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## Chairperson's Foreword

**I am pleased and honoured to be associated with this Review of the Strategy for the Economic, Social & Cultural Development of County Limerick "Working Together for a Better Future 2002-2011".**

Over the past number of years since the launch of the Strategy, the people of County Limerick have seen a number of changes taking place in society. There have been a number of National, Regional and Local policy developments, such as the publication of the National Spatial Strategy, the Mid-West Regional Planning Guidelines and the review of the Limerick County Development Plan. Unprecedented economic growth and social changes such as the in-migration of large numbers from the ten EU Accession States and non-EU States, and the low level of unemployment, have all impacted on the way we as a society go about our everyday lives.

It is in light of these changes, that the Minister for Environment, Heritage and Local Government requested that each City/County Development Board would review its Strategy during 2005 and focus its work for the coming three years, 2006-2008, on a number of key priority actions.

Limerick County Development Board has spent a great deal of time discussing its work for the next three years. The majority of the actions are focused on the Quality of Life Theme as set out in the original Strategy, while there are also a number under the second theme of the Strategy, Balanced Geographic Development. The thrust of the Board is on collaborative actions, where a number of

agencies are involved in working together and are focused on maximising resources and having a greater cohesive impact on the lives of the people within the County.

I would like to express my thanks to a number of people. First and foremost, to both the past and present Board Members who have given their time and commitment to the process. Secondly, to the various agencies represented on all the Action Groups, who have responsibility for overseeing the implementation of the Strategy. Finally I would like to convey my appreciation to the Director of Community & Enterprise and his staff for their commitment in the preparation of this document. Limerick County Development Board is fully committed to "Working Together for a Better Future" and with the necessary commitments from the various agencies, I am confident that the work of the Board over the next three years will prove to have been worthwhile for County Limerick.

Cllr. Brigid Teefy  
**CATHAOIRLEACH**





## Director of Services Introduction

**The publication of our ten-year Strategy in 2002 set out the blueprint for strategic and integrated planning of service delivery for County Limerick. The County Development Board has achieved quite a degree of success over the last number of years and in this Review document we have highlighted the progress of a sample of six of these actions.**

It is clear from the challenges that we have encountered to date, that most progress is made where there is a collaborative effort on the part of a number of agencies i.e. a multi-agency approach. This has been recognised at a national level also, and was one of the key elements identified by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in his request in prioritising actions for 2006 – 2008: *“focus on integrative actions aimed at a more joined up approach to local service delivery involving relevant agencies”*. The ultimate aim of the Board is to improve service delivery at local level through greater cohesion and integration.

The Board has identified twenty-one priority actions for the 2006-2008 period. Individual Board members have agreed to convene each action, with a number of agencies collaborating in implementing each one.

I would like to join the Cathaoirleach in thanking both the Board Members and the Action Groups for their work in implementing the Strategy to-date and all the agencies involved in committing their resources to the priority actions for the next three years. I have no doubt the Board members and their respective organisations will respond positively to the challenges that lie ahead, as the changes in our society place additional demands on us. I would also like to thank the staff of the Community & Enterprise Department for progressing this Review Document.

Gerry Behan  
**DIRECTOR OF SERVICES**



# ● ● ● ● Background Information

## Purpose of the County / City Development Board (CDB)

County and City Development Boards were established in 2000 following the Taskforce Report on the Integration of Local Government and Local Development and were given statutory recognition in the Local Government Act 2001. Section 129 of the 2001 Act sets out the functions of the CDB as follows:

- (a) to take such steps, as the Board may consider appropriate, to enable each of the bodies and interests, whose functions affect the economic, social or cultural development of the City / County and its people, to provide the maximum benefit each of them can to such development, both individually and collectively.
- (b) to draw up a strategy for the economic, social and cultural development of the City / County and the community.
- (c) to seek to secure that the policies and operations of the bodies and interests represented on the Board and of others, accord generally with the strategy.
- (d) to encourage and promote, on an ongoing basis, the co-ordination of the activities of the bodies and interests represented on the Board and co-operation generally between such bodies and interests, so as to optimise resources and combined effort for the common good of the community.



## Background to Limerick County Development Board's Strategy for Economic, Social and Cultural Development 2002 – 2011

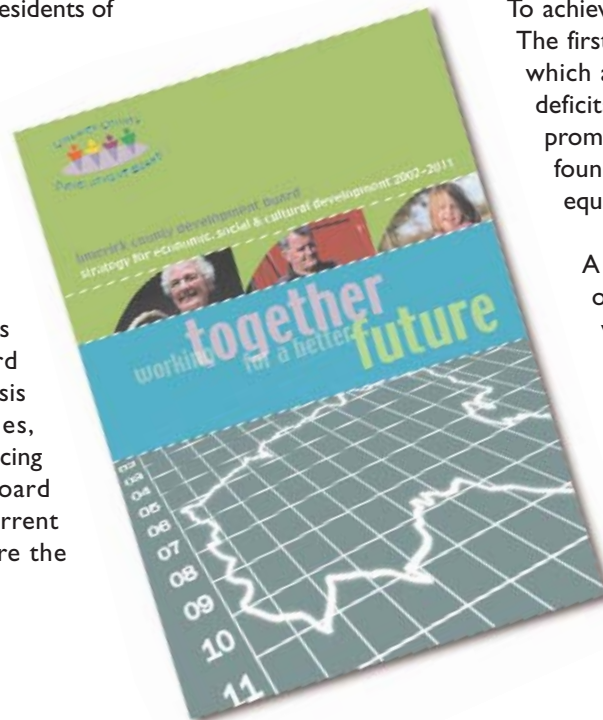
The primary objective of the County Development Board is to prepare and implement a Strategy for the Economic, Social and Cultural Development of County Limerick. Extensive research and consultation was undertaken in order to devise the original strategy. An Audit of Services was conducted to establish who delivers what services, where and to whom. A Quality of Life Survey was carried out to ascertain the views of residents of County Limerick. The Community and Voluntary Forum, which was established under the auspices of the Board, was also consulted in the development of the Strategy.

The culmination of the research undertaken was the production of the first Economic, Social and Cultural Analysis of County Limerick which was published in May 2001. The Board considered the findings of this analysis and the main strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) facing the County were identified. The Board having reflected on the County's current position developed a vision of where the County should be in ten years' time:

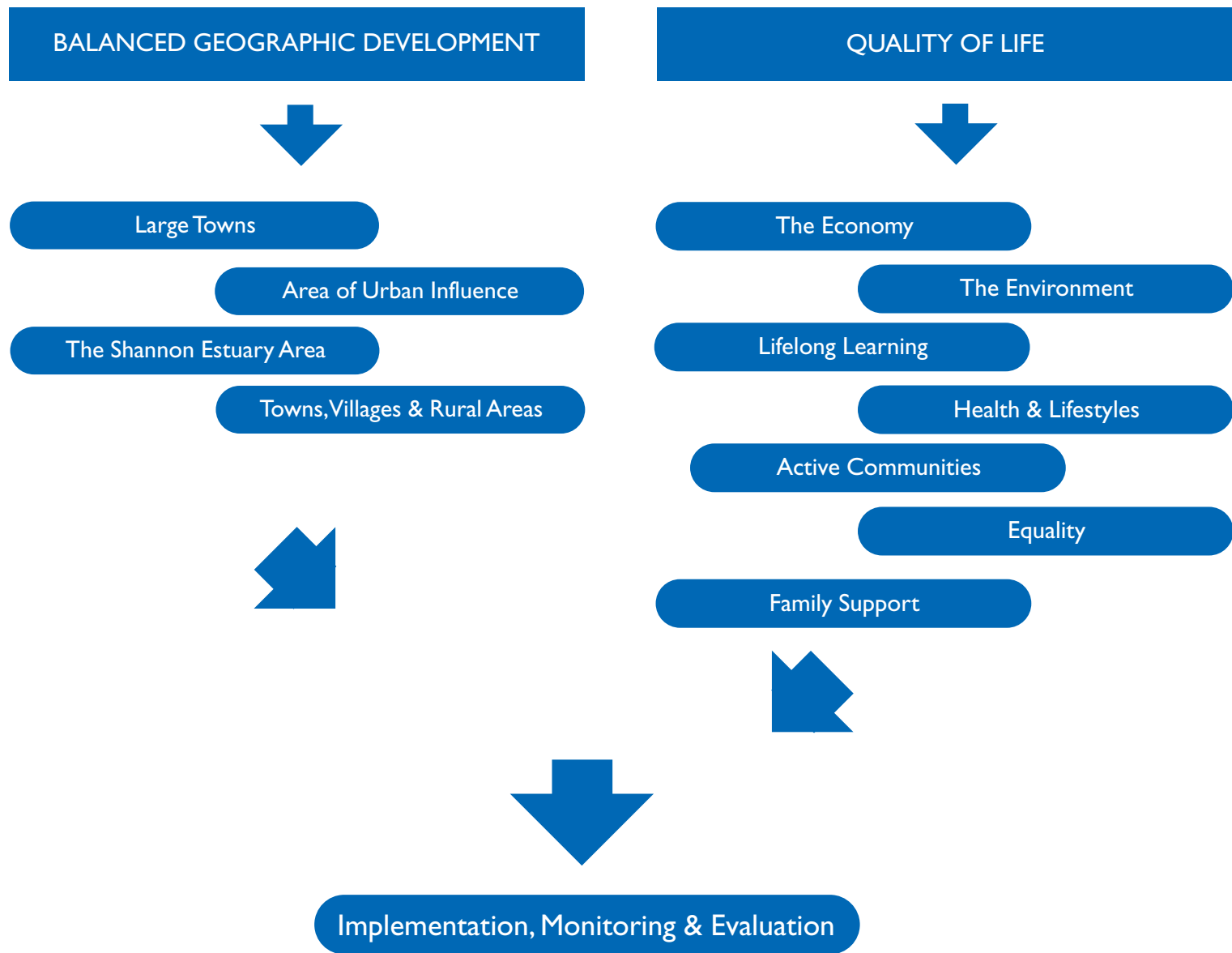
***'Limerick County will be an attractive place for people to live and work with access to quality services where the collaborative focus of communities and service providers can facilitate a good quality of life.'***

To achieve this vision two key themes were identified. The first theme is Balanced Geographic Development which addresses spatial planning and infrastructure deficits. The second theme, Quality of Life, aims to promote sustainable economic development as the foundation on which social supports can facilitate equal access to all aspects of life.

