



Draft Discussion paper on Biodiversity a 2024/5-2030

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An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council

**The Local Authority
Biodiversity Officer Programme
is delivered in Partnership
with the Heritage Council**



Credit: WTML / Earnie Janes



BirdWatchIreland.ie

A place to start

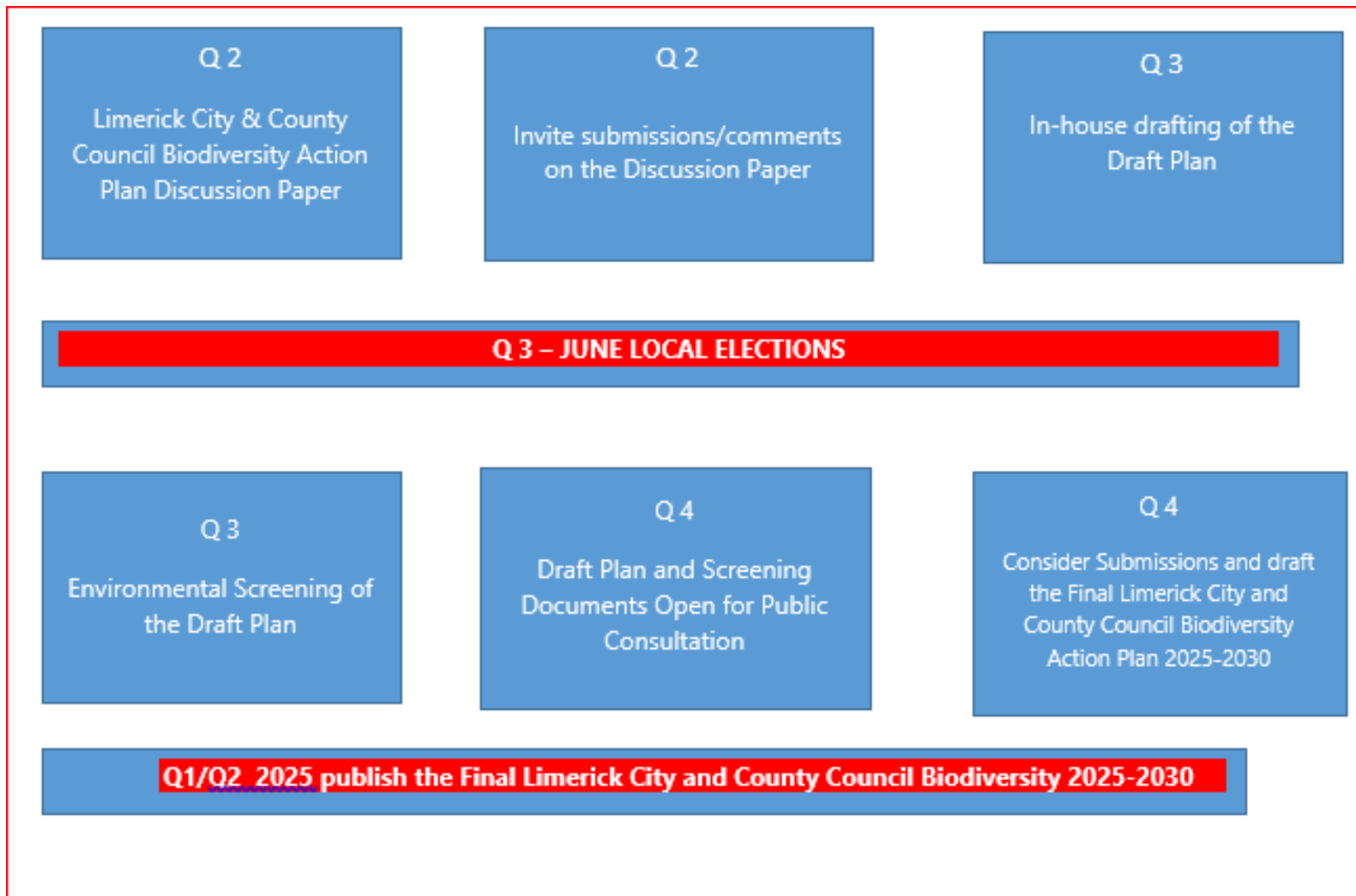


<https://thelastdaysofthunderchild.blogspot.com/2017/07/the-baby-dunnock-chicks-are-developing.html>

