



Clare County
Development Plan
2023-2029

Draft Clare CDP 2023-2029 - Public Consultation Portal

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Volume 1

Core Strategy, Settlement Strategy and Housing, Sustainable Communities

Volume 3(a) Ennis Municipal District Written Statements and Settlement Maps

Ennis/Clarecastle

Volume 3(b) Shannon Municipal District Written Statements and Settlement Maps

Parteen

Volume 3(c) Killaloe Municipal District Written Statements and Settlement Maps

Volume 3(d) West Clare Municipal District Written Statements and Settlement Maps

Associated Documents

None of the above

Environmental Reports

None of the above

Your Submission

Location Map



Earthstar Geographics | Esri, FAO, NOAA

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Upload Files

20220325 Final Dept Education submission to Co Clare draft CDP.pdf, 1.02MB



25 March 2022

Development Plan Review,
Planning Department,
Clare County Council,
New Road,
Ennis,
Co. Clare
V95 DXP2

Re: Draft Co. Clare Development Plan 2023 - 2029

Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to the above. The Department of Education acknowledges the draft Co. Clare Development Plan 2023-2029 and makes the following submission.

The Department notes that the draft Co Clare plan sits within the framework of the ESRI's "50:50 City" scenario. This scenario aligns with the NPF's 2040 population targets and settlement pattern. The NPF Implementation Roadmap projects a population for Co. Clare of 134,000 – 137,000 people by 2031. This is an increase of 15,000 - 18,000 people over the 2016 level (118,817 people). The Department has regard to the longer-term framework because population and housing targets are the key driver in considering likely school requirements.

In order to estimate school place requirements by settlement arising from the draft plan it is necessary to have an estimated population per settlement for 2029. This would be composed of:

1. 2016 population by settlement (provided in Core Strategy Table 3.4) plus
2. Population increase per settlement between 2016 and 2022 plus
3. Population increase projected in the settlement over the plan period 2023-2029 (provided in Core Strategy Table 3.4)

Clare Co. Council provided information to the Department in regard to estimating the population increase per settlement from 2016-2022 which has enabled an estimation of the population per settlement in 2029. Overall, the draft plan provides for a population of c.138,000 people by 2029 (when the provision of 3,500 population in the proposed SDZ is included).



The bulk of the projected increase (47%) is projected for settlements within the Limerick Shannon Metropolitan area and the key town of Ennis (23%). The remaining 30% of the increase is projected for the service towns (6%), small towns (6%), large villages Tier 1 serviced lands (4%) and large villages Tier 2 unserviced lands (14%). The Department notes that in determining the hierarchy of settlements that availability of education facilities was included in the variety of strategic long-term planning and land use considerations.

Objectives on community infrastructure

The Department generally welcomes the objectives contained in Chapter 10: Sustainable Communities. The Department notes the statement at 10.17 that rural depopulation is a significant challenge to the provision and ongoing retention of educational services and that the Council will continue to work with local communities, education providers and all relevant stakeholders to address this issue. The Department welcomes the commitment to following the 2008 Code of Practice on the Provision of Schools and the Planning System (Objective 10.16) This ensures that:

- school sites are fit for purpose in terms of their location, access to services and the provision of space for recreational and sports activities which can help to support an effective learning and development environment for children, in line with the Department of Education requirements.
- Seeking to situate new schools within the existing/proposed catchment in a manner that aids ease of access from surrounding areas and encourages sustainable mobility by walking, cycling and public transport.
- Insofar as possible, to reserve lands for educational purposes in locations close to the areas of greatest residential expansion and adjacent to community developments such as community centres, playing fields, libraries etc. so that the possibility of sharing facilities can be maximised
- that education facilities should be an integral part of the evolution of compact, sustainable development, where the opportunities to walk or cycle to school/college are maximized.

Objective 10.19 encourages and promote the shared use of school facilities with community groups where possible is supported by the Department. There are guidelines agreed and published concerning the use of school buildings outside of school hours.

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/6c1358-guidelines-on-the-use-of-school-buildings-outside-of-school-hours/>

Every school operates in its own unique set of circumstances and these guidelines allow flexibility therefore to school authorities to make their own decisions around the use of the facilities. Therefore the Department requests that the objective make reference to these guidelines.