A series of sub-themes containing goals and objectives were set out in the original strategy with specific actions under the various headings. The implementation of these actions was assigned to the respective organisations represented on the Board or those responsible for delivering services in County Limerick.



# ●●●● The Framework of the Strategy





## LCDB Membership

### The membership of the Board is broadly based and currently its twenty seven members are representative of four sectors:

- Seven representatives from the **Local Government Sector**, represented by the Cathaoirleach (Chairperson of the Council), the five Chairpersons of Limerick County Council's Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs) and the County Manager.
- Six representatives from the **Local Development Sector** comprised of the County Enterprise Board, County Limerick Childcare Committee, Ballyhoura Development Ltd. (2), Tipperary LEADER Group Ltd. and West Limerick Resources Ltd..
- Nine representatives from the **State Agency Sector** including County Limerick Vocational Education Committee, FÁS, An Garda Síochána, Industrial Development Agency, Health Service Executive, SFADCo, Teagasc, Department of Social & Family Affairs and the Department of Education & Science.
- Five representatives from the **Social Partners** with two from Limerick County Community & Voluntary Forum and one each from the Employers, Farming and Trade Union Pillars.



# LCDBB Membership

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT SECTOR



Cllr. Brigid Teefy

**Cathaoirleach of  
Limerick County  
Council**



Cllr. Mary Harty

**Chair of the  
Environmental  
SPC**



Cllr. Eddie Creighton

**Chair of the  
Social, Cultural  
& Community  
Development  
SPC**



Cllr. Noreen Ryan

**Chair of the  
Planning &  
Development  
SPC**



Cllr. Jerome Scanlon

**Chair of the  
Housing  
SPC**



Cllr. Michael Collins

**Chair of the  
Transportation &  
Infrastructural  
SPC**



Mr. Edmund Gleeson  
**Manager of Limerick County Council**

## LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SECTOR



Ms. Carmel Fox

**Ballyhoura  
Development**



Ms. Marie O'Connor

**Ballyhoura  
Development**



Ms. Isabel Cambie

**Tipperary  
LEADER Group**



Ms. Joan Murphy

**County Limerick  
Childcare  
Committee**



Mr. Ned Toomey

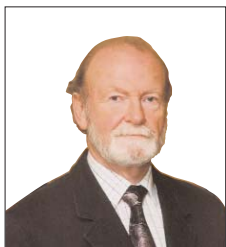
**Limerick County  
Enterprise Board**



Mr. Shay Riordan

**West Limerick  
Resources**

## STATE AGENCY SECTOR



Mr. Nick O'Neill

**Dept. of Social  
& Family Affairs**



Mr. Finbarr Brougham

**Shannon  
Development**



Mr. Bernard Gloster

**Health Service  
Executive - West**



Mr. Willie Keane  
Chief Superintendent

**An Garda Síochána**



Mr. Tony O'Gorman

**Dept. of Education  
& Science**



Ms. Catherine Hurley

**FÁS**



Mr. Fachtna O'Driscoll

**TEAGASC**



Mr. Shay Power

**IDA Ireland**



Mr. Sean Burke

**County Limerick VEC**

## SOCIAL PARTNERS



Ms. Theresa Lee

**Limerick County  
Community  
& Voluntary Forum**



Mr. Pat Dempsey

**Limerick County  
Community  
& Voluntary Forum**



Mr. Michael O'Flynn

**Farming Pillar**



Mr. Bill Davoren

**Trade Union Pillar**



Ms. Mary Fitzgerald

**Business &  
Employers Pillar**

## ●●●● Review Process

The Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government asked that each County/City Development Board should carry out a review of its Strategy for Economic, Social and Cultural Development for its area in 2005. The purpose of this review is not the devising of a totally new Strategy. This is not necessary, as indeed much of the broad economic, social and cultural situation has not changed significantly since 2002. What this review is about is the CDB focussing on its key co-ordination role resulting in:

- The selection of a limited number of key priorities and actions on which the CDB will concentrate over the next three years;
- A focus on integrative actions aimed at a more joined-up approach to local service delivery involving relevant agencies; and

- A clearly defined implementation work programme for 2006 – 2008.

Members were also asked to identify key developments at local, regional and national level that have occurred within their area of focus since the CDB Strategy was prepared, and assess their implications with a view to identifying priority areas for the work of the Board for the next three years.

Limerick CDB held a number of meetings and facilitated sessions during 2005 and agreed a number of priority actions. A convenor has been agreed for each action and the participating organisations have also committed resources to ensure the successful implementation of these actions.





# Economic, Social and Cultural Analysis of County Limerick 2004

## Where Are We Now?



# Where Are We Now?

**An important study that formed the basis of the original Strategy was the “Economic, Social and Cultural Analysis of County Limerick”, first published in 2001. This document was revised and updated in 2004 when detailed data from the 2002 Census and other sources became available. The analysis has assisted the Board and other agencies in assessing the success of its activities and progress under a number of headings. The information and data gathered during the review process has also helped to identify new areas that require the focus of the CDB. The following are some of the salient points in relation to County Limerick contained within the analysis document.**

## LOCATION

- County Limerick covers approximately 2,735 square kilometres and is situated in the Mid-West of Ireland.
- The nearest airports are in Shannon, Co. Clare and Farranfore, Co. Kerry. Rail links to Limerick are available from Dublin, Cork and Ennis.
- There is an extensive bus service to Limerick from all major population centres outside the county.

## POPULATION

- The total population in County Limerick in 2002 was 121,281, which showed an increase of 7.3% since 1996.
- County Limerick is characterised by a large number of small centres of population, with 71% of the population living in centres below 1,500.
- The population of County Limerick is projected to increase to over 135,000 by 2011.

## POPULATION MOVEMENT

- There has been a trend of continued movement of population from the West, South and East of the County towards an area approximately within a 30 kilometre radius of Limerick City.

## INFRASTRUCTURE

- Under the National Development Plan, major infrastructural developments are underway in County Limerick, including a number of new road projects.
- 57 water and sewerage schemes have been identified as being required or in need of improvement.
- A rollout of broadband throughout the county is also in progress with plans for future developments.



**Phase One of the Limerick Southern Ring Road.**



# Where Are We Now?

## EMPLOYMENT & UNEMPLOYMENT

- The largest employment sector in County Limerick in 2002 was the tertiary (services) sector employing 70%, compared to the secondary (manufacturing, etc.) sector employing 21% and the primary sector (agriculture, etc.) employing 9%.
- In 2002, County Limerick had an unemployment rate of 4.3%, which was lower than the State unemployment rate of 5.7% and the other counties in the Mid-West Region.
- In 2000 there were 6,186 farm holdings in County Limerick, with an average farm size of 32.6 hectares (80 acres).
- The area of the County under forestry at the end of 2003 was 22,614 hectares or 8% of the land area, which compares with a national average of 9.9% and an EU average of 24%.

## AGRICULTURE

- 76% of the total land area in County Limerick is used for agriculture. County Limerick showed a reduction in agricultural employment between 1996 and 2002, which reflects the national trend.

## TOURISM

- The main visitor attractions in County Limerick are the Foynes Flying Boat Museum, Curraghchase Forest Park, Desmond Castle and Adare Heritage Centre.
- The tourism product and infrastructure in County Limerick is improving, thanks to private sector investment and the co-operation of the relevant agencies.



Banqueting Room in Desmond Castle,  
Newcastle West.

# ●●●● Where Are We Now?

## ENVIRONMENT

- The Maigue and the Deel were the most polluted rivers in County Limerick in 2001 in terms of phosphorous loading.
- 30% of the rivers in hydrometric area 24, (which contain the Maigue and Deel catchments) are classed as unpolluted, compared with a national average of 70%.
- Limerick County Council provides recycling facilities throughout the County with 49 recycling centres and the new Household Waste Recycling Centres in Newcastle West and Kilmallock.
- The total quantity of waste recycled in Limerick County in 2003 was 893 tonnes and 1,553 in 2004.

## HERITAGE

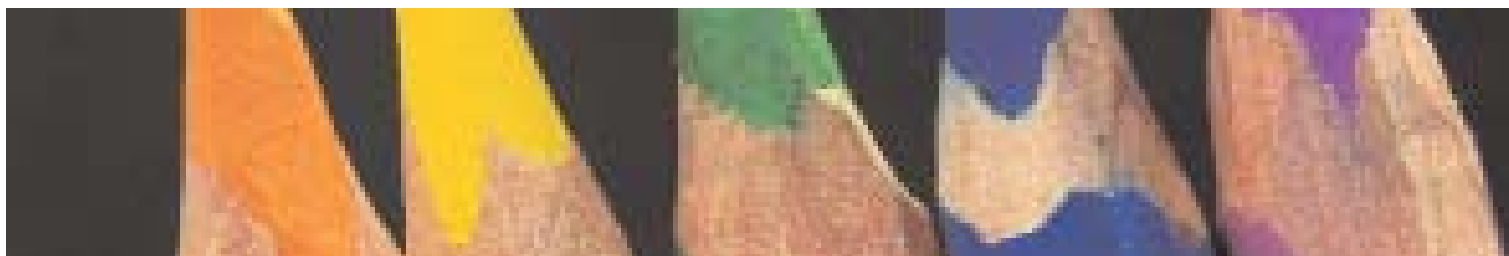
- There are 34 proposed Natural Heritage Areas, Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas in County Limerick.
- There are 51 sites of archaeological importance in County Limerick that are in State ownership or guardianship.

## CULTURE, SPORT & RECREATION

- There is a diversity of arts activities in County Limerick ranging from artists in schools, writer in residence, workshops, exhibitions and street theatre festivals.
- County Limerick has an extensive branch network of 26 libraries; a book stock in excess of 400,000; membership of 17,868 and an extensive local studies collection.
- According to the 2002 Census, 51% of people aged 3 years and over in County Limerick were recorded as being able to speak Irish.
- The sports infrastructure is generally strong throughout the County but some minor sports have infrastructural needs.
- There are five town parks in County Limerick and three significant recreational areas in the Clare Glens, Curraghchase Forest Park and Lough Gur.

## CHILDCARE

- There is a lack of childcare provision in rural areas of the County. When areas of least provision of childcare are compared with areas of deprivation there is a strong correlation between the two.



