pobal.ie/programmes/scheme-to-support-national-organisations-ssno-2022-2026/>



COMMUNITY WIND FARMS FUND

Deadline 13th March: The 2022 Wind Farm Community Funds are open for applications, and will prioritise projects and initiatives that support and benefit the areas surrounding ESB wholly-owned and co-owned wind farms, in the following categories: Education and Skills; Health, safety and wellbeing; Environment and habitat conservation; Energy efficiency and sustainability; Culture and heritage; Recreation, sport and social inclusion; Tourism; Covid-19 related supports. Applications here: www.communitybenefitfunds.ie

For a full list of Wind Farm Community Funds included in this call: <https://windfarmcommunityfunds.ie/news/2021-wind-farm-community-funds-now-open-for-applications/>

NEWS// TRAINING / EVENTS



COMMUNITY ACTION TENANTS UNION

26th January: The new Community Action Tenants Union (www.catuireland.org) will hold an online introductory meeting in Clare on Tuesday next week. For anyone interested in housing issues, this is a chance to learn more about CATU, a new independent, member-led organisation growing across Ireland. Find out what CATU does, what it fights for, and how you can get involved. Nora Labo, CATU regional organiser for Ireland, will give a short presentation on CATU followed by a discussion with participants about the housing issues people face in Clare and what can be done about them through collective action. The event will take place on Zoom, on Tuesday 26th January, 6:30pm. Please email catuorganiser.nora@gmail.com for the link. More information here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/888906138462639/>



PROTECTING CLARE'S ENVIRONMENT IN 2022: STRATEGY MEETING

26th January: With lots of environmental issues coming up this year for Co Clare, including data centres, mining licences, a new Draft County Development Plan and a suggested Council motion on the 'rights of nature', as well as various funding opportunities, Clare Environmental Network and Clare PPN's Environmental College member groups are getting together to chat about priorities and ideas for 2022. To register for this strategy meeting via Zoom at 7:30pm on Wednesday, 26th January, email: newsletter@clareppn.ie. More info here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/3667583592220078>



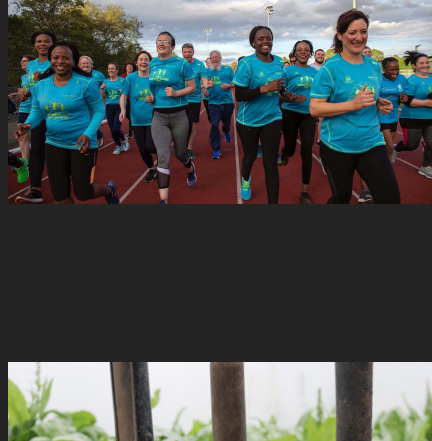
MENTAL ILL-HEALTH RELATIVES SUPPORT GROUP

Family members of people experiencing mental health challenges meet monthly at the Community Centre, Chapel Lane, Market, Ennis. The group, which meets from 8-9pm on the 1st Thursday of each month (except January and August), is organised and supported by Shine Supporting People Affected by Mental Ill Health. They are trained in and committed to family recovery and peer support. "We offer peer support to create for ourselves and our families hope, need for self-care, mutual respect, effective communication, self-compassion, empathy for self and others, empowerment, acceptance, stress management, peace of mind and more. We call this 'Family Recovery'." Contact Ann Marie Flanagan on 087 787 8222 or email midwest@shine.ie. See also www.shine.ie



HOW TO WRITE AN EFFECTIVE ANNUAL REPORT

16th February - 17th May: The Carmichael Centre is offering free Shine workshops for anyone involved in the preparation of annual reports for a non-profit. The workshop covers the basics of annual reports and then focuses on how to use the annual report as a way of showing the public, your members and funders how good your organisation is. These workshops are aimed at smaller charities (annual income of less than €250,000) and, particularly, at charities with income of less than €50,000. More information and sign-up for a workshop here: <https://www.carmichaelireland.ie/free-training-on-developing-an-effective-annual-report/>