The aim of this discussion paper is to begin this process. To:

- Hear views on nature/biodiversity/natural heritage
- Listen to views on what actions are needed and
- Record, conserve and restore biodiversity in Limerick.
- Make space for nature

Provisional Time Frame to draft the LCCC Local Biodiversity Action Plan



United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

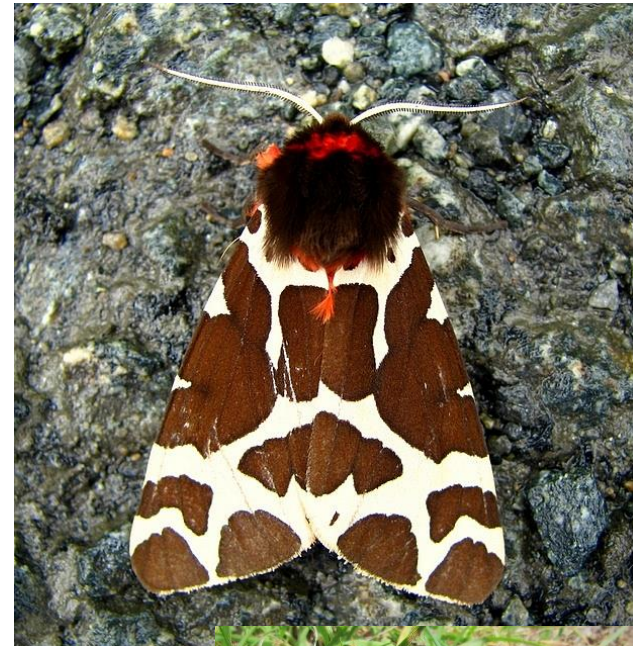
3 Pillars of the SDGs

- BIOSPHERE
- SOCIETY
- ECONOMY
- All linked through Partnership



What is Biodiversity?

- Biodiversity is the variety of life on Earth, in all its forms and all its interactions, (including humans).
- Locally it's the wealth and diversity of all living things in Limerick.
- The importance of the interdependence between the variety of life forms
- Nature or Natural Heritage are sometimes used instead of the word Biodiversity

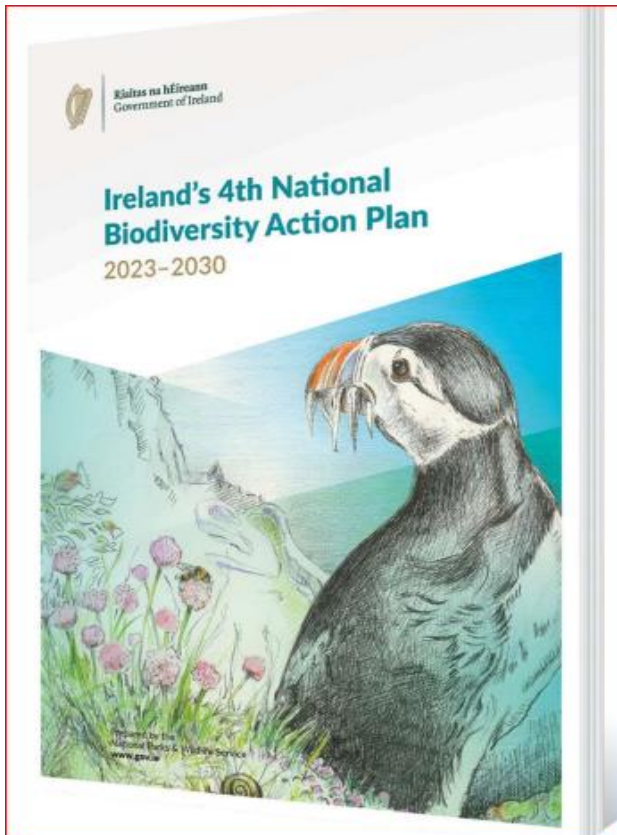


Why Protect Ireland's Biodiversity?