# ●●●● Where Are We Now?

## SOCIAL INCLUSION

- In February 2003, there were 4,313 families in receipt of One Parent Family Allowances in County Limerick.
- In the 2002 Census the population of County Limerick aged over 65 years was almost 11% or 12,776 persons. Of this, 5,805 persons were living alone, 64% female and 36% male.
- There were 510 families in Limerick City & County in receipt of family income support in 2003.
- There are an estimated 3,300 persons in the Mid-West Region eligible for inclusion in the Physical & Sensory Disability database, of which almost 1,000 are children.
- There are 2,494 persons registered in the Mid-West Region on the Intellectual Disability database with the Health Service Executive.
- A survey of Local Authority rented households in County Limerick showed that 23.2% of tenants are unemployed, 23.1% are elderly and 18.5% are lone parents.



Participants in the Communities in Motion Initiative.

# ●●●● Where Are We Now?

## EDUCATION

- County Limerick is served by 116 primary schools and 21 second level schools.
- County Limerick VEC provides a range of second level, post-leaving certificate, return to education and literacy programmes.
- The percentage of the resident population with third level qualifications in County Limerick is 19.8%, which is high compared to the other counties in the Mid-West Region.
- Limerick County's second level education retention rate is slightly better than the National average. 94% of students in County Limerick sit the Junior Certificate and 78.5% complete the Senior Cycle.

## QUALITY OF LIFE

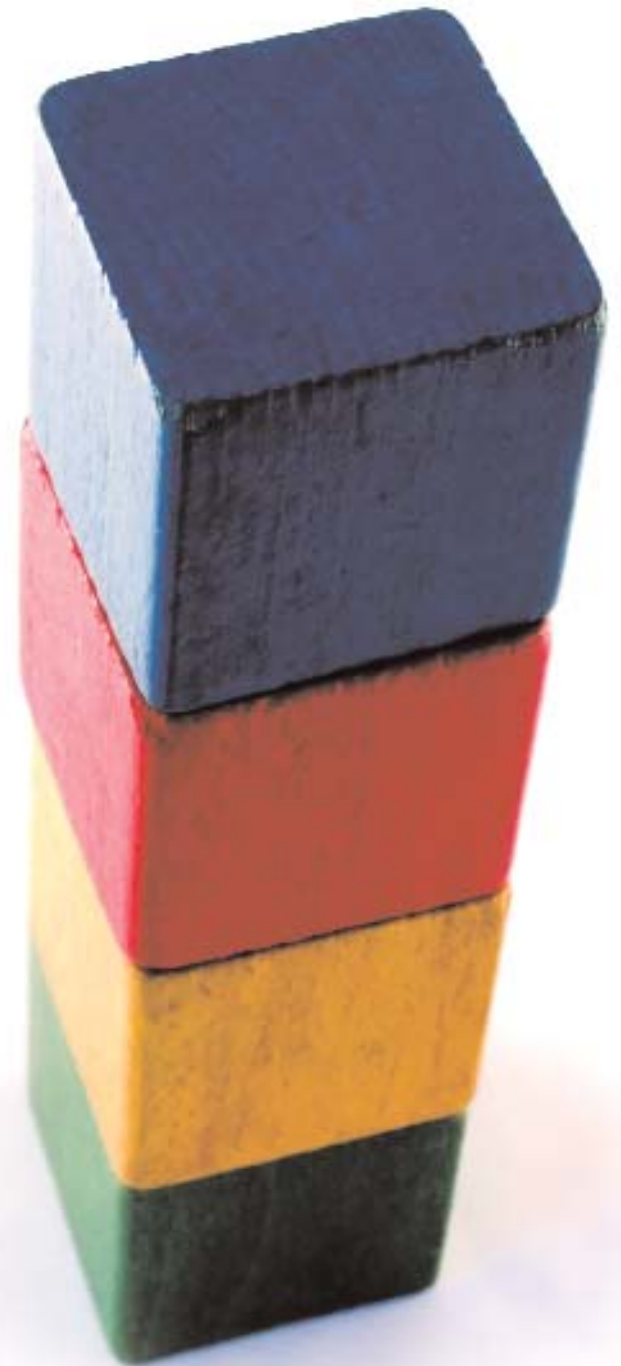
- Buoyancy in the national economy resulting in higher levels of employment, smaller family units and changes in culture, are impacting on the quality of life in County Limerick as elsewhere.



# Progress on the Implementation of the Strategy

**In the original Strategy document the Board set out a number of priority areas that needed to be addressed.**

**The following section reviews some of these actions and outlines what has been done to date and work that is in progress or planned.**



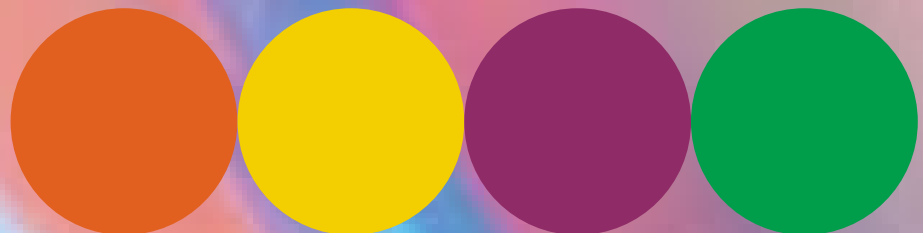




**ACTION AREA:**

# Broadband

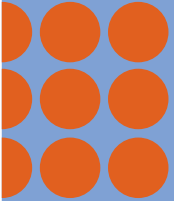
**“To ensure that the  
Mid-West Region  
has Competitive  
Broadband  
Connectivity”**





## ACTION AREA:

# “To ensure that the Mid-West Region has Competitive Broadband Connectivity”



## BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND RATIONALE FOR ACTION:

In early 2001, an extensive independent analysis of the broadband infrastructure in the Shannon Region was commissioned, examining the existing communications infrastructure and services in the region, and an assessment of the experiences and requirements of businesses located there. The report presented the following findings:

- Business telecommunications in the Shannon Region was effectively a duopoly shared by Eircom and Esat;
- There was a high level of dissatisfaction among large Corporates and SMEs with medium-to-high bandwidth demands. These users complained of the following:
  - Many instances of intermittent band width availability and poor customer service.
  - Broadband services seen as expensive.
  - The Service Level Agreements (SLAs) currently available to end users in the Shannon Region were little more than service promises with no real contractual weight behind them.

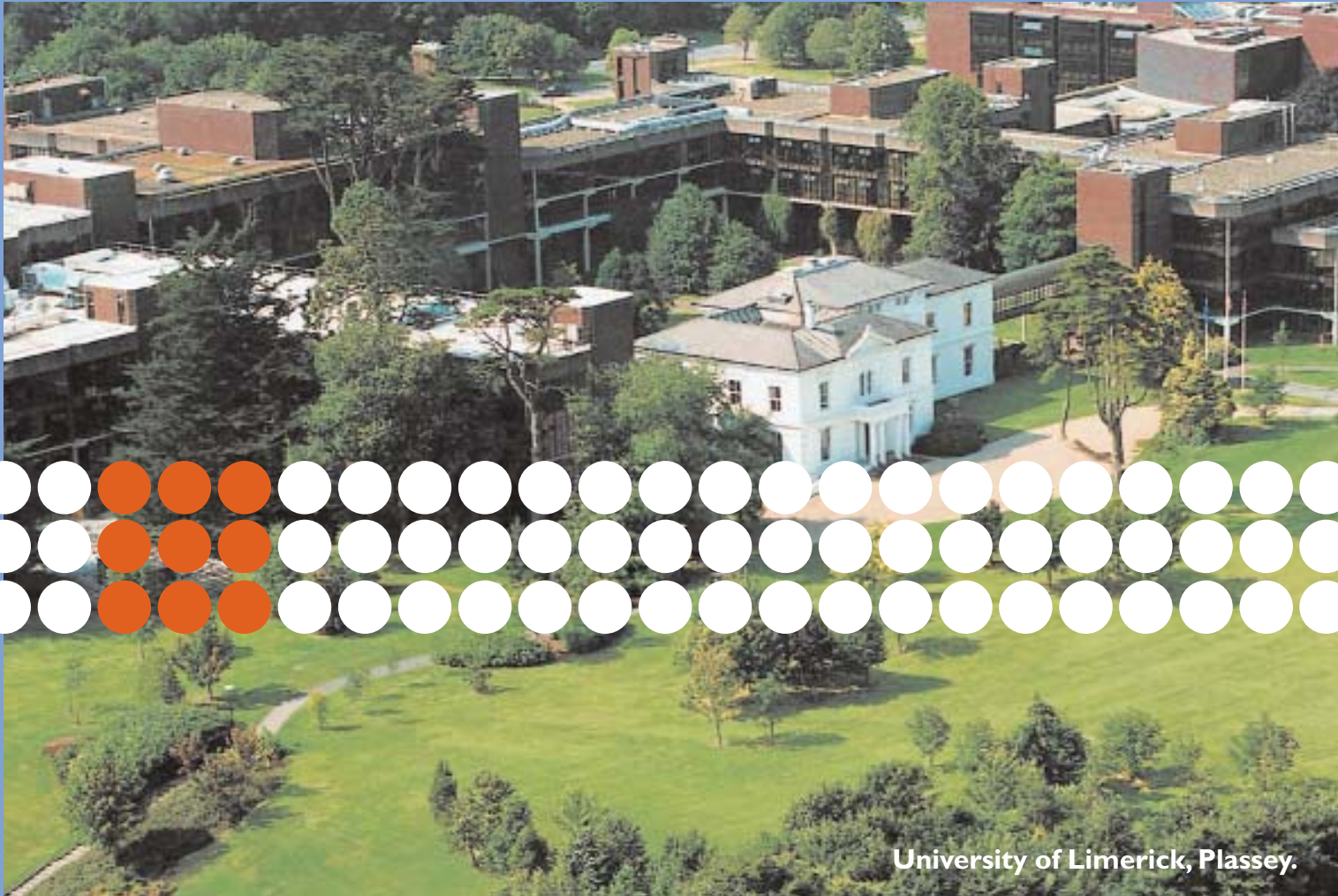
In order to address the deficiencies in broadband infrastructure a consortium of Local Authorities in Limerick, Clare, Offaly, North Tipperary along with Shannon Development and the Mid-West Regional Authority established the Shannon Broadband Project to provide affordable, pervasive broadband for the region.