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR LGBTQ+ MEN AND WOMEN

If you are a member of the LGBTQ+ community in Clare there's a great opportunity to avail of fully-funded online Personal Development Courses from GOSH+H. www.goshh.ie

Online Personal Development Course for GBT+ Men
Gay, Bisexual & Transgender+ (GBT+) identifying men from Clare, Limerick & North Tipperary are invited to register and explore ways to make positive changes in your life and improve your overall health and well-being. This course, which is via Zoom and is kindly supported by The Switchboard, starts on Monday 7th February @ 7pm and runs for six weeks. Register at this link to secure your place: bit.ly/3J8VTOX

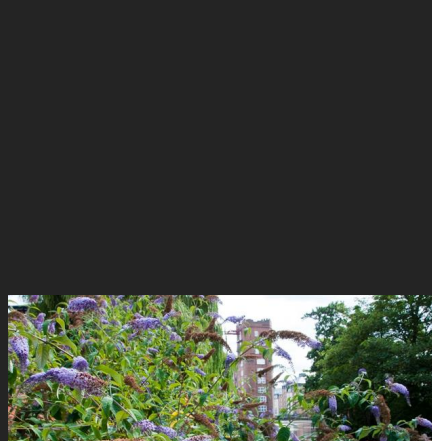
Online Personal Development Course for LGBTQ+ Women
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex + women from Clare, Limerick & North Tipperary are invited to join us for this course, the aim of which is to provide a safe space for participants to build self-confidence, develop a deeper understanding of their identities, and be in a safe space with people from the community. This course is delivered via Zoom, starting on Wednesday 9th February @ 7pm and running for six weeks. Register here: bit.ly/3FAKFK

If you have any questions please contact Karina Murray, GOSH+H Community Development Worker at 086 458680 or communitydev@goshh.ie



SANCTUARY RUNNERS

Get your runners out – Sanctuary Runners are getting going again in Lisdoonvarna and Ennis and are welcoming new members. Get in touch with them if you'd like to join in, get fit, meet new people and also make people who have come to your area from elsewhere feel welcome. Be the change you want to see. They run in solidarity, friendship and respect. To find out more, email info@sanctuaryrunners.ie



FULL-TIME FUNDED HORTICULTURE COURSE

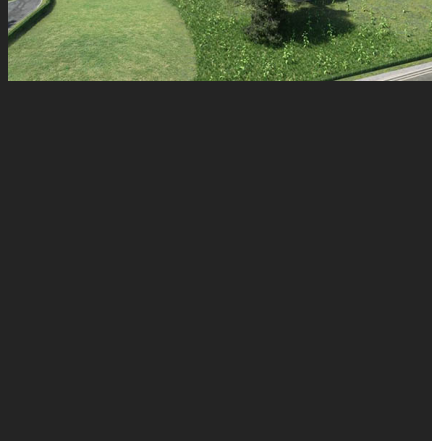
This is a great opportunity to study at the Organic Centre in Leitrim. This level-5 full-time course in Organic Horticulture aims to provide learners with the skill, knowledge and competence to obtain entry-level employment in the horticulture industry or progress to further education and training. The fully-funded course, which runs from 7th March, is open for applications until the end of the January. For more information you can call Steve on 071-9854338, email info@theorganiccentre.ie, or visit this link: <https://m.leitrim.ie/education-and-training/let/search-courses?sfccw-courseid=328174>