- Biodiversity provides us with clean air, water, food, materials, medicines, health benefits, and recreation along with being a muse and continual resource for the arts.
- It supports pollination and soil fertility, regulates climate and protects us from extreme weather and other effects of climate change. It is these benefits that underpin our economy, health and wellbeing.



4th National Biodiversity Action Plan



It is an objective of the 4th National Biodiversity

Action Plan that each Local Authority prepare Local Biodiversity Action Plan which will provide a framework for the conservation and restoration of biodiversity and natural heritage at a local level.

The LCCC Biodiversity Officer will work with a representative group to produce a Biodiversity Action Plan for the Limerick City and County.

The 4th NBAP has identified five main pressures that impact on biodiversity.

- Habitat Loss
- Climate Change
- Pollution
- Over exploitation
- Invasive Species

Limerick's SPA / SAC / NHA/WFS

SPA (3)

(Birds) Special
Protected Area

Site Name: [River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA](#) (004077)

Site Name: [Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA](#) (004165)

Site Name: [Stack's to Mullaghareirk Mountains, West Limerick Hills and Mount Eagle SPA](#) (004161)

Site Name: [Askeaton Fen Complex SAC](#) (002279)

Site Name: [Ballyhoura Mountains SAC](#) (002036)

Site Name: [Barrigone SAC](#) (000432)

Site Name: [Blackwater River \(Cork/Waterford\) SAC](#) (002170)

Site Name: [Carrigeenamronety Hill SAC](#) (002037)

Site Name: [Clare Glen SAC](#) (000930)

Site Name: [Curraghchase Woods SAC](#) (000174)

Site Name: [Galtee Mountains SAC](#) (000646)

Site Name: [Glen Bog SAC](#) (001430)

Site Name: [Glenstal Wood SAC](#) (001432)

SAC (10)

(habitats)
Special Area of
Conservation

WFS (2)

Wildfowl
Sanctuary

NHA(4)

Natural Heritage
Areas

Your search returned 4 results.

Site Name: [Carrigerry Bogs NHA](#) (002399)

Site Name: [Grageen Fen and Bog NHA](#) (002186)

Site Name: [Lough Gay Bog NHA](#) (002454)

Site Name: [Moyreen Bog NHA](#) (002361)