## WHAT DID WE SAY WE WOULD DO IN THIS ACTION AREA?

The focus of this regional group was to attract new carriers, infrastructure and services into the Shannon Region. This was to be achieved through a four-step approach, namely:

1. Encourage the roll-out and use of new carrier-neutral infrastructure on a route from Limerick to Dublin;
2. Encourage a global carrier to establish a Point of Presence (PoP) in the region;
3. Adopt a “node and spoke” approach to broadband connectivity, with Limerick/Shannon at the centre and the other regional demand nodes clustered (via a regional fibre network) to boost the overall case and leverage maximum investment into the region.
4. Facilitation of “last mile” initiatives to connect individual premises to regional and national networks.

# BROADBAND



University of Limerick, Plassey.



## ACTION AREA:

# “To ensure that the Mid-West Region has Competitive Broadband Connectivity”



## WHAT HAVE WE DONE TO DATE?

- Benchmarking of the Region and Strategy Development.
- The construction of the Limerick Metropolitan Area Network (MAN) within budget (7.9m) and representing the best value for money of the 19 MANs being rolled out nationally (cheapest nationally by 16%).
- Regional, county and community structures in place leading to co-ordination of activities and aggregation of proposals for Group Broadband Scheme.

## WHAT WORK IS IN PROGRESS OR PLANNED FOR THE FUTURE?

- Plans in place for the next phase of 8 regional MANs. Abbeyfeale and Newcastle West approved to commence construction in 2006.
- All 9 applications from communities in County Limerick under the County Group Broadband Scheme have been approved and roll-out will continue in 2006, namely Kilmallock, Lough Gur/Bruff, Askeaton/Foynes/Shanagolden, Ballingarry/Croagh, Kilmeedy/Dromcollogher/Broadford, North Limerick, Cappamore, Caherconlish, Rathkeale/Ardagh.



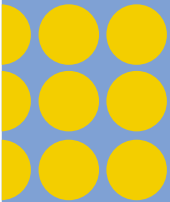
**ACTION AREA:**  
**Childcare**

**“Increased Provision of Childcare Facilities”**

Doon Community  
Pre-school.



## ACTION AREA: “Increased Provision of Childcare Facilities”



### BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND RATIONALE FOR ACTION:

The issue of childcare has been recognised both nationally and locally as an area that requires additional resources and commitment from a number of different agencies in both the public and private sectors. The Government introduced the Equal Opportunities Childcare Programme (EOCP) 2000-2006 with the following objectives:

- To improve the quality of childcare in Ireland.
- To increase the number of childcare facilities and childcare places.
- To introduce a co-ordinated approach to the delivery of childcare services.

The co-ordination function is managed locally through the County Limerick Childcare Committee, whose main focus is to advance the provision of quality childcare facilities and services within the county. Through the collective efforts of the committee members representing State Agencies, Childcare Providers, Social Partners and staff working on the ground, the childcare needs are being addressed.

### WHAT DID WE SAY WE WOULD DO IN THIS ACTION AREA?

To increase the provision of childcare facilities, the Strategy proposed the following actions with the County Limerick Childcare Committee as the lead agency:

- Work to provide funding for the development of high quality childcare facilities in the county.
- Enhance lifelong-learning, childcare and training at Shanagolden Education Resource Centre.
- Enhance educational opportunities in rural areas.
- Co-ordinate and enhance services to children, implement actions of the National Children’s Strategy and the County Limerick Childcare Strategy.

# CHILDCARE





## ACTION AREA: “Increased Provision of Childcare Facilities”



### WHAT HAVE WE DONE TO DATE?

From the baseline figures as set out in 2002:

- Full-day childcare places have increased by 430 to 715 and sessional places have increased by 695 to 1,612 as of December 2005.
- There has been an increase in paid full-time childcare staff to 136.
- Up to December 2005, community groups and private individuals in County Limerick submitted 94 applications under the Equal Opportunities Childcare Programme. Of these:
  - €1.6m has been approved in staffing grants to 20 Community Groups, while €5.6m has been approved in capital grants to 12 Community Groups
  - 32 Private Services have received capital grants to a total of €983,000.
- Facilities at Shanagolden Education Resource Centre have been upgraded and the number of crèche places increased from 9 full-time and 10 part-time to 17 and 35, respectively.
- In late 2005 capital funding was approved for four large community based crèches in Newcastle West, Rathkeale, Kilcolman and Broadford.

- Training to improve the quality of childcare services has been provided to 535 people.
- The County Limerick Childcare Committee also established a resource library and newsletters were distributed to parents and providers countywide.

### WHAT WORK IS IN PROGRESS OR PLANNED FOR THE FUTURE?

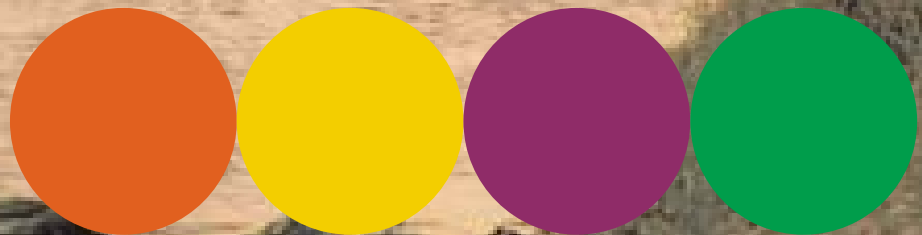
- The County Limerick Childcare Committee will continue its efforts to increase the provision of co-ordinated and sustainable childcare, particularly in areas of demand; and
- Will pilot school based afterschool services in three communities.



**ACTION AREA:**

# Water Quality

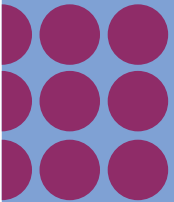
**“Improve Water Quality in County Limerick through a Partnership Approach”**





**ACTION AREA:**

## “Improve Water Quality in County Limerick through a Partnership Approach”



### BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND RATIONALE FOR ACTION:

County Limerick has a particularly serious problem with pollution caused by over-enrichment of rivers with phosphorus, causing eutrophication which is responsible for excessive weed growth in rivers that can choke the river channels and reduce oxygen levels in the water, resulting in fish kills in extreme cases.

- In 2002 EPA surveys classified the Mague and the Deel rivers as the most polluted rivers in the country in this respect.
- Phosphorus in our rivers and lakes comes from a number of sources, namely: agriculture, sewage treatment plants, industrial discharges, forestry and septic tanks.

Due to the many different potential sources of pollution it was necessary to adopt a multi-agency, partnership approach in tackling the problem and achieving the required improvements in water quality under the Phosphorus Regulations.

### WHAT DID WE SAY WE WOULD DO IN THIS ACTION AREA?

- Promote co-operation between all interested and relevant sectors and agencies.
- Implement the Phosphorous Regulations to ensure the sources of pollution were identified and action taken to prevent further contamination.
- Put in place additional sewerage facilities in villages and towns.
- Increase waste storage capacity on farms.
- Ensure that builders and householders developing treatment systems for single houses would maintain proper quality standards.

# WATER QUALITY



Water Sampling on the River Maigue.



**ACTION AREA:**

## “Improve Water Quality in County Limerick through a Partnership Approach”



### WHAT HAVE WE DONE TO DATE?

- In 2002, a dedicated river water quality team, including an agricultural scientist, was established by Limerick County Council to proactively address the problem of declining water quality in County Limerick and oversee the implementation of the phosphorous regulations by identifying and addressing the pollution sources in the area.
- A multi-agency committee was established to monitor progress and to give feed back on the programme. The committee is comprised of representatives from Limerick County Council, Teagasc, the IFA, the ICMSA, Poultry Growers Associations, the Shannon Regional Fisheries Board and Macra na Feirme. The representative organisations ensured that there was commitment and buy-in from their members to address and change practices that were causing water pollution.
- Public meetings were held before surveys began to inform local residents about the Council’s programme. In recognition of the uncertain future facing many farmers and different individual circumstances, a flexible, non-prescriptive approach was adopted to solving problems identified on farms.

- To date, surveys have been completed in seven tributaries of the River Deel, covering approximately 75% of the catchment. Over 800 farms have been surveyed and the response on the ground has been excellent, with many farmers investing significantly in upgrading their facilities.
- In addition to farm surveys, the team has been carrying out surveys on septic tanks, sewage treatment plants and commercial premises and is working with area engineers, local communities and businesses to solve any problems identified.
- Limerick County Council has also continued a programme of upgrading and investment in its waste water and sewerage facilities throughout the county.

### WHAT WORK IS IN PROGRESS OR PLANNED FOR THE FUTURE?

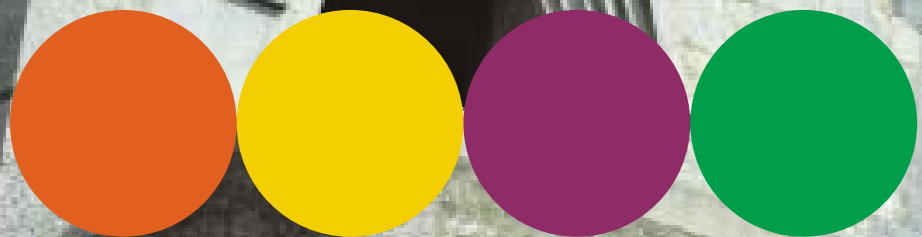
- With the introduction of the nitrates directive and stricter control on the spreading of fertilisers and the disposal of farm waste and by-products from municipal treatment plants, there will be an even greater necessity for co-operation and collaboration to ensure compliance and further improve the quality of our water.



**ACTION AREA:**  
**Tourism**

**“Development of a  
Flagship Tourism  
Project and a  
Promotional  
Strategy for  
Tourism”**

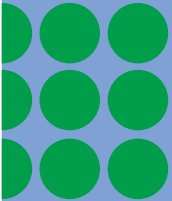
Desmond Castle.





**ACTION AREA:**

## “Development of a Flagship Tourism Project and a Promotional Strategy for Tourism”



### BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND RATIONALE FOR ACTION:

While the statistics show that there were over 438,000 overseas visitors to Limerick City and County in 2000, the main benefits accrued to the City, as the product in the County was not as well developed. A lack of significant investment in tourism products in the County reinforced the perception that Limerick is a transient stop en-route to the recognised tourism destinations of Kerry and Clare.