GIS mapping of existing school sites and zoned school sites

In order to strengthen the zoning provision on existing school sites and to aid future planning, the Department requests, if possible that all existing school sites are zoned and mapped on the Co Council's GIS system. In addition, if possible, could all future education sites be zoned and mapped. This would enable the Department to pick up the mapping and zoning on our own GIS system and aid us both in the school planning function.

Potential educational requirements arising from the draft plan

In considering the implications of the Draft Plan for school accommodation requirements, the Department is cognisant of potentially differing scenarios where variances in factors such as household sizes, demographic profiles and housing delivery rates could significantly alter the future school accommodation requirements. The existing network of schools in Co. Clare comprises 110 primary schools, 18 post-primary schools and 2 special schools. The Department took into account planned school capacity increases in considering the plan, as well as underlying demographic trends at both primary and post-primary levels which will serve to mitigate additional school place demand arising from the population increases that are envisaged in the Draft Plan. Based on all factors, a view has been formed concerning projected future requirements and how they can best be met at each settlement and commentary is provided in this regard. In its assessment of population trends, the Department uses a number of parameters to determine future needs. Requirements at primary level are currently assessed on 11.5% of population and 25 students per classroom. Post-primary requirements are assessed at 7.5% of population numbers.

In respect of the settlements identified in the Core Strategy Table (Table 3.4), the Department has the following observations:

Key Towns

- **Ennis:**

The population of Ennis was 25,276 in the 2016 Census. It is estimated as being at 26,904 currently. The draft plan projects that it will increase by a further 2,705 people to bring it to an estimated total of 29,609 by 2029 (an increase of c. 17% over the 2016 level). The Department notes the long-term growth ambition for Ennis. The Southern RSES identifies Ennis for significant population growth of greater than 30% above 2016 population levels by 2040. Planning for educational requirements has to keep this longer-term ambition in focus. In this regard, the Department welcomes the commitment in Objective V3 (a) 9 of Volume 3 a concerning Ennis Municipal District. The objective concerning the site for potential future school use at Roslevan is also welcome. The zoning of the site of the Holy



Family School for mixed use development (rather than community use) is a concern to the Department as the rationale for this is not clear. The Department will engage further with the Council on this matter.

The town of Ennis is served by nine mainstream primary schools, when the primary schools in Clarecastle and Knockanean are included. (The Department notes and welcomes the support in the draft plan Volume 3a Objective V3(a)9 for the upgrade of road improvement to facilitate cycle and pedestrian commute to Knockanean NS.) There are four post-primary schools in Ennis which serve the town and the wider catchment.

At primary level, taking into account the underlying demographic trends, the Department anticipates that the level of potential increase in school place requirements arising from the increased population in the draft plan will be met by existing facilities.

Similarly, at post-primary level, the Department anticipates that when account is taken of underlying demographic trends that the level of potential increase in school place requirements arising from the increased population will be met by existing facilities.

Metropolitan Area

The lands of the Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan (MASP) are almost evenly split between the functional area of Co. Clare (49%) and that of Limerick City and County Council (51%).

Within Co. Clare the settlements identified are:

- Shannon (Metropolitan town),
- Sixmilebridge (Town)
- Eight village settlements of Athlunkard, Bunratty, Clonlara, Parteen, Ballycannon North (Meelick), Ardnacrusha, Cratloe and O'Briensbridge.
- Proposed SDZ (not yet designated) in South Clare/University of Limerick

Four of the village settlements are in the suburbs of Limerick City North (or immediately adjoining the suburbs). These are Athlunkard, Parteen, Meelick and Ardnacrusha. Two of these villages (Parteen and Meelick) have their own primary school. In the case of all four of these villages, their post-primary education needs must be met schools in Limerick City. A significant population increase is already identified for the Limerick City North in the draft Limerick City and County Development Plan 2022-2028. The Department has already concluded that this increase will generate significant potential additional educational requirements in



the area based on the Limerick CDP. The requirements of the population in Co. Clare are going to further add to this already identified requirement. In regard to Limerick City North, the Department's submission of 6/9/2021 to the Limerick CDP states as follows:

“At primary level, taking into account the underlying demographic trends and the level of potential increase in school place requirements arising from the increased population, the Department anticipates a potential future requirement for at least one new primary school (and possibly up to two new schools depending on how population growth is distributed and on expansion capacity of the existing schools to expand). In this regard, the Department welcomes any zoning of additional land beside existing schools in order to help them expand to meet requirements. The Department requests that at least one additional primary school site be zoned to meet the future needs of this area.

