

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2022



Dear Clare PPN member,

Welcome to our December newsletter.

Clare has been a winter wonderland for more than a week – the photo above was taken in Corofin this week – but the bitterly cold weather has been a huge challenge for many in our community. Please stay safe this winter and continue to keep an eye out for those who may need support.

At our Plenary it was highlighted that our newsletter does not always reach everyone within our member groups. Please forward/share this email with the members of your organisation – thanks. And please feel free to share it more widely too!

If you'd like to see something included in a future newsletter, please email newsletter@clareppn.ie.

All the best,

Clare PPN

Sarah Clancy, Sarah Ferrigan & William Hederman

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CLARE PPN WORK REPORT 2022 & WORK PLAN 2023

At the Clare PPN Plenary meetings last week, we presented our Work Report for 2022 - and what a busy year it has been. Thank you to all our volunteer Reps and Secretariat members for all the time and work they have given freely. The Work Report will be updated at the end of the year and published on our website.

We also presented Clare PPN's draft Work Plan for 2023 at our Plenaries. The plan will be ratified on 15th January, and up until that time we welcome your input. If you have any suggestions or comments about the draft Work Plan, please email sarah@clareppn.ie before 15th January. You can read our draft work plan for 2023 via this page on our website: https://clareppn.ie/clare-ppn-draft-work-plan-2023/



The 31 Public Participation Networks around Ireland now boast more than 18,000 member groups and growing. The

REPORT 2021

NATIONAL PPNS ANNUAL

Covid-19 pandemic highlighted the vital role played by PPNs local knowledge was key to understanding and delivering information, support and practical solutions to those experiencing need. There is an Annual Report 2021 for all 31 PPNs, which is available to download from the link below: https://assets.gov.ie/241560/6658b85e-79e8-43e6-87deee862ec8f566.pdf COPING WITH SEVERE WEATHER



The freezing weather looks set to ease in the coming days, but it's important that we all take precautions during the

winter and check in on vulnerable and isolated neighbours, ensure they have sufficient supplies of food, prescription drugs and fuel supplies. The Government has published extensive advice and tips relating to winter health, clothing, farm safety, driving, water supplies and more. These are available at the following link, where you can also download a Winter Ready Booklet for printing: www.winterready.ie

OPPORTUNITIES

FUNDING



DEVELOPMENT FUND Deadline 7th February: The Open Call element of the Community Water Development Fund 2023 is open for

COMMUNITY WATER

community and voluntary groups to assist in the protection and management of water quality, both locally and in the wider catchment. The Fund is administered by Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO) on behalf of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. An Online Fund Clinic webinar will be hosted by LAWPRO on Friday 13th January at 11am. Applications will be accepted until 7th February 2023 via an online portal at: https://consult.watersandcommunities.ie/en/content/communi ty-water-development-fund-grant-application-form-2023.

applications, with €500,000 available. The Fund is open to all

CREATIVE CLIMATE ACTION FUND Deadline 13th March: A €3 million fund has been launched to



support imaginative creative projects that build awareness around climate change and empower citizens to make

meaningful behavioural changes. Applications for the scheme are now open. The successful teams will include experts from the climate science, community engagement as well as the arts and culture sectors. The programme is calling for creative projects which address the following: • Encourage everyone to rethink their lifestyles Connect with the biodiversity crisis • Enable a fair and just transition in making lifestyle changes • Assist citizens to understand the climate crisis Adapt to the effects of climate change There are two funding strands – you can read more and apply here: https://www.creativeireland.gov.ie/en/news/new-e3-million-

<u>creative-climate-action-fund-launched-by-government/</u> **OUR RURAL FUTURE: SUPPORT** FOR WOMEN'S SHEDS



will be set aside in her department's Budget to support Women's Sheds. The grants, which will be in the region of €1,000-€2,000, could be used to assist women's sheds to expand within their communities, run activities or help with

Minister Heather Humphreys has announced that €100,000

running costs such as insurance or rental costs. Any women's shed interested in availing of funding should get in touch with the Dept of Rural and Community Development by emailing: womenssheds@drcd.gov.ie. For more information https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/91115-our-rural-futureminister-humphreys-launches-new-initiative-to-supportwomens-sheds/

LOTS OF ACTIVITIES AT CLARE

LIBRARIES

NEWS / EVENTS ...