### WHAT DID WE SAY WE WOULD DO IN THIS ACTION AREA?

As the new Tourism Operational Programme 2000-2006 placed an emphasis on underdeveloped areas, it provided an opportunity for County Limerick to develop a flagship project and the clustering of current attractions. It was proposed that an application for a flagship project would be made under this programme with Curraghchase Forest Park as the project.

### WHAT HAVE WE DONE TO DATE?

#### DEVELOPMENT OF A FLAGSHIP TOURISM PROJECT

Substantial effort was put into making an application for grant aid in 2002 under the Tourism Product Development Scheme 2000-2006 for the development of an integrated activity park in Curraghchase Forest Park. However, the application was unsuccessful as financial projections prepared showed that financial viability for the project was unlikely.

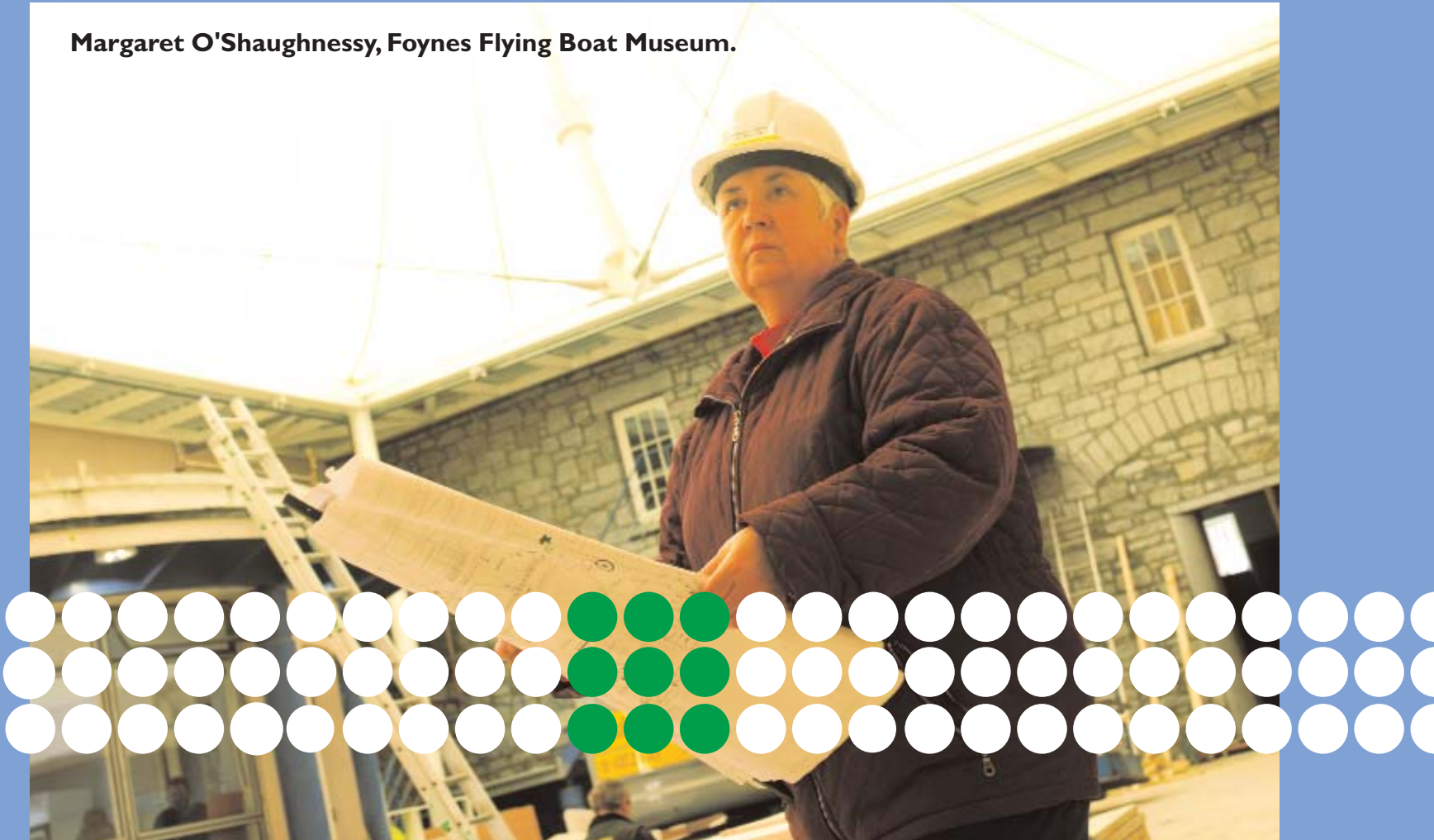
Since then, work has continued between Limerick County Council, Coillte and Shannon Development and an application was made in February 2005 under the Fáilte Ireland Tourism Product Development Scheme 2004-2006 for the development of Curraghchase Forest Park. In November 2005, a grant of €200,000 was committed under the Scheme with a further €200,000 committed by Limerick County Council. The works will be undertaken in 2006.

#### PROMOTIONAL STRATEGY

- A number of publications have been produced to promote the County as a tourism destination:
  - “The Limerick Guide: A comprehensive guide to the City and County of Limerick” was published by Shannon Development and supported by Limerick City and County Councils, Ballyhoura Development Ltd., Tipperary LEADER Group Ltd. and West Limerick Resources Ltd..
  - A number of other promotional brochures have been produced with the support of the County Council and the Local Development Companies i.e. “Limerick Garden Trail”, “Askeaton Heritage Town”, “Bruff: a Place of Importance”; “Croom: of the Poetry and the Merriment”.
  - Walking in County Limerick – a marketing initiative between Limerick County Council and the three LEADER Groups has been undertaken, to promote County Limerick as a walking destination. The brochure will be published early in 2006.

# TOURISM

**Margaret O'Shaughnessy, Foynes Flying Boat Museum.**





**ACTION AREA:**

## “Development of a Flagship Tourism Project and a Promotional Strategy for Tourism”



### WHAT HAVE WE DONE TO DATE? Cont'd

- During 2004 and 2005, a number of tourism actions took place at County level:
  - A seminar on the “Enhancement of Towns & Villages” was held in association with the three LEADER Groups; Limerick County Council and Shannon Development.
  - Figures from Failte Ireland for 2004 indicate that there were 636,000 visitors to Limerick City & County contributing €173m to the local economy.

### WHAT WORK IS IN PROGRESS OR PLANNED FOR THE FUTURE?

- The development of a co-ordinated multi-agency tourism structure in Limerick is now being progressed in co-operation with Shannon Development and both the County & City Development Boards.
- A major upgrade of Foynes Flying Boat Museum is currently taking place with assistance from the Department of Arts, Sports & Tourism supplemented by funding from Limerick County Council and Shannon Development. This project aims to increase the visitor numbers to the County.
- Funding has also been granted under the Fáilte Ireland Tourism Product Development Scheme for the development of a mountain-biking project in the Ballyhoura Mountains (on Coillte property). Work commenced in November 2005. This is a multi-agency project with Coillte, Limerick and Cork County Councils, Shannon Development, and Ballyhoura Development Ltd. involved. Funding for this project has been committed by the above agencies and private sources.

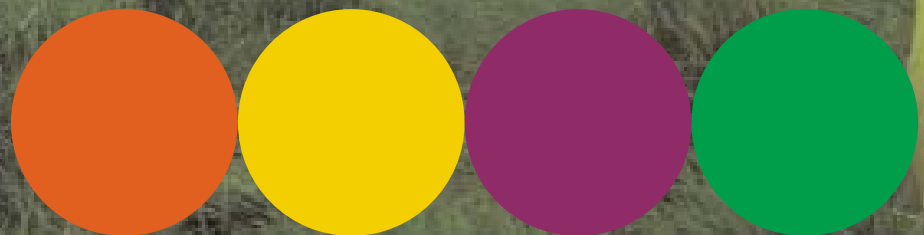


**ACTION AREA:**

# Public Transport

**“Integrated Public Transport Delivery”**

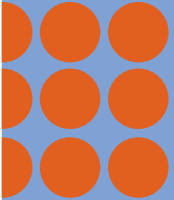
**Phase One  
- Limerick Southern Ring Road.**





**ACTION AREA:**

## “Integrated Public Transport Delivery”



### BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND RATIONALE FOR ACTION:

- The NDP identified Limerick/Shannon as a Development Gateway and the presence of a good transport network is essential for the development of good social and economic infrastructure and services in the region.
- There were problems associated with public transport including access, irregular service and a poor infrastructure. The need for quality public transport services associated with contemporary urban areas and to manage the anticipated growth in the satellite towns was also recognised.
- Rural transport lacked an integrated approach. A comprehensive audit of rural transport, both public and private had been undertaken in County Limerick identifying significant gaps in services, which needed to be addressed.

### WHAT DID WE SAY WE WOULD DO IN THIS ACTION AREA?

- Create an integrated public transport network that links the major settlements of the region with each other and that links the region with the rest of the Country.
- Develop a high quality public transport commuter network to reduce traffic congestion and commuting times while ensuring the safety of road users.
- Develop an action plan from the Audit of Rural Transport and make an application under the Rural Transport Initiative to pilot routes.

# PUBLIC TRANSPORT



Passengers on the Rural Bus Service from Garryspillane to Drombanna.



## ACTION AREA: “Integrated Public Transport Delivery”



### WHAT HAVE WE DONE TO DATE?

- Since 2002, a number of major public infrastructure projects have been completed or have had funding secured to proceed, including the Limerick Southern Ring Road Phase I, which was completed and opened in 2004.
- Major investment in the roads network has taken place throughout the County with the upgrading of roads, improved signage, construction of cycle lanes and the installation of traffic calming measures, where required.
- Rural Bus was established in 2002 as a community-based transport company to provide affordable transport for people living in rural areas. The company currently provides up to 30 transport services and has transported over 61,000 passengers between 2003 and 2005.