WFS-33	Lough Gur	Limerick
WFS-34	City of Limerick (part)	Limerick

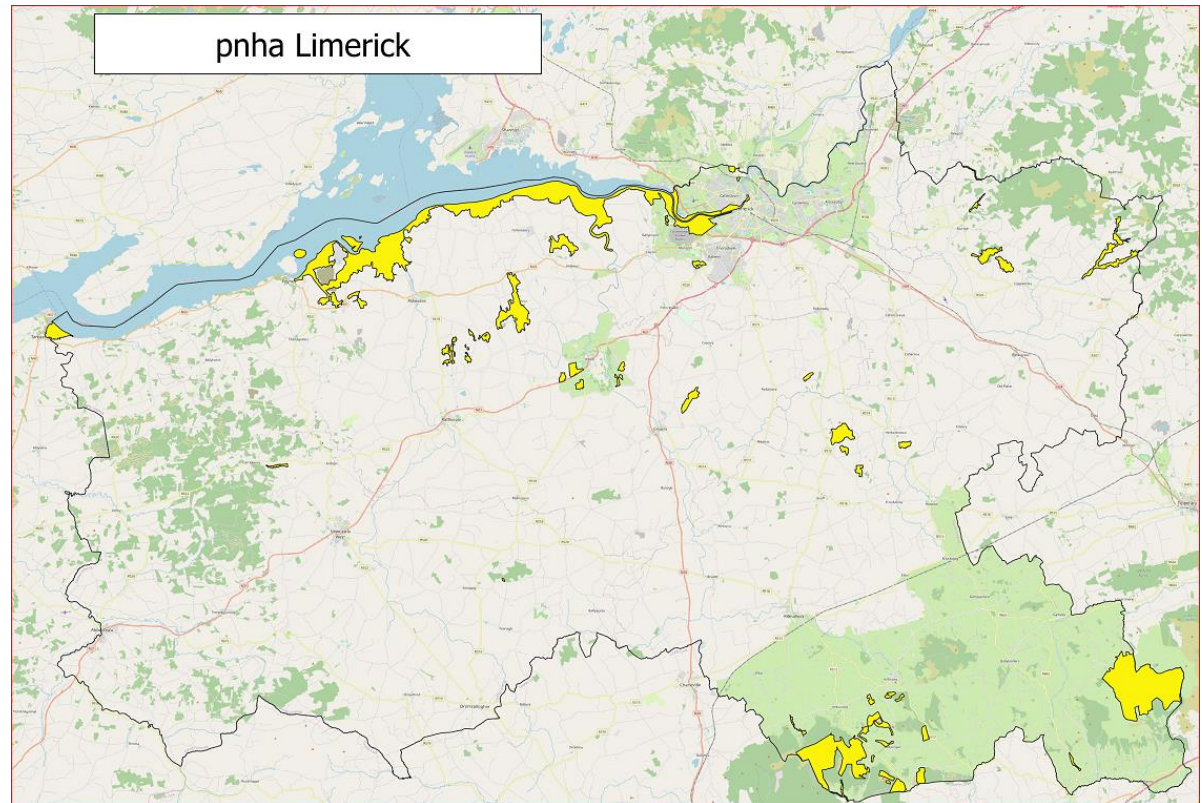


Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

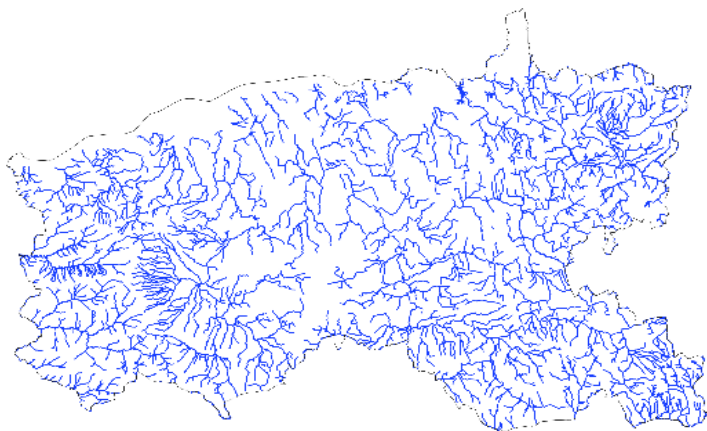
Limerick's pNHA's

Inner Shannon Estuary - South Shore
 Curraghchase Woods
 Ardagh Church, Newcastlewest (Disused)
 Castleconnell (Domestic Dwelling, Occupied)
 Lough Gur
 Galtee Mountains
 Clare Glen
 Dromore & Bleach Loughs
 Glen Bog
 Glenastar Wood
 Glenstal Wood
 Dromsallagh Bog
 Bilboa And Gortnageragh River Valleys
 Skoolhill
 Fergus Estuary And Inner Shannon, North Shore
 Castleoliver Woods
 Ballyhoura Mountains
 Ballintlea Wood
 Ballynacourty Wood
 Mountrussell Wood
 Herbertstown Fen
 Loughmore Common Turlough
 Adare Woodlands
 Barrigone
 Tory Hill
 Knockanavar Wood
 Tarbert Bay
 Ballymorrisheen Marsh
 Ballinvirick Marsh
 Cappagh Fen
 Gorteennamrock
 Heathfield Wood
 Sturamus Island
 Ballyvorheen Bog
 Knockalisheen Marsh
 Glenacurrane River Valley
 Carrigeenamronety Hill
 Ballyroe Hill & Mortlestown Hill



pNHAs (38)
 Proposed Natural
 Heritage Areas

Catchments – Rivers / Corridors – Hedgerows & Verges



Rivers in Limerick County



Rivers & Sub Catchments in Limerick County



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LCCC Progress in supporting Biodiversity