At post-primary level, a potential significant increased requirement has been identified based on the projected population. It is of a level that would could necessitate the provision of a new school, depending on the capacity of the existing schools to expand. For this reason, it would be deemed prudent to zone a site for a possible future post-primary school. “

The four settlements of Clonlara, Parteen, Meelick and Cratloe have their own primary school. Bunratty does not have its own primary school so it would rely on other schools in the MASP (including Sixmilebridge and/or Cratloe). Athlunkard relies on schools in Limerick City; Ardnacrusha relies on the school in Parteen; O'Briensbridge relies on Bridgetown. This all demonstrates the strong connection and reliance on the existing schools in both Co. Clare and Co. Limerick in meeting the educational needs of these settlements. It demonstrates the importance of protecting these existing schools and their expansion capacity to meet the primary school educational requirements of the settlements as they become more developed and populated in line with the MASP. As regards post-primary educational requirements, there will be a strong reliance on schools in either Limerick City or Shannon. The settlements of Athlunkard, Clonlara, Parteen, Meelick, Ardnacrusha and O'Briensbridge will all rely on Limerick City post-primary schools. The post-primary educational needs of the settlements of Shannon, Sixmilebridge, Cratloe and Bunratty will depend principally on the post-primary schools in Shannon.

Following are some comments on the settlements:

- Shannon (Metropolitan town)

The population of Shannon was 9,899 people in the 2016 Census. Allowing for the increase already taken place from 2016 – 2022, it is projected to increase by a



total of some 1,700 people over the 2016 level to bring it to a total of 11,597 by 2029 (an increase of 17%).

The town of Shannon is served by six mainstream primary schools and there is one primary school just on the perimeter of the town (Clonmoney NS). There are two post-primary schools which serve the town and the wider catchment.

At primary level, taking into account the underlying demographic trends, it is anticipated that the existing schools could meet the requirements arising from the increased population.

At post-primary level, an additional potential school place requirement is identified arising from the projected population increase. The schools in Shannon will be meeting the increased requirements not just in Shannon but also in Sixmilebridge, Newmarket-on-Fergus, Bunratty and Cratloe as well as rural growth. The additional potential requirement is of a level it could be met by expansion of the existing facilities, if required.

- Sixmilebridge (Town)

The population of Sixmilebridge was 2,669 people in the 2016 Census. Allowing for the increase already taken place from 2016 – 2022, it is projected to increase by a total of some 530 people over the 2016 level to bring it to a total of c.3,200 by 2029 (an increase of 20%).

The town of Sixmilebridge is served by one mainstream primary school.

Taking account of underlying demographic trends it is anticipated that this school will meet the requirements arising from the increased population in the draft plan.

The post-primary needs of Sixmilebridge would be catered for by the post-primary schools in Shannon. This was taken into account in considering Shannon.

- Athlunkard

Athlunkard is a settlement of the suburbs of Limerick City. Its population in 2016 was 3,486 people. Allowing for the increase already taken place from 2016 – 2022, it is projected to increase by a total of some 440 people over the 2016 level to bring it to a total of c.3,900 by 2029 (an increase of c.13%).

Athlunkard is served by the nearby schools (primary and post-primary) in the north of Limerick City. The population increase for Athlunkard identified in the draft plan must be considered in the context that the entire area surrounding Athlunkard in Limerick City is projected for significant population increase per the draft Limerick City and County Development Plan 2022-2028. As stated in the general comments above, this has relevance in terms of educational requirements for



Athlunkard and also for the other MASP settlements that lie within Co. Clare. The Department's submission to the draft Limerick CDP refers.

- Bunratty

The population of Bunratty was 375 people in the 2016 Census. Allowing for the increase already taken place from 2016 – 2022, it is projected to increase by a total of some 100 people over the 2016 level to bring it to a total of c.480 by 2029.

There is no primary school in Bunratty. It is served by nearby primary schools that are also situated in the MASP area. These include Clonmoney NS, Sixmilebridge NS and Cratloe NS as well as the schools in Shannon.

At post-primary level, the requirements of Bunratty would be met by the two schools in Shannon.

- Clonlara

The population of Clonlara was 684 people in the 2016 Census. Allowing for the increase already taken place from 2016 – 2022, it is projected to increase by a total of some 185 people over the 2016 level to bring it to a total of c.870 by 2029 (an increase of c.27%).