### WHAT WORK IS IN PROGRESS OR PLANNED FOR THE FUTURE?

The continued development of an integrated public transport delivery is necessary to ensure both the County and the region can develop its full potential and a number of major projects and initiatives are under way or are planned including:

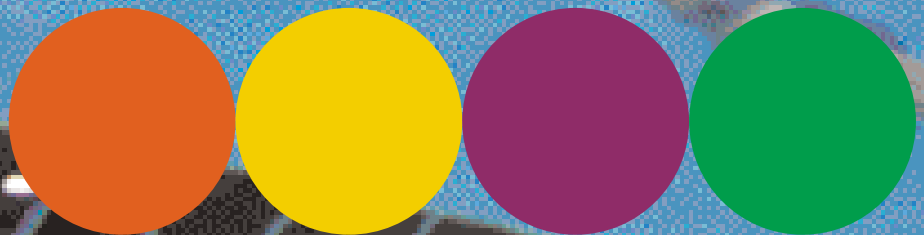
- The Limerick Southern Ring Road Phase II (including tunnel crossing of the Shannon) and the N7 Limerick to Nenagh were both brought to compulsory purchase order stage and construction will begin in 2006.
- Construction of bus corridors on the main routes from Limerick Environs to the City Centre and the development of park and ride facilities for the City Environs.
- Development of a road safety strategy for County Limerick.



**ACTION AREA:**

# Sport and Recreation

**“Integrated Development  
of Sport and Recreation  
Facilities and Amenities”**

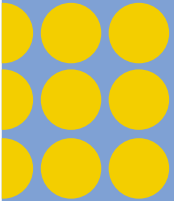


University of Limerick Arena 50m Pool.



**ACTION AREA:**

## “Integrated Development of Sport and Recreation Facilities and Amenities”



### BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND RATIONALE FOR ACTION:

The vision of the County Limerick Local Sports Partnership Steering Group is of a County where all residents and visitors are provided with the opportunity and encouragement to participate in a form of sport regardless of age, ability, social or economic circumstances.

The key principles of County Limerick Local Sports Partnership include:

- Involvement of local communities.
- A clear focus on social inclusion.
- A recognition of the importance of participation by all interests.
- A commitment to ongoing feedback to the wide range of sports clubs.
- Voluntary organisations and agencies represented on the partnership.
- An appreciation of the necessity for ongoing voluntary effort in sports development.
- Ongoing monitoring and evaluation of initiatives.

### WHAT DID WE SAY WE WOULD DO IN THIS ACTION AREA?

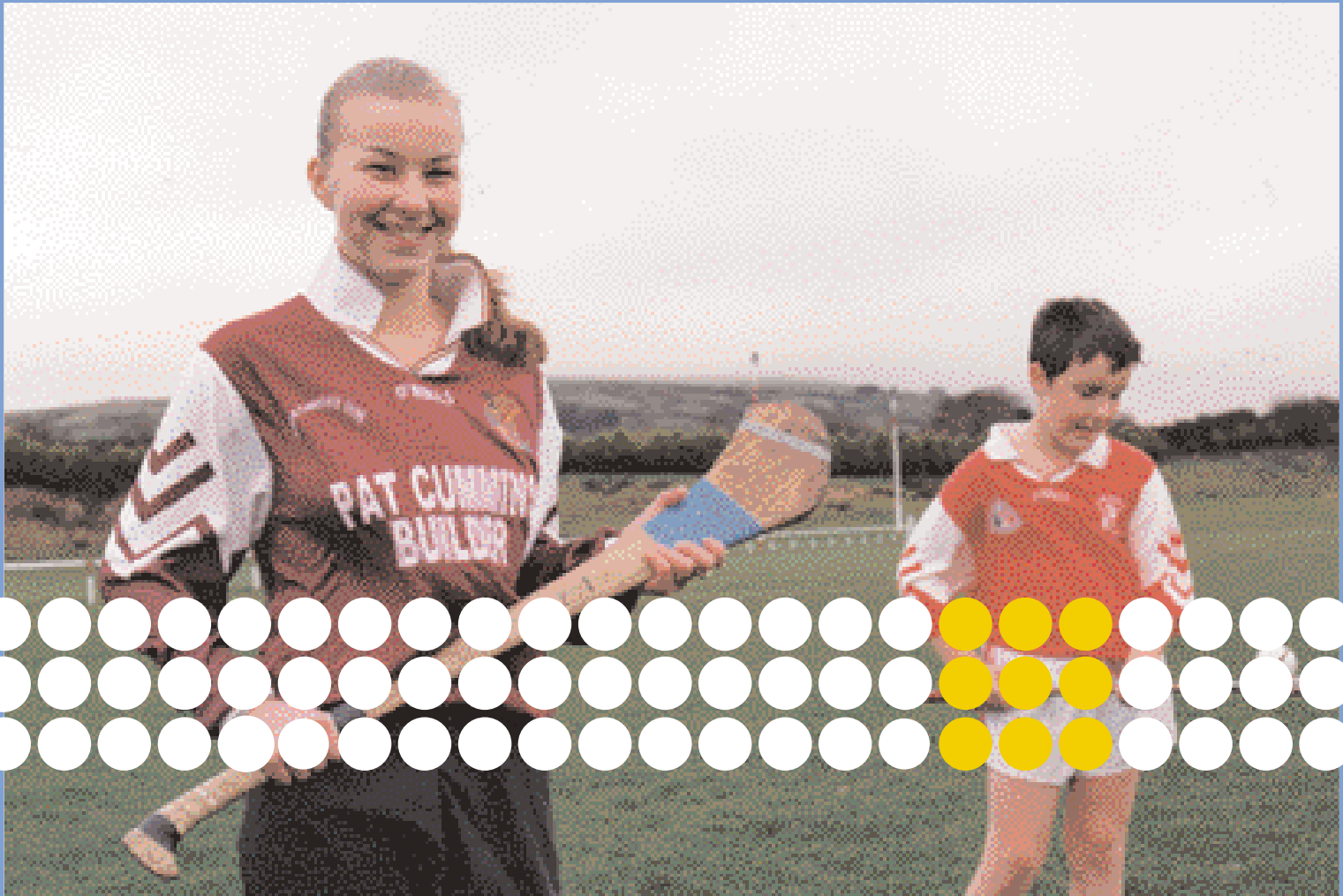
- **COMMUNITIES IN MOTION** - This action area aimed to increase physical activity levels in local communities, particularly focusing on low participation groups.
- **DEVELOPING CLUB SPORT** - This action area aimed to provide support to sports clubs in the areas of information, facilities, leadership and promotion/marketing.
- **SCHOOL SPORT** - This action area aimed at encouraging young people to participate in sport and physical activities.

### WHAT HAVE WE DONE TO DATE?

#### COMMUNITIES IN MOTION:

- In 2003 the initiative was piloted in three communities in County Limerick; Cappamore, Croom and Newcastle West.
- Since 2004 the project has been rolled out in Askeaton, Bruff, Pallasgreen, Donoughmore/Knockea/Roxboro and Foynes communities.

# SPORT





**ACTION AREA:**

## “Integrated Development of Sport and Recreation Facilities and Amenities”



### ...WHAT HAVE WE DONE TO DATE?

#### **OLDER PEOPLE / TODDLERS:**

- Provided training to groups so that they can help build community capacity to deliver physical activity programmes for older people.
- Helped increase the involvement of older people in health-enhancing exercise; also provided opportunities for them to socialise, thereby reducing experience of social isolation.
- Identified walking leaders in communities; these have undertaken training that has enabled them to lead out walks in their communities.
- Fit Tots Workshops have been delivered in some of the communities.
- A Get Fit video was produced for parents as an aid to encourage appropriate physical activity for toddlers.
- Workshops have also been held on promoting physical activity for childcare providers.

#### **DEVELOPING CLUB SPORT:**

- In October 2003, an executive was elected for the County Limerick Sports Forum. The executive is responsible for identifying the needs of sports clubs.
- Each year a Sports Capital Grant Seminar has been held, which assists clubs in the application process for sports capital grants.
- A workshop on Club Development has also been held which assisted clubs in identifying their needs and development.

#### **SCHOOL SPORT:**

- The HSE, U.L. and Nicker, Tineteriffe and Oola National Schools are working in partnership to develop a physical activity policy.

### WHAT WORK IS IN PROGRESS OR PLANNED FOR THE FUTURE?

The Sport and Recreation Action Plan 2004 – 2005 is currently being implemented. A 2006 - 2007 Action Plan will be produced in the next couple of months and it is hoped to expand initiatives into new communities and to assist new target groups e.g. youth.

# PRIORITY ACTIONS

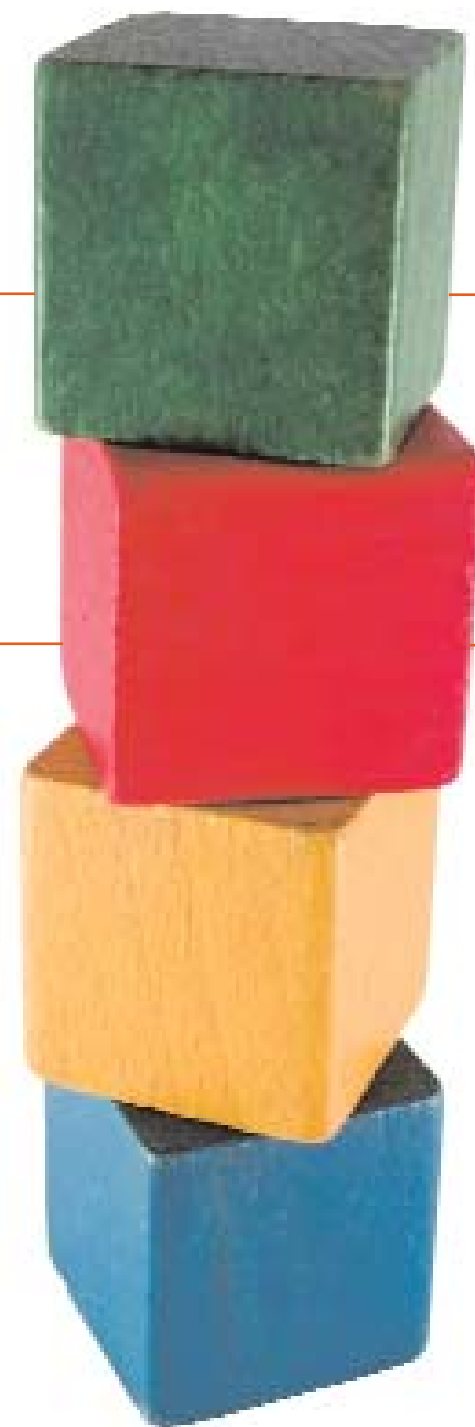
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## 2006 - 2008

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- **Balanced Geographic Development**
- **Quality of Life**

The following priority actions are those identified by the Board having reviewed the progress to date, the changes that have taken place since the strategy was launched in 2002 and the areas and issues that require the collective collaboration of a number of CDB organisations and agencies.





