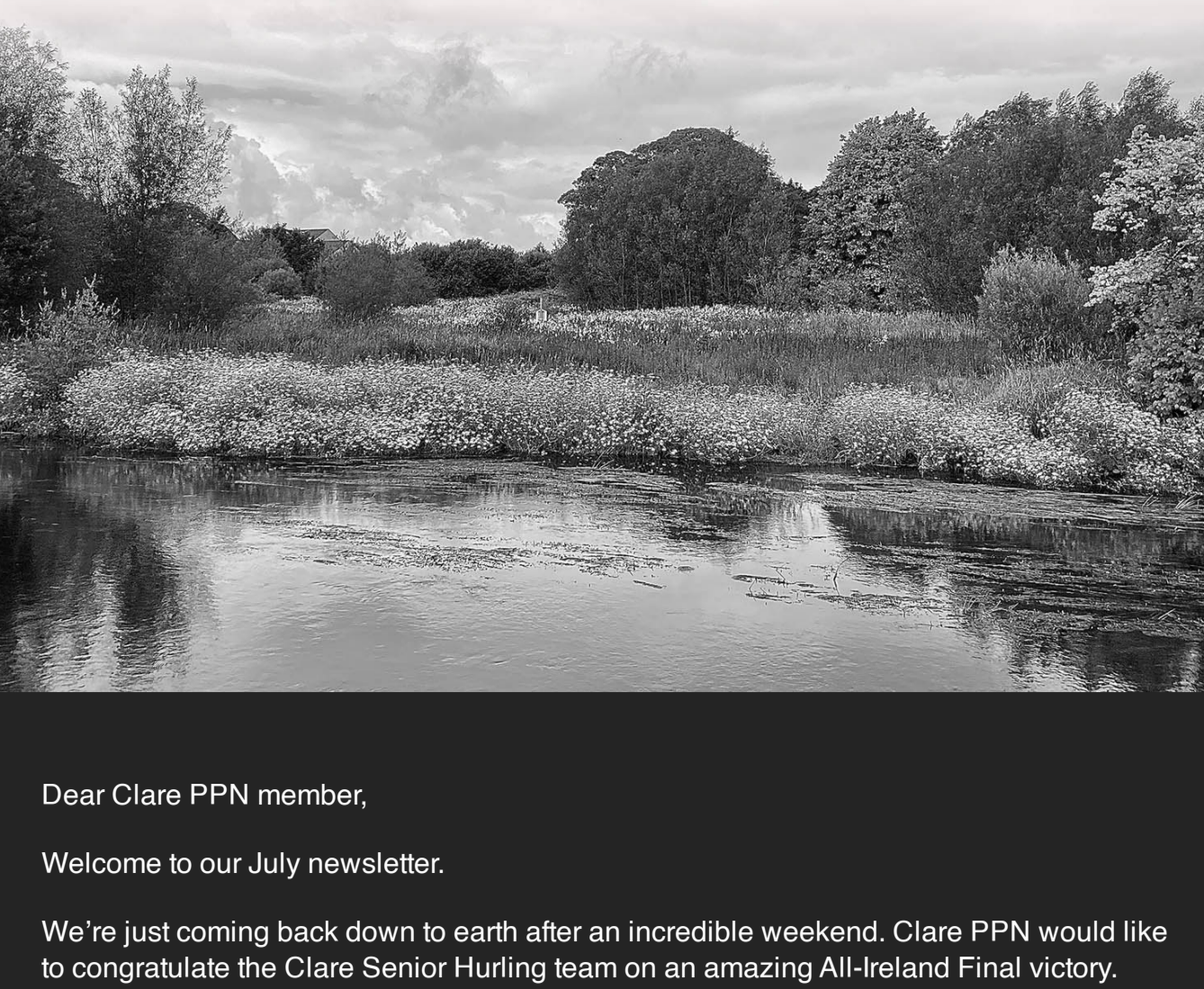


# NEWSLETTER JULY 2024



Dear Clare PPN member,

Welcome to our July newsletter.