The village is served by one mainstream primary school, Scoil Seanainn Naofa. The Department anticipates that this school will be able to meet requirements arising from the proposed increase. The Department welcomes the statement in the draft plan that the school grounds are to be retained for educational use and any future school expansion

At post-primary level, the requirements of Clonlara would be met by schools in Limerick City.

- Parteen

Parteen is a village settlement in the suburbs of Limerick City. The population of Parteen was 834 people in the 2016 Census. Allowing for the increase already taken place from 2016 – 2022, it is projected to increase by a total of some 100 people over the 2016 level to bring it to a total of c.940 by 2029 (an increase of c.12%).

The village is served by one mainstream primary school, Parteen NS. The Department anticipates that this school should be able to meet requirements arising from the proposed increase. This school also serves the population in Ardnacrusha. The Department welcomes the zoning of the school site to Community Facilities C1 to facilitate any future expansion of the school. It is noted that it is stated that the



site may also accommodate additional community facilities. Given that the site is just over 2 acres, the Department would be concerned that the development of additional community facilities on this site would inhibit any future expansion requirement of this school. There is also a statement in Volume 3b that a mixed use zoning be applied to the school in Parteen to enable it be relocated during the lifetime of the plan. This statement is somewhat surprising and concerning as it conflicts with the statement elsewhere in the draft plan that zones the school site to C1, which the Department regards as the appropriate zoning. The Department will engage further with the Council on the matter.

The post-primary requirements of Parteen would be met by post-primary schools in Limerick City.

- Ballycannon North (Meelick)

Meelick is a village settlement just outside the suburbs of Limerick City. The population of Meelick was 917 people in the 2016 Census. Allowing for the increase already taken place from 2016 – 2022, it is projected to increase by a total of some 100 people over the 2016 level to bring it to a total of c.1,000 by 2029. 12%).

The village is served by one mainstream primary school, Scoil Mhuire NS. The Department anticipates that this school should be able to meet requirements arising from the proposed increase in the draft plan.

The post-primary requirements of Meelick would be met by post-primary schools in Limerick City.

- Ardnacrusha

Ardnacrusha is a village settlement just beyond the suburbs of Limerick City. The population of Ardnacrusha was 1,351 people in the 2016 Census. The Core Strategy Table does not specify a particular population increase as it is part of an unserved rural area and it appears that further development can't take place until the required water services are available.

In terms of schools, Ardnacrusha is served by the the primary school in the adjoining village of Parteen. The post-primary requirements of Ardnacrusha would be met by post-primary schools in Limerick City.

- Cratloe

The population of Cratloe was 926 people in the 2016 Census. The Core Strategy Table does not specify a particular population increase as it is part of an unserved rural area and it appears that further development can't take place until the required water services are available.

Cratloe has its own primary school, Cratloe NS.



The Department welcomes objective C2 in the draft plan concerning C2 Cratloe School, Grotto and Associated Grounds. The objective is to retain these lands in community use to facilitate any future expansion of the existing school on the site.

In terms of post-primary requirements, Cratloe is served by the schools in Shannon

- O'Briensbridge

The population of O'Briensbridge was 325 people in the 2016 Census. The Core Strategy Table does not specify a particular population increase as it is part of an unserviced rural area and it appears that further development can't take place until the required water services are available.

In terms of schools, O'Briensbridge is served by the primary school in the adjoining village of Bridgetown. The post-primary requirements of O'Briensbridge would be met by post-primary schools in Limerick City.

- Proposed SDZ in South Clare/University of Limerick

The SDZ proposed on greenfield land in South Clare/University of Limerick proposes a population of 3,500 in an area that is currently not served by a school. The Department understands that Clare County Council would intend that a primary school site be zoned in the SDZ and the Department agrees with this. The size of the school required will become more clear as the plans for the proposed SDZ are developed but it is clear that a primary school site should be designated in order to meet the needs of a new population of 3,500 people in a greenfield area. Given the proximity of the proposed SDZ to Limerick City, it would appear that the post-primary education requirements of the population in the SDZ would be met by the schools in Limerick City East, namely in Castletroy. This is an area targeted for expansion in the draft Limerick CDP 2022-2028. In its submission to the draft Limerick CDP, the Department stated as follows

City East – principally Castletroy and Annacotty

The area is currently is served by four mainstream primary schools (if Lisnagry is included) and two post-primary schools.