**PRIORITY ACTIONS:**

# Balanced Geographic Development



● ● ● ● “Balanced Geographic Development”

action:

**To establish an Inter-agency Initiative for Rathkeale, with adequate resources to deliver a programme to address its unique situation.**

OUTCOMES	IMPLEMENTED BY	TIMESCALE		
		2006	2007	2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inter-agency Task Force established.</li> <li>Production of a sustainable Development Plan.</li> <li>Securing of adequate funding to implement Development Plan actions.</li> <li>Local representative structures in place.</li> <li>Influence national policy in relation to RAPID eligibility criteria.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CONVENOR:</b> West Limerick Resources.</p> <p><b>PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS:</b> Limerick County Council, County Limerick VEC, Dept. of Social &amp; Family Affairs, Health Service Executive – West, Dept. of Education &amp; Science,</p>	✓	✓	✓

action:

**To pilot Strategic Integrated Planning.**

OUTCOMES	IMPLEMENTED BY	TIMESCALE		
		2006	2007	2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic Integrated Plans undertaken for at least 3 communities, geographically spread across the rural area types in the county.</li> <li>Provide an information base to assist policy formulation and development strategies for different types of rural areas.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CONVENOR:</b> Ballyhoura Development.</p> <p><b>PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS:</b> All CDB Member Organisations.</p>	✓		



The Square, Newcastle West

*Photograph courtesy of the Limerick Leader*

**action:** To access full Local Development Social Inclusion Programme coverage for County Limerick.

OUTCOMES	IMPLEMENTED BY	TIMESCALE		
		2006	2007	2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Areas of County Limerick currently not covered by the Local Development Social Inclusion Programme will be included in the Programme post 2006.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CONVENOR:</b> Limerick County Development Board.</p> <p><b>PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS:</b> Ballyhoura Development, Tipperary LEADER Group, West Limerick Resources.</p>	✓	✓	✓

**action:** To support the provision of broadband in locations where the private sector has failed to meet the need.

OUTCOMES	IMPLEMENTED BY	TIMESCALE		
		2006	2007	2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Installation of fibre optic lines in Newcastle West and Abbeyfeale.</li> <li>Roll out of Group Broadband Scheme to smaller towns, villages and rural areas.</li> <li>Increased opportunities for all, from the benefits of the knowledge-based economy.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CONVENOR:</b> Shannon Broadband.</p> <p><b>Participating Organisations:</b> Limerick County Council, Shannon Development, Depart. of Communications, Marine &amp; Natural Resources.</p>	✓	✓	✓

A close-up photograph of a woman and a young child smiling together in a grassy field. The woman is on the right, and the child is on the left. The background is a soft-focus green field.

**PRIORITY ACTIONS:**

**Quality of Life**





**PRIORITY ACTIONS:** Quality of Life:

# Economic

**action:** To support the development of enterprises particularly through growing the export potential and through the development of Transnational Linkages.

OUTCOMES	IMPLEMENTED BY	TIMESCALE		
		2006	2007	2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 companies participate in seminars on export markets.</li> <li>5 companies access new markets abroad.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CONVENOR:</b> Shannon Development.</p> <p><b>PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS:</b> Limerick County Council, CDB Members from West Limerick Resources, Ballyhoura Development, Tipperary LEADER Group, FAS, Business &amp; Employers Pillar.</p>	✓	✓	✓

**action:** To support industry by developing affordable industrial sites in the county.

OUTCOMES	IMPLEMENTED BY	TIMESCALE		
		2006	2007	2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Three industrial sites developed.</li> <li>Fifteen businesses facilitated.</li> <li>50 jobs created.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CONVENOR:</b> Limerick County Enterprise Board.</p> <p><b>PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS:</b> Limerick County Council, Local Development Companies, Shannon Development, FÁS.</p>	✓	✓	✓

# Economic



action:

**To create a co-ordinated multi-agency structure for tourism in Limerick.**

OUTCOMES	IMPLEMENTED BY	TIMESCALE		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishment of an agreed structure to co-ordinate tourism development and promotion in both the City and County.</li> <li>Agreement to develop a Tourism Promotional Plan for both the City and County.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CONVENOR:</b> Shannon Development.</p> <p><b>PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS:</b> Local Development Companies, Limerick County Council, Meet Limerick Shannon, Limerick Co-ordination Office, Limerick Tourism Trade Association, UL Faculty of Tourism, Business &amp; Employer Pillar.</p>	2006	2007	2008
		✓	✓	✓



**PRIORITY ACTIONS:** Quality of Life:

# Environment

action:

**To establish a local network and integrated advisory and training service to support the management of change for the agricultural sector.**

OUTCOMES	IMPLEMENTED BY	TIMESCALE		
		2006	2007	2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular meetings of the County Options Advisory Committee, involving all relevant organisations and agencies.</li> <li>Target up to 300 farm families per year in County Limerick.</li> <li>Range of supports provided to farm families to increase income.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CONVENOR:</b> Teagasc, Limerick.</p> <p><b>PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS:</b> County Enterprise Board, Farming Organisations, Co. Limerick VEC, Dept. of Social &amp; Family Affairs, Limerick County Council, FÁS, ICA, Local Development Companies.</p>	2006	2007	2008
		✓	✓	✓

action:

**To improve water quality in the county.**

OUTCOMES	IMPLEMENTED BY	TIMESCALE		
		2006	2007	2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Achieve targets in Phosphorus Regulations in terms of water quality improvements.</li> <li>Levels of water pollution reduced.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CONVENOR:</b> Limerick County Council – Environment Section.</p> <p><b>PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS:</b> Teagasc, IFA, ICMSA, Poultry Growers, Fisheries Board, Health Service Executive – West.</p>	2006	2007	2008
		✓	✓	✓

# Environment



Miscanthus crop at Clonshire, Adare.

action:

## To support increased insulation of low-income housing.

OUTCOMES	IMPLEMENTED BY	TIMESCALE		
		2006	2007	2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of current supports and the identification of gaps and overlaps in service.</li> <li>Agreed strategy to meet current and emerging needs.</li> <li>Insulate walls and roof spaces in low-income houses.</li> <li>Improve living conditions &amp; health of low income occupants.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CONVENOR:</b> Limerick-Clare Energy Agency.</p> <p><b>PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS:</b> Limerick County Council – Housing Section, Aerobord Ltd, Sustainable Energy Ireland, Southill Housing Group, West Limerick Resources, Rural Community Care Network.</p>	✓	✓	✓

action:

## To support the development of an indigenous fuel (solid & liquid) industry.

OUTCOMES	IMPLEMENTED BY	TIMESCALE		
		2006	2007	2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of current supports and the identification of gaps and overlaps in service.</li> <li>Agreed strategy to meet current and emerging needs.</li> <li>Quantify the climate-change benefits of using indigenous carbon-neutral energy sources.</li> <li>Establish two pilot projects using solid and liquid energy sources.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CONVENOR:</b> Limerick-Clare Energy Agency.</p> <p><b>PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS:</b> Limerick County Council, Sustainable Energy Ireland, Renewable Energy Information Office, Local Development Companies, Teagasc, University of Limerick, Business &amp; Employers Pillar.</p>	✓	✓	✓



PRIORITY ACTIONS: Quality of Life:

# Childcare & Youth

action:

**To increase the provision of co-ordinated and sustainable childcare places.**

OUTCOMES	IMPLEMENTED BY	TIMESCALE		
		2006	2007	2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 131 private childcare facilities.</li> <li>• 22 community childcare facilities.</li> <li>• 600 full-day places.</li> <li>• 1,500 part-time places.</li> <li>• 40 childminders.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CONVENOR:</b> County Limerick Childcare Committee.</p> <p><b>PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS:</b> Limerick County Council, Co. Limerick VEC, Health Service Executive-West, Dept. of Social and Family Affairs, West Limerick Resources, Ballyhoura Development, FÁS, Parents, Childcare Providers.</p>	✓	✓	✓

action:

**To pilot school-based after-school services in three communities.**

OUTCOMES	IMPLEMENTED BY	TIMESCALE		
		2006	2007	2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 schools involved in the after-school pilot.</li> <li>• 50 information packs and videos disseminated.</li> <li>• 30 individuals participating in training.</li> <li>• 2 site visits organised to existing services.</li> <li>• 8 applications to be submitted to the Equal Opportunities Childcare Programme for funding of services.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CONVENOR:</b> County Limerick Childcare Committee.</p> <p><b>PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS:</b> Limerick County Council, Health Service Executive – West, Dept. of Education and Science, Local Schools Boards of Management.</p>	✓	✓	✓

# Childcare & Youth



**action:** To implement the inter-agency County Play Plan.

OUTCOMES	IMPLEMENTED BY	TIMESCALE		
		2006	2007	2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased play opportunities for children 0-12 years.</li> <li>4 new playgrounds.</li> <li>Deliver Fit Tots Workshops for parents of 1-3 year old children.</li> <li>Deliver workbook for parents/childminders in relation to activity slots for toddlers.</li> <li>Train teachers in the delivery of the Irish Heart Foundation's Bizzy Breaks module.</li> <li>Work in partnership with the University of Limerick (U.L.) and Nicker, Tineteriffe and Oola National Schools to develop a physical activity policy.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CONVENOR:</b> Local Sports Partnership Steering Group and Play Forum.</p> <p><b>PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS:</b> Limerick County Council, Health Service Executive-West, Co. Limerick VEC, Local Development Companies, Youth Services, Sports Forum Executive.</p>	✓	✓	✓

**action:** To increase the provision of youth services and development of youth facilities.

OUTCOMES	IMPLEMENTED BY	TIMESCALE		
		2006	2007	2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Audit of existing youth services &amp; facilities</li> <li>Identification of gaps and overlaps in youth services &amp; facilities.</li> <li>Identification of issues facing youth work.</li> <li>Roll-out of Youth Work Act 2001.</li> <li>Development of a three-year plan for youth services.</li> <li>Increase the number of places for young people to engage in activities.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CONVENOR:</b> Co. Limerick VEC - Youth Affairs Sub-Committee.</p> <p><b>PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS:</b> Health Service Executive-West, FÁS, Gardaí, Ballyhoura Development, West Limerick Resources, Limerick Youth Service, Foróige, Limerick County Community &amp; Voluntary Forum and Limerick County Council.</p>	✓	✓	✓

A photograph of a man and a young boy sitting on a log by a pond. The man is on the left, wearing a blue and white jacket and dark shorts, looking towards the boy. The boy is on the right, wearing a blue jacket and red pants, holding a small object in his hands. The background is a dark, calm pond with a duck visible in the distance.