- LCCC Dev Plan Policy EH P1-4 along with associated objectives.
- Blue Green Infrastructure Strategy for the Metropolitan Area
- LCCC Tree Strategy is currently out for public consultation
- Swift and Barn Owl baseline surveys supported by the Heritage Council and organized by the LCCC Heritage Officer
- Westfields Wetland Management Plan
- Limerick Greenway Biodiversity Plan
- County Limerick Hedgerow Survey Report 2023.
- Staff training for planners organized by Heritage Officer
- The Council continue to support the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and report annually on these actions to the National Biodiversity Data Centre
- LCCC is drafting a local pollinator action plan
- The council's programme of biodiversity related events.
- European Projects: Current URBACT BiodiverCity and URBACT GreenPlace and the completed Health & GreenSpace
 - <https://www.youtube.com/@LimerickEuropeanGreenLeafCity/videos>
- LCCC environment has a positive social media presence @limerickenviron

Limerick City Swift Nest Box Project

#Limerick Volunteers will survey the Swift Nest Boxes in June & July 2023



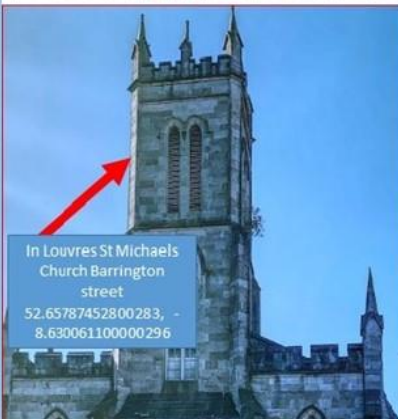
Johns Castle Exhibition Space
over looking the Shannon



LCCC offices Merchants Quay –
right of main door as you look
at the building over the Pollen
Patches



St Marys Cathedra
Augustine Pl
52.668342. -
8.623947



In Louvres St Michaels
Church Barrington
street
52.65787452800283, -
8.630061100000296



Rear of Hunt Museum – over
the arts and crafts workshop
room




Limerick City Swift Nest Box Scheme

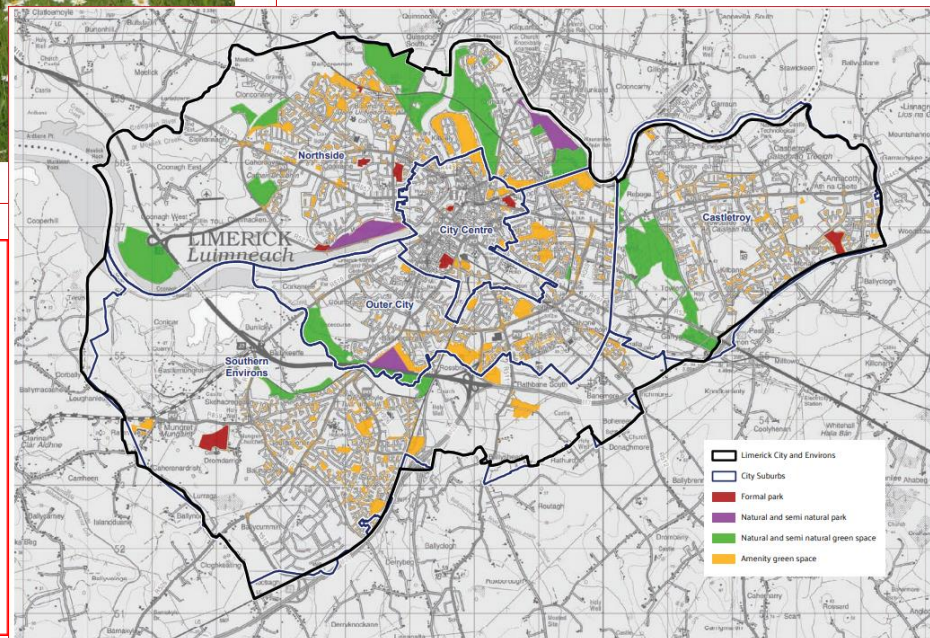
Limerick Metro Area Green Blue Infrastructure Strategy