Given the level of population expansion envisaged for this area, the protection of land buffers (if any) around existing schools is requested in order to enable the school expand, if required.

At primary level, taking account of the projected population growth, there is a projected requirement for two additional primary schools for this area and possibly even up to three additional primary schools, depending on the capacity of existing schools to expand. Therefore in order to cater for future development



scenarios, the Department requests that three primary school sites be zoned for this area.

At post-primary level, the new 1,000 pupil post-primary school being built in Castletroy will meet demand in the short to medium term. However, in the medium to longer –term , there is still likely to be a requirement for further provision of post-primary school places, which is of a possible level that it would be prudent to zone another future post-primary school site in this area, to cater for the scenario that the existing schools could not expand further to meet demand.

Clearly, if the SDZ is approved in Co. Clare, it will compound the requirement for post-primary places in Castletroy.

Service Towns

Ennistymon/Lahinch

The draft plan notes that Ennistymon and Lahinch are located approximately 2.5 km apart and are linked by the N67 footpath and cycleway. The draft plan states that it is critical that each settlement retains its own identity and does not coalesce through ribboning of development. Ennistymon is the largest town in North Clare. The combined population of Ennistymon/Lahinch was 1,567 people in the 2016 census. Allowing for the increase already taken place from 2016 – 2022, it is projected to increase by a total of some 300 + people over the 2016 level to bring it to a total of c.1,900 by 2029 .

At primary level, Ennistymon is served by two mainstream primary schools. Lahinch is served by one mainstream primary school. Taking into account the underlying demographic trends, it is anticipated that the existing primary schools in Ennistymon/Lahinch could meet the requirements arising from the increased population.

At post-primary level, construction work is now underway to build a new post-primary school in Ennistymon which will result in a new school that amalgamates the existing three post-primary schools. The Department anticipates that this new school will meet the demographic needs of the area arising from the draft plan. The Department welcomes the support for the delivery of this school in the draft plan.



Kilrush (including Cappa Village and Pier)

Kilrush is the main administrative and retail centre for West Clare.

Allowing for the increase already taken place from 2016 – 2022, it is projected to increase by a total of some 500 people over the 2016 level to bring it to a total of c.3,000 by 2029 (an increase of c.20%).

At primary level, Kilrush is served by two mainstream primary schools. Taking into account the underlying demographic trends, it is anticipated that these existing schools can meet the requirements arising from the increased population. The Department welcomes the objective OP10 in Volume 3d West Clare Municipal Plans concerning the development of a new school building.

At post-primary level, the Department anticipates that the post-primary school in Kilrush will be able to meet requirements arising from the population increase of the draft plan.

Scarriff/Tuamgraney

The draft plan notes that Scarriff and Tuamgraney are linked settlements. They are physically linked by the bridge across the Scarriff River. The plan notes that both settlements have expanded in recent years, to the extent that the two have now almost merged however, both continue to retain their own strong identity. The combined population of Scarriff/Tuamgraney was 805 people in the 2016 census. Allowing for the increase already taken place from 2016 – 2022, it is projected to increase by a total of some 170 people over the 2016 level to bring it to a total of c.970 by 2029.

At primary level, Tuamgraney is served by two mainstream primary schools. Scarriff is served by one mainstream primary school. Taking into account the underlying demographic trends, it is anticipated that these existing primary schools could meet the requirements arising from the increased population.

At post-primary level, there is one post-primary school (Scarriff Community College). The Department anticipates that this school will meet the demographic needs of the area arising from the draft plan.



Small Towns

Kilkee

The population of Kilkee was 1,155 people in the 2016 Census. Allowing for the increase already taken place from 2016 – 2022, it is projected to increase by a total of some 200 people over the 2016 level to bring it to a total of c.1,350 by 2029 .

Kilkee is served by one mainstream primary school and one post-primary school.

Taking account of underlying demographic trends it is anticipated that both schools will meet the requirements arising from the increased population in the draft plan.

Killaloe

Killaloe is physically linked by the historic bridge across the Shannon at the southern-most tip of Lough Derg to the settlement of Ballina in County Tipperary. Given this linkage, and the fact that other settlements have their linked towns in the name, in the interest of consistency the Department suggests that this settlement be entitled “Killaloe/Ballina”. The linkage is also evident in regard to schools (see below)

The population of Killaloe was 1,393 people in the 2016 Census. Allowing for the increase already taken place from 2016 – 2022, it is projected to increase by a total of some 240 people over the 2016 level to bring it to a total of c.1,640 by 2029 .