**PRIORITY ACTIONS:** Quality of Life:

# Community Support

**action:** To establish an adequately-resourced County Limerick Migrants Forum.

OUTCOMES	IMPLEMENTED BY	TIMESCALE		
		2006	2007	2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>County Strategy developed to co-ordinate delivery of services to migrants.</li> <li>Provision of dedicated supports to migrant community.</li> <li>Improved integration of migrants into local communities across Limerick County.</li> <li>Influence national policy on issues and requirements in relation to the increasing migrants population.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CONVENOR:</b> West Limerick Resources.</p> <p><b>PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS:</b> Ballyhoura Development, Gardai, FÁS, Dept. of Social &amp; Family Affairs. Limerick County Council.</p>	2006	2007	2008
		✓	✓	✓

**action:** To develop a model of enhanced delivery of education, training and employment services to people with mental ill-health in rural areas.

OUTCOMES	IMPLEMENTED BY	TIMESCALE		
		2006	2007	2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>60 participants will be involved in employment related training and personal development training.</li> <li>Target people not already availing of relevant health supports.</li> <li>One-to-one advice and guidance provided by the Employment Facilitator.</li> <li>Develop a referral system.</li> <li>Participant network established.</li> <li>Model developed.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CONVENOR:</b> Ballyhoura Development.</p> <p><b>PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS:</b> Dept. of Social &amp; Family Affairs, FÁS, Health Service Executive-West, Co. Limerick VEC.</p>	2006	2007	2008
		✓	✓	✓

# Community Support



**action:** To develop an integrated service to address the employment needs of people with physical disabilities.

OUTCOMES	IMPLEMENTED BY	TIMESCALE		
		2006	2007	2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Network established in the West Limerick area, of the agencies involved in supporting people with disabilities into employment.</li> <li>Greater co-ordination of the services available, with any gaps &amp; overlaps identified.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CONVENOR:</b> FÁS.</p> <p><b>PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS:</b> West Limerick Resources, Work Access, Jobs Club Facilitators, Comhairle, Dept. of Social and Family Affairs, Employer Liaison Support Service, County Enterprise Board, Limerick County Council, Disability Groups.</p>	2006	2007	2008
		✓	✓	✓

**action:** To develop an inter-agency action plan for the Traveller Community in County Limerick, focusing on three geographic areas.

OUTCOMES	IMPLEMENTED BY	TIMESCALE		
		2006	2007	2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved health status of Travellers</li> <li>Increased participation in education &amp; training.</li> <li>Increased participation in employment.</li> <li>Improved accommodation status of Travellers.</li> <li>Increased positive participation by young Travellers.</li> <li>Improved lines of communication between Travellers and Gardaí.</li> <li>Improved mutual understanding between the Traveller/Settled Communities.</li> <li>Enhanced self-representative capacity of the Traveller Community.</li> <li>Specific actions implemented for Castletroy halting site, Kilmallock &amp; Rathkeale.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CONVENOR:</b> Limerick County Council – Housing Section.</p> <p><b>PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS:</b> Dept. of Social &amp; Family Affairs, Co. Limerick VEC, Gardaí, FÁS, Dept. of Education &amp; Science, Health Service Executive-West and Limerick County Council.</p>	2006	2007	2008
		✓	✓	✓

# Community Support



**action:** To establish an effective network for agencies providing family support to vulnerable families with children.

OUTCOMES	IMPLEMENTED BY	TIMESCALE		
		2006	2007	2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishment of 2 family support networks in designated geographical areas.</li> <li>Review of current supports and the identification of gaps and overlaps in service.</li> <li>Agreed strategy to meet current and emerging needs.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CONVENOR:</b> Health Service Executive - West.</p> <p><b>PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS:</b> West Limerick Resources, Ballyhoura Development, Gardaí Siochána, Education Sector, Dept. of Social &amp; Family Affairs, Limerick County Council.</p>	✓	✓	✓

**action:** To establish a volunteer support service in County Limerick.

OUTCOMES	IMPLEMENTED BY	TIMESCALE		
		2006	2007	2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrated support service for community and voluntary groups and volunteers.</li> <li>Volunteer referral and placement service.</li> <li>Enhanced awareness of the role of community and voluntary groups and their volunteering opportunities.</li> <li>A calendar of actions to enhance volunteer recruitment and involvement.</li> <li>Advice/information/supports to community and voluntary groups and to existing and potential volunteers.</li> <li>Capacity of community and voluntary organisations to recruit and retain volunteers is enhanced.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CONVENOR:</b> West Limerick Resources.</p> <p><b>PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS:</b> Limerick County Community &amp; Voluntary Forum, Local Development Companies, Limerick County Council, South &amp; Mid-West Community Development Support Agency, Comhairle, Youth Affairs Subcommittee, Limerick Youth Services &amp; Foroige, Limerick Sports Partnership.</p>	✓	✓	✓



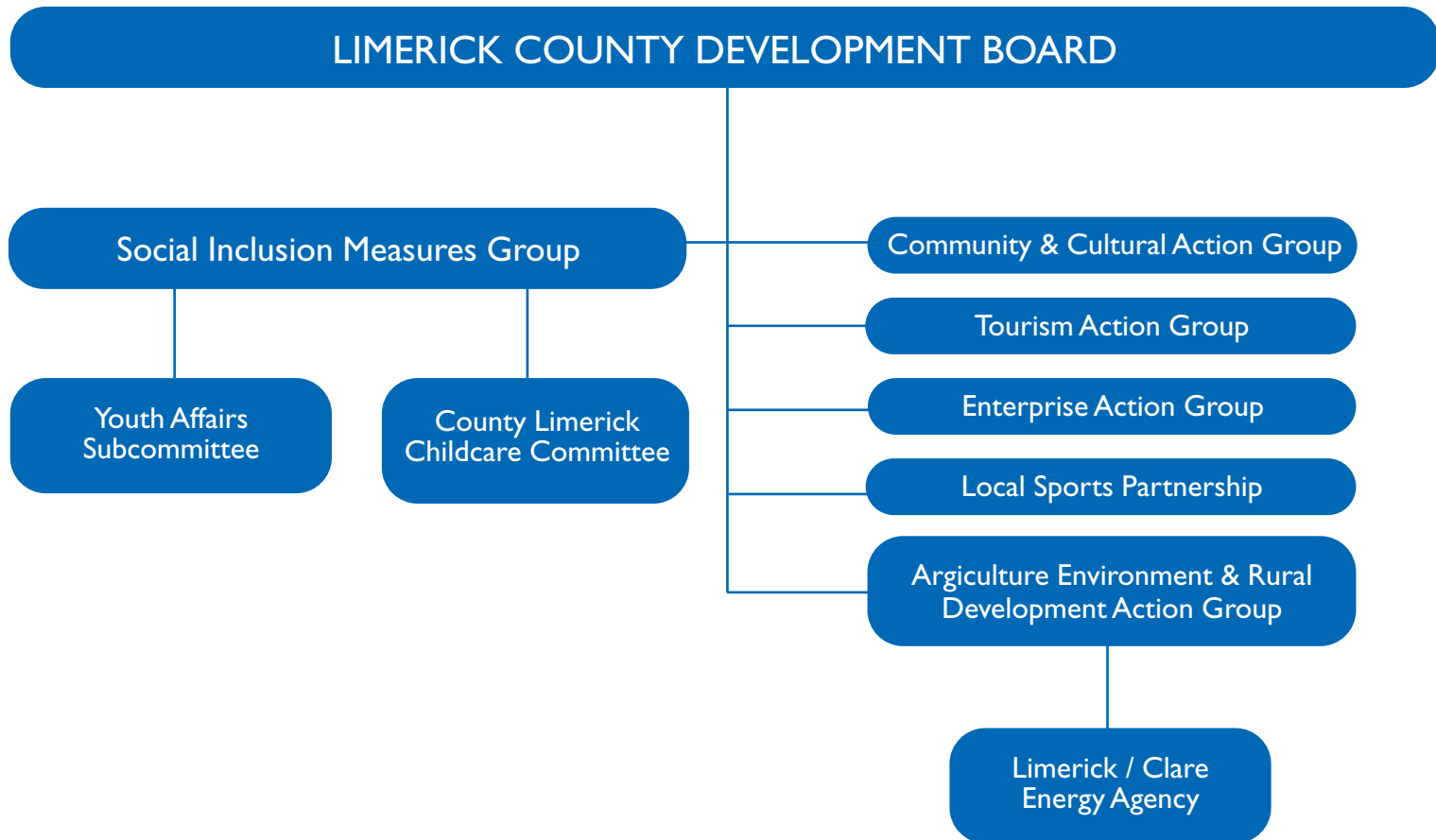
# Monitoring and Evaluation of the Strategy

## ● ● ● ● Monitoring and Evaluation of the Strategy

To ensure the successful implementation of the various elements of the Strategy, the Board has delegated the monitoring and evaluation of the priority actions to a number of Sub-board structures including existing Committees and Action Groups.

Each of the Sub-board structures will be chaired by a Board member and will include nominees from agencies and organisations involved in the delivery of services or with experience of the issues.

Regular reports will also be provided to the Board on the progress of the priority actions and also to deal with new or emerging areas that require the attention of the CDB.



LIMERICK COUNTY DEVELOPMENT BOARD SUPPORT STAFF



Standing (left – right) Jannette Ryan, Anthony Coleman, Kathleen Kennedy.  
Seated (left – right) Colette Flynn, Gerry Behan, Michael Griffin.