Green Blue Infrastructure Strategy

- A network of multi-functional green and bluespaces
- Natural and semi-natural spaces and corridors, including parks, open green spaces, woodlands, allotments, fields, hedges, playgrounds, lakes, coastal habitats, cycle routes and water courses
- Assists in developing a network, to ensure the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity and ecosystems
- Essential component of resilient and healthy communities, cornerstone of sustainable development



-  Limerick City and Environs
-  City Suburbs
-  Formal park
-  Natural and semi natural park
-  Natural and semi natural green space
-  Amenity green space



LCCC Pollinator Planting & Let It Bee



Pollen Patch

Ragged Robin growing in #Limerick's 'Let it Bee' areas



Tipperary Road Roundabout

World Wetlands Day 2024

Cistithe ag
An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council



LCCC ran two events for WWD

- Annual Tidy Towns Seminar Focused on Wetlands and
- Outing to Lough Gur
 - Dabbling Ducks
 - Diving Ducks
 - Swans



An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council



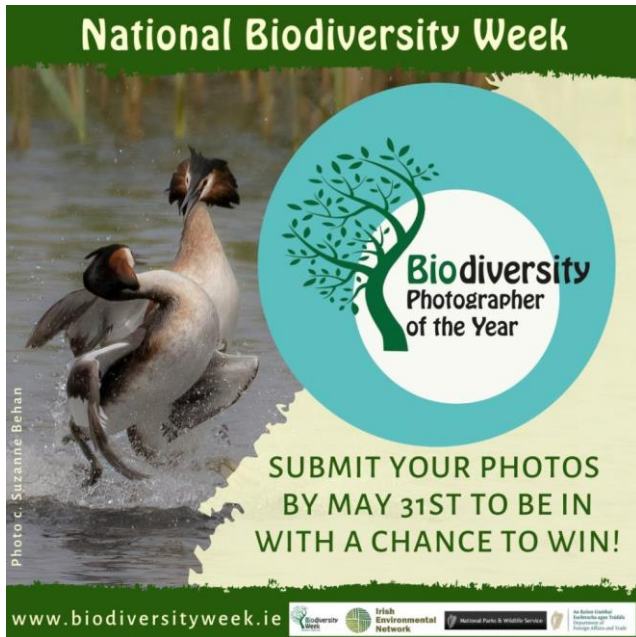
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& County Council

Biodiversity Week 2024 18th – 26th May

Limerick City and County Council will be support National Biodiversity Week with a series of events:

- Moths and Bats – creatures of the night with Albert Nolan
- Day time pollinators – With Aine Ni Flathairg
- Guided walk in the Newcastle West Demense – Geoff Hunt
- Griston Bog with Naula Madigan of the IPCC in collaboration with Ballyhoura Development Company
- Days, Dates and times tbc.



Heritage Week 2024 17th – 25th August

The Theme for 2024 is Connections, Routes & Networks



Limerick City and County Council will be host biodiversity events for National Heritage Week with a series of events: Days, Dates and times tbc.

Hedgerow Week normally 1st week in Sept



Waiting to hear on the date.

Events at Lough Gur



Sunday, 5 May

Seán Ronayne - Irish Wildlife Sounds

Irish Wildlife Sounds with Seán Ronayne.