Killaloe is served by three mainstream primary schools (two schools in Killaloe and one school in Ballina). Taking account of underlying demographic trends it is anticipated that these schools will meet the potential requirements arising from the increased population in the draft plan.

At post-primary level, the town is served by one post-primary school. It is anticipated that this school will meet the potential requirements arising from the increased population in the draft plan.

Lisdoonvarna

Lisdoonvarna is situated in the heart of the Burren. The population of Lisdoonvarna was 800 people in the 2016 Census. Allowing for the increase already taken place from 2016 – 2022, it is projected to increase by a total of some 140 people over the 2016 level to bring it to a total of c.940 by 2029

The town of Lisdoonvarna is served by one mainstream primary school and one post-primary school.



Taking account of underlying demographic trends it is anticipated that both schools will meet the requirements arising from the increased population in the draft plan.

Miltown Malbay

The population of Miltown Malbay was 769 people in the 2016 Census. Allowing for the increase already taken place from 2016 – 2022, it is projected to increase by a total of some 140 people over the 2016 level to bring it to a total of c.900 by 2029.

Miltown Malbay is served by one mainstream primary school. Taking account of underlying demographic trends it is anticipated that this school will meet the requirements arising from the increased population in the draft plan.

At post-primary level, the school in Spanish Point serves Miltown Malbay and the surrounding area. Taking account of underlying demographic trends it is anticipated that the requirements arising from the increased population in the draft plan will be met at this facility.

Newmarket-on-Fergus

The population of Newmarket-on-Fergus was 1,968 people in the 2016 census. Allowing for the increase already taken place from 2016 – 2022, it is projected to increase by a total of some 270 people over the 2016 level to bring it to a total of c.2,240 by 2029.

Newmarket-on-Fergus is served by one mainstream primary school. Taking account of underlying demographic trends it is anticipated that this school will meet the requirements arising from the increased population in the draft plan.

At post-primary level, the schools in Shannon serve Newmarket-on-Fergus.

Tulla

The population of Tulla was 759 people in the 2016 Census. Allowing for the increase already taken place from 2016 – 2022, it is projected to increase by a total of some 130 people over the 2016 level to bring it to a total of c.900 by 2029.



The town of Tulla is served by one mainstream primary school. Taking account of underlying demographic trends it is anticipated that this school will meet the requirements arising from the increased population in the draft plan.

At post-primary level, there is a post-primary school in Tulla that serves the town and the surrounding area. Taking account of underlying demographic trends it is anticipated that the requirements arising from the increased population in the draft plan will be met at this facility.

Large villages (Tier 1 and Tier 2)

No other educational requirements have been identified at any other settlements in Co. Clare

Conclusion

The draft Co. Clare CDP provides that the bulk (70%) of the population growth for Co. Clare will take place in the area of the Limerick-Shannon Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan (MASP) and in the key town of Ennis. The existing schools within the MASP are therefore critical to meeting the future educational needs of the Co. Clare settlements within the MASP. Their sites, and any land buffers around them need to be fully protected to enable expansion. A number of settlements in Co. Clare that lie within the MASP area will depend for their post-primary school needs on the schools in Limerick City (North and East). This inter-dependency requires co-ordination between all stakeholders. In regard to the key town of Ennis, the Department welcomes the focus on planning for educational requirements in the context of the long-term 2040 growth ambition for Ennis.

This submission has focused on demographic requirements. Hence, it did not identify any specific requirements for a special school(s). However, if a specific need arises the Department will get in touch with the Council. School accommodation requirements across the county will continue to be kept under review. In that regard, the Department welcomes the ongoing engagement with Clare County Council and will continue to work closely with the Council in relation to the development of existing schools and the provision of new schools. The Department acknowledges the crucial importance of the ongoing work of the Council in ensuring sufficient and appropriate land is zoned for educational needs. The Department wishes to thank Clare County Council for the consideration given to the Department's submission to the Issues Paper in November 2020.

If you have any queries in respect of the above, please feel free to contact me.



Yours sincerely,

Alan Hanlon
Statutory Plans
Forward Planning Section