We're just coming back down to earth after an incredible weekend. Clare PPN would like to congratulate the Clare Senior Hurling team on an amazing All-Ireland Final victory. Nail-biting to the final whistle. The game was watched by a huge audience around the world but it's also an opportunity to pay tribute to all the amazing GAA clubs and other sports clubs who are members of our network and who bring so much to communities across the Banner County; and to the hundreds of volunteers running those clubs and coaching at all age and ability levels.

This month we have lots of funding news to suit various groups. Scroll down for those and for news of events, job vacancies and consultations.

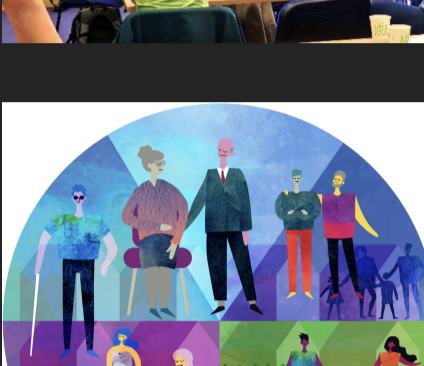
Our photo above this month is of the Ennis Post Office Field.

Please be sure to share this newsletter with members of your group. Finally, if you'd like to see something included in our newsletter, you can let us know by emailing newsletter@clareppn.ie

All the best,

Sarah Clancy, Sarah Ferrigan & William Hedenman

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



## CLARE PPN QUARTERLY WORK REPORT

You can read about what we've been up to in our latest quarterly Work Report, covering April to June of this year. Highlights from that period included several initiatives for which we collaborated with our community colleagues in Clare: an extensive voter registration drive in the run-up to local and European elections in June; a Connecting Clare Communities day-long workshop; and a Volunteer Expo. Click here to read our work report: <https://clareppn.ie/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/Quarterly-report-April-to-June-2024.pdf>



## SURVEY: PPNs, DIVERSITY & BARRIERS TO INVOLVEMENT

The Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) has commissioned research into possible barriers to involvement in Public Participation Networks. They are exploring the demographic characteristics of groups and individuals involved in all 31 PPNs in Ireland in order to gauge the diversity of participation. They will primarily use consultation, but are also conducting an initial survey, which will take approximately 20 minutes to fill out. Your views will be of huge help to overcoming barriers to participation in PPNs. Information gathered will not be used for any other purpose. The final report will be shared with stakeholders. Please access the survey here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PPNQuestionnaire>

# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



## IRELAND AGAINST RACISM FUND

**Deadline 7th August:** The Ireland Against Racism funding call is an important element in supporting the implementation of the National Action Plan Against Racism, "for national and local initiatives that aim to combat racism and foster racial equality and community cohesion". There are two streams. Scheme A will provide grants, ranging from €50,000 to €100,000, for national and regional projects. Scheme B will provide grants, ranging from €5,000 to €10,000, for local projects. The closing date is noon on Wednesday 7th August. For more information and to apply visit: <https://www.gov.ie/en/press-releases/7e53dc-minister-john-odonoghue-announces-the-appointment-of-the-social-reporter-for-the-national-action-plan-against-racism/>



## COMMUNITY SAFETY FUND

**Deadline 26th July:** €3.75 million has been made available by the Department of Justice through the Community Safety Fund to support the development of community safety initiatives, with grants from €20,000-€150,000. Applications will be invited from community safety initiatives as well as groups co-funded with local authorities, NGOs and community organisations working on issues relevant to community safety and youth justice. More info at this link: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/community-safety-fund/>