By Lough Gur Visitor Centre and Lakeshore Park
138 followers

Follow

Date and time

General Admission

- 1 +

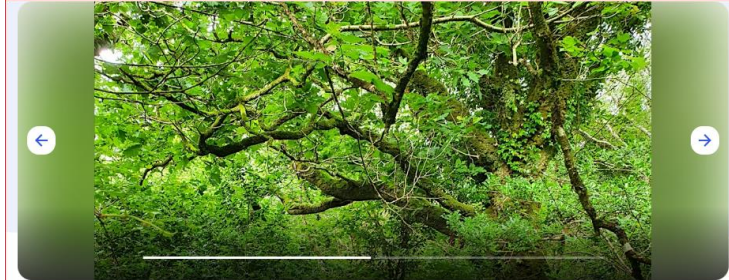
€15.00

Check out for €17.07

Sun, May 5th 2024 14:00 - 15:00

Lough Gur Visitor Centre

Supported by Limerick City and County Council & the Heritage Council



Sunday, 24 March

Eoghan Daltun - An Irish Atlantic Rainforest and the Magic of Rewilding

Eoghan, one of Ireland's most exciting rewilders, is coming to Lough Gur to talk about his successes in recreating a rainforest in West Cork



By Lough Gur Visitor Centre and Lakeshore Park
138 followers

Follow

Date and time

General Admission

- 1 +

€15.00

Check out for €17.07

Past Event



Limerick.ie My Point



Face to Face Meetings & information Sessions

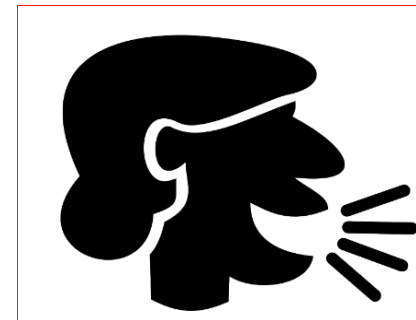
- **MyPoint on Limerick.ie**
- **Email the answers to the questions posed, your thoughts, suggestions and/or comments to biodiversity@limerick.ie or**
- **Come along to any of our biodiversity events and other information sessions keep an eye on [@limerickenviron](https://twitter.com/limerickenviron) twitter/facebook & Instagram and Limerick City and County Council social media for details.**
- **send a written submission to Biodiversity Officer, Environment & Climate Action Team, Limerick City & County Council, Dooradoyle Limerick**



By Email



Bx Post



Needpix.com

Some Questions / Prompts to Start the Consultation Process

- Imagine Limerick in 2050 – what type of biodiversity would you like to experience in Limerick City and County.
- How can we develop and protect the Ecological Network in the County?
- What are the main threats to Limerick's biodiversity and natural heritage?
- How can we provide for development while ensuring that we enhance and protect biodiversity and nature
- Do you have an ideas for Citizen Science Projects that you think may support and enhance biodiversity in Limerick?
- What are the most important priority actions that need to be taken to restore and enhance biodiversity in Limerick?
- Do you have any innovative ideas on how we can gather and manage baseline data?
- Think of your younger days. Have you noticed a biodiversity decline in your local area, what is missing now that was abundant in the past?



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2024.02.23 balance oaks Glenstal Abbey Michael Bix Flickr



2024.02.23 Buttercups and Dandelions in a field Steve Daniels Geograph Britain and Ireland



2024.02.23 Dandelions Ann Burgess Geograph Britain and Ireland



2024.02.23 Dipper at the Allan Water Walter Baxter



2024.02.23 Elephant Hawk Moth Alastair Rae Flickr



2024.02.23 Garden Tiger Moth (Arctia caja) near Dunfanaghy geograph.org.uk - 901186. Picasa 2.7



2024.02.23 Gold Crest john.purvis CC BY NC SA Flickr



2024.02.23 Grey Wagtail bangorart@gmail.com Flickr



2024.02.23 Hazel Catkins Anne Burgess Geograph Britain and Ireland



2024.02.23 Hazel Nuts Ann Burgess Geography of Britain and Ireland



2024.02.23 Heron Ire. Photographer Tambako The Jaguar Flickr



2024.02.23 Irish Stoat Leon van der Noll. flickr



2024.02.23 Ivy buds near Hampstead Edmund Shaw Geography



2024.02.23 Oak leaves Glasswater Wood Albert Bridge Geography.ie



2024.02.23 Otter Kenneth Allen Geography Ireland



2024.02.23 Pied Wagtail Howth Head. Steve Valasek. Flickr



2024.02.23 stinging nettles Ewen Roberts Flickr



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