struck by just how many events and activities are on offer at the various branches around the Banner County. There are book clubs for adults and children, movie screenings, courses and more. And in the run-up to Christmas, there are

children's story-time events, crafts sessions and Shannon

We were browsing Clare County Library's website and were

Library is hosting Christmas carols next Tuesday, 20th December, with the Non Nobis Domine Choir. Find out about all the events at libraries in Clare here: https://www.clarelibrary.ie/eolas/library/events/library_events_ dec.htm HAVEN HUB SEEKS VOLUNTEERS **VOLUNTEERS** Are you a kind and caring person? Are you passionate about mental health and suicide prevention and keen to learn new skills? Haven Hub is looking for peer support volunteers for the Hub in Ennis, if you can be available for one or two shifts

per month on a Saturday from 8pm to 2am. Full training

can email them at: ennishavenhub@gmail.com. For more

provided. You can also volunteer for the media team,

awareness team and for all-important admin work. Also, if you know of anyone who is distressed or anxious, they can reach out and speak to Haven Hub during these times at the FASD Building, 51 O'Connell St, Ennis, tel: 089 4073370. You

information, see:

https://www.havenhub.ie/volunteer



unoccupied properties to offer them as temporary homes for those fleeing war in Ukraine. The call is part of a new government initiative, led by local authorities, to make use of unoccupied houses, apartments or holiday homes. A tax-free

APPEAL FOR HOMES FOR

Clare County Council is appealing to those who have

recognition payment of €800 per month is available for

PEOPLE FROM UKRAINE

properties used to house those arriving from Ukraine. More than 60,000 people have arrived in Ireland from Ukraine seeking safety and the vast majority need accommodation. Property owners can offer homes at offerahome.ie or by contacting Clare County Council at offerahome@clarecoco.ie, or by phone at (065) 6846577. More information at this page: https://clarecoco.ie/your-council/[news]/new-appeal-for-clareproperties-to-house-ukrainian-people.html IRISH GARDEN BIRD SURVEY Closes end February: BirdWatch Ireland's Irish Garden Bird

Survey has returned for the 34th consecutive winter. The

citizen science project got underway on 28th November and runs until the end of February 2023. The survey is very simple and asks people to spend a short amount of time

each week watching their garden birds and recording what they see. It plays an important role in tracking the fortunes of

some of Ireland's best-loved wildlife. Last winter there was a big increase in the number of Bramblings in Irish gardens, with 4% of gardens in 21 counties hosting at least one of these Scandinavian migrants hiding among their Chaffinches. Read more about the survey here: https://birdwatchireland.ie/our-work/surveysresearch/research-surveys/irish-garden-bird-survey/ **EXERCISE VIDEOS FOR THOSE** WITH CHRONIC CONDITIONS From the HSE Healthy Eating Active Living Programme

comes a new series of 10- to 45-minute home exercise videos, suitable for people living with chronic conditions who can exercise safely at home. The videos range from warm-



aerobic and resistance sessions. The videos can be selfpaced and done in 10-minute slots, building to up to 45minute sessions over time. They are also available for

ups and chair exercises to a gentle aerobic session and full

healthcare professionals to signpost to patients. You can access these videos at: https://www2.hse.ie/wellbeing/being-active-with-a-healthcondition/being-active-with-a-health-condition.html CONSULTATIONS

AMENDMENTS TO DRAFT

COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Deadline 3rd January: Clare County Council has prepared

Development Plan 2023-2029, which will be on public display until Tuesday, 3rd January, 2023. Submissions/observations

proposed amendments to the Draft Clare County

devplan@clarecoco.ie, with the subject "Proposed

can be made, until that date, by email to:



Amendments to the Draft Clare Draft Development Plan 2023-2029". They can also be made by post – see the page

at this link for more details, including PDFs of the draft plan: https://countydevelopmentplanreview.clarecoco.ie/stage3amendments/display/ IS TRANSPORT A PROBLEM FOR YOU? Many people in County Clare are dependent on public

transport, but the options are limited. One organisation that is

feedback can help them to meet the needs of people in Co

https://www.locallinklc.ie/is-transport-a-problem-for-you/

providing transport is Local Link Limerick Clare. The company is now conducting an online survey – your

www.clareppn.ie

About Us

Contact Us

Participation Network – bringing our diverse voices into policy

Clare. This very short survey is at this link:

Email: sarah@clareppn.ie