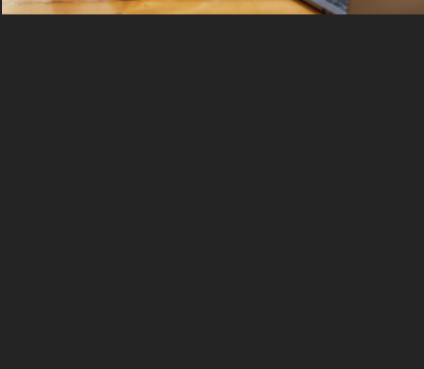
## NEW SOLUTIONS SOCIAL INNOVATION FUND

**Deadline 30th August:** Applications are invited for the New Solutions Social Innovation Fund. The overall objective of New Solutions is to enhance the social innovation ecosystem in Ireland and is co-funded through the European Social Fund + 2021-2027 (ESF+), a European initiative aimed at reducing the risk of poverty and social exclusion, with an emphasis on disadvantaged groups. The Hub's main objective will be to act as a One Stop Shop for supporting Social Innovations. For more information visit: <https://www.nosol.ie/programmes/new-solutions-social-innovation-fund/>



## COMMUNITY LOANS: WESTERN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Here's some news that may be of interest to any group considering applying for LEADER funding. The Western Development Commission offers bridging loans for LEADER-based grants, with 5% APR. The WDC works with Community, Voluntary, Social Enterprise, Charities and Co-operatives. Loan amounts range from €50,000 to €200,000. Contact the WDC's Community Loans Manager Anne Graham on 087-286 3711 for advice on Bridging Loans or Match Funding Loans. You can read more in this fact sheet: <https://westdevdevelopment.ie/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/Community-Loan-Fact-Sheet.pdf>

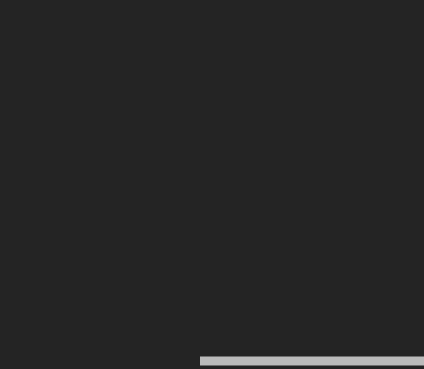


## EUROPEAN PROJECTS FOR ADULT EDUCATION & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

**Deadline 1st October:** The Adult Education team at Léargas supports any organisation that is new to European projects. Léargas's Adult Education funding supports non-formal and informal learning for adults, which covers lots of social inclusion and community development work happening in your communities. The next Erasmus+ funding applications deadline is Tuesday 1st October. This funding can support:
 

- Training and job shadowing opportunities for staff and volunteers;
- International learning experiences for participants in adult learning and community programmes;
- Collaboration between organisations in European countries for exchange of practice and shared resource development.

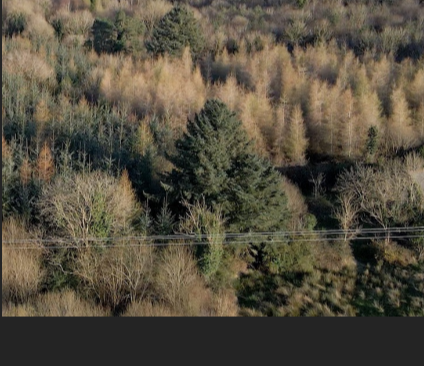
 Contact Jemma on [je@leargas.ie](mailto:je@leargas.ie) to discuss your work or visit this link to find out about support events prior to the deadline: <https://www.leargas.ie/training-and-events/>



## REMINDER: COMMUNITY CENTRES INVESTMENT FUND

**Deadline 29th August:** Grants from €10,000 up to €100,000 are available to upgrade existing community centres. The work being carried out can be Refurbishment of Kitchens & Toilets, Upgrades to Windows & Doors, Energy Efficiency Upgrades & Improving access for people with disabilities or other similar improvements. Please note that people or groups intending to apply must pre-register by 29th July. Online information sessions, clinics and support events are being held in June, July and August. For full details please visit: <https://www.gov.ie/en/service/fec91-community-centres-investment-fund/>