NATIONAL HOUSING STRATEGY FOR DISABLED PEOPLE

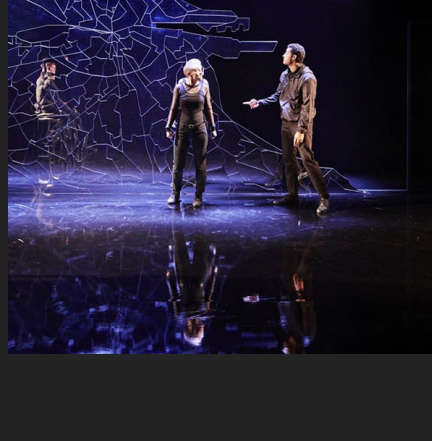
The Government has launched the National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022 - 2027, setting out its vision for delivering housing and related supports for disabled people and placing a greater emphasis on independent living and community inclusion than the previous strategy. Implementation of the plan will be based on the principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The Government has revised the structures that oversee and implement the strategy to make the delivery of housing and related supports for disabled people more effective and appropriate to their needs. Developed under the guiding principles of Housing for All, the Government's national plan for housing to 2030, the strategy seeks to facilitate disabled people to live independently with the appropriate choices and control over where, how and with whom they live. Read more here: https://merrionsstreet.ie/en/news-room/news/new_national_housing_strategy_for_disabled_people_2022_2027_launched.172762.shortcut.html

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INVASIVE SPECIES WEBINARS

From 9th February: This three-part webinar training on invasive species with Dr Fran Giacquinto is for communities who want to understand more about invasive species, why they are a problem, how we can prevent their arrival, and how to manage them effectively if and when they do become established. Fran's approach is always to avoid the use of herbicides and other harmful methods unless absolutely necessary. Dates: Wednesday 9th, 16th and 23rd February, from 7-8:30pm. Please let Fran know before 20th January if you wish to attend: f.giaquinto@outlook.com



WEBINAR: REDUCE YOUR CANCER RISK

4th February: The Irish Cancer Prevention Network is hosting a webinar covering practical steps to reduce our cancer risk at 1pm on Friday, 4th February, for World Cancer Day. Learn how we can all take action to reduce cancer risk through a series of presentations with a panel of experts. Topics covered will include: Eating for health; Radon; Skin Protection; Breastfeeding; Know the signs; Find cancer early. To register click here: https://lms.zoom.us/j/webinar/register?WN_X1X618x0206GtISmkgIw



DRAFT CLARE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Deadline 28th March: Clare County Council has prepared a Draft Clare County Development Plan 2023-2029 and is seeking feedback and submissions until 28th March. The plan consists of a written statement and series of maps that describe how your local authority aims to use particular areas, for example, residential, industrial or agricultural areas. It also sets out development objectives for the county.

Any person can make a submission, by post or online, on any aspect of the draft plan, which can now be read online and is also on display in various locations around the county. The Council is also holding a series of public consultations around the county between 26th January and 10th February, at which you can speak to our planners about the draft plan. This short article on our website gives you an overview as well as all the relevant links: <https://clareppn.ie/clare-county-council-holding-consultations-on-2023-2029-draft-county-development-plan/>

Clare PPN has already made submissions to the pre-draft stage of the County Development Plan and will be organising further collaborative submission opportunities for our members in February. Please drop us an email at sarah@clareppn.ie if you'd like to be included in this work.

BASIC INCOME FOR THE ARTS

Deadline 27th January: Calling all artists – the Government is seeking your views, ideas and suggestions for the Artists Basic Income Pilot Scheme. This is an important consultation which we would encourage artists from all genres to input to. The Arts and Culture Taskforce produced a report on how best the sector can adapt and recover from the Covid-19 pandemic. The main recommendation was to pilot a Basic Income scheme for a three-year period in the in the arts, culture, audio-visual, live performance and events sectors. Have your say in this online survey: <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/BLA2022>

DRAFT RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT PLAN

Deadline 31st March: The public consultation process on the Draft River Basin Management Plan (2022-2027) is ongoing. The Plan will help Ireland protect, improve and sustainably manage our water environment to 2027. Full details on draft plan and submission process: <https://www.pwsi.ie/consultation/2022/public-consultation-on-the-draft-river-basin-management-plan-for-ireland-2022-2027/>