# NEWS / EVENTS ...



## FIELD TRIP TO ANCIENT WOODLAND

**28th July:** CELT are having an interesting woodland field trip on Sunday 28th July, to an ancient native woodland at Caher, Lough Graney. Tickets are free and you will visit a conifer plantation in the early stage of transformation from a monoculture to a mixed broadleaf-conifer forest, with the option of being transformed into a native woodland eventually. This is being done through selective logging methods also known as Continuous Cover or Close-to-nature or Irregular forestry. The walk will also go through the neighbouring oak plantation with scotch pine and the Ancient Native Woodland with oaks more than 200 years old. Register for free here: <https://www.celt.net.org/events/transformation-of-forestry-plantations-to-diverse-woodlands-with-julius>



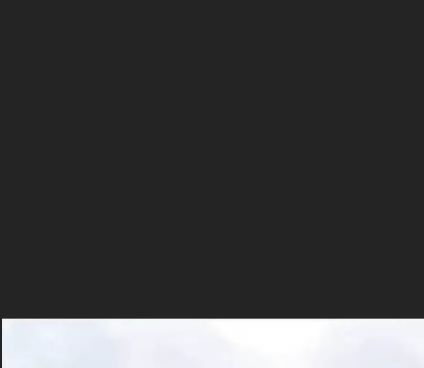
## NATIONAL TRAIL CONFERENCE IN LEITRIM

**31st August:** Our colleagues at Leitrim PPN have asked us to let you know about a landmark event to celebrate and enhance our country's trail network. Leitrim Development Company invites you to Ireland's first National Trail Conference, 31st August to 3rd September in Leitrim. The event promises to be a great opportunity for networking, learning and contributing to the future of Ireland's trails. Whether you're a trail enthusiast, community group, activity provider, professional or advocate, there's something for everyone. There are two days of pre-event excursions, including waterfall tours, kayaking and outdoor wellness, before the conference on 2nd and 3rd September. More info and booking: <https://www.nationaltrailconference.ie>



## ONLINE SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING

'Let's Talk About Suicide', a new online suicide prevention programme from the HSE NOSP, aims to provide people with the knowledge and confidence to have a conversation if they are concerned that someone may be thinking about suicide. It aims to provide people who access it with a sense of hope and reassurance that suicide prevention is possible. This introductory programme uses a mix of guided online content, video and interactive questions. Participants can pause and recommence the programme at their own convenience. On average, the programme will take 60 minutes to complete, but participants can work at their own pace. For more information visit: <https://traininghub.nosp.ie/>

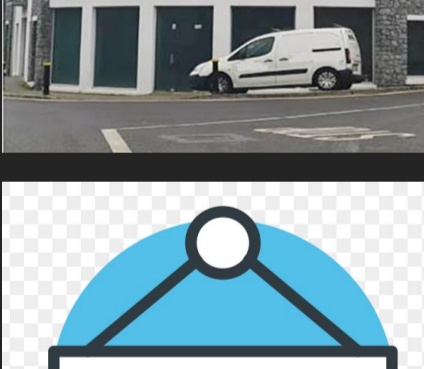


## CLARE ARTISTS PANEL: MUSIC, DRAMA, DANCE

**Deadline 9th August:** Clare Arts Office is seeking applications from artists (Clare-based and national) interested in delivering and facilitating projects as part of various schemes in the county. Applications are sought from artists under the following categories only:
 

- Music (guitar/musician/song writing/choir leader)
- Drama/theatre
- Dance.

 If you are already on the panel for 2023-2026 you do not need to reapply. Deadline for applications is Friday, August 9th at 5pm. See more here: <https://yoursay.clarecoco.ie/artist-panel-2024>



## COMMERCIAL UNIT TO LET IN ENNIS

Cluid Housing have asked us to let our members know that they have a commercial unit available to lease in Mill Place, Round Linn, Ennis. Cluid would like to make the unit available to a social enterprise/community group if there is any interest. The unit is 167.5 square metres and is ready for fit out. Parking would be at local car parks. For more information please contact Aileen by email at: [awoods@cluid.ie](mailto:awoods@cluid.ie)



## JOB VACANCIES IN CLARE

Here are some community sector job vacancies we have spotted.
 

**Focus Ireland** is seeking a full-time Case Manager for its Housing First Intensive Case Management Service: <https://www.activeireland.ie/vacancies/community/109767-focus-ireland-case-manager-housing-first-clare>

**Mid West Simon Community** is seeking a Social Care Project Worker in Ennis: <https://www.activelink.ie/vacancies/community/109769-mid-west-simon-community-social-care-project-worker-ennis-services>

**Extern** is seeking Relief Workers for its Extern Disability Respite Service: <https://www.activelink.ie/vacancies/children-youth/109597-extern-relief-workers-extern-disability-respite-service>

**ClareCare** is seeking Home Supporter Workers and administration staff. You can see all of ClareCare's current vacancies here: <https://clarecare.ie/vacancies/>

# CONSULTATIONS



## DRAFT CLARE TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION PROGRAMME

**Deadline 27th September:** In accordance with the provision of Section 9 of the Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act, 1998 Clare County Council gives notice that it has prepared a Draft Traveller Accommodation Programme for the period 2025 -2029 for the functional area of Clare County Council. The draft programme is available for public inspection from 26th July to 27th September at the following locations:
 

- Clare County Council, Aras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare
- West Clare Municipal District, Clare County Council, Ennistymon Area Office, Ennis Road, Ennistymon, Co. Clare
- Killaloe Municipal District, Mountshannon Road, Scarriff, Co. Clare
- Shannon Municipal District, Town Hall, Shannon, Co. Clare
- West Clare Municipal District, Town Hall, Kilrush, Co. Clare

 On Clare County Council's website: <https://www.clarecoco.ie/>

Clare County Council invites any interested party to make a submission in writing to: The Housing Department, Clare County Council, Aras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare or via email to [travelaccm@clarecoco.ie](mailto:travelaccm@clarecoco.ie) no later than 27th September 2024.



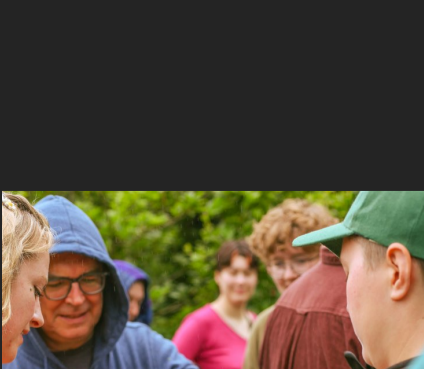
## WILDLIFE LEGISLATION

**Deadline 13th September:** Your views are sought for a public consultation being held by the National Parks and Wildlife Service to review and update wildlife legislation. The objectives are to update legislation so that it better protects nature, helps prevent biodiversity loss, is fully compliant with EU law and is easier to enforce and comply with. The plan is to publish two new Wildlife Bills and several new Statutory Instruments arising from this work. This is the first phase of public consultation. In this phase, views on the overall project are being invited. Find out more at this link: <https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/01388-public-consultation-on-review-and-update-of-wildlife-legislation/>



## CLIMATE CONVERSATION 2024

**Deadline 22nd September:** The Climate Conversation 2024 is now open, and you are invited to have your say on how we can all play our part in securing our sustainable future. An online questionnaire is now open where people can give their views on reuse and recycling, food and food waste, heating our homes, sustainable living, local environment and climate change. People can also have their say on how actions in these areas – by Governments, individuals and society as a whole – can positively impact our climate goals. You don't need to be a climate expert for your opinion to be valued. Read more at this link, where you can also find a link to the questionnaire: <https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/556db-climate-conversations-2024/>



## CLIMATE ENGAGEMENT SURVEY

**Deadline 22nd September:** The Department of Environment & Climate would appreciate your co-operation in completing the Climate Engagement Survey of Ireland. The survey, conducted by Ipsos B&A, asks you to submit examples of key climate-related initiatives your organisation is engaged in. The survey length will vary depending on the number of initiatives you choose to share (up to five). This survey will need to be completed in one session. As well as internal analysis by the Department, the survey results will be published as an interactive map, showcasing the breadth and diversity of climate action across Ireland. The survey can be found here: <https://research3.ipsosinteractive.com/mr/Web/mr/Web.dl?l.Project=IE2401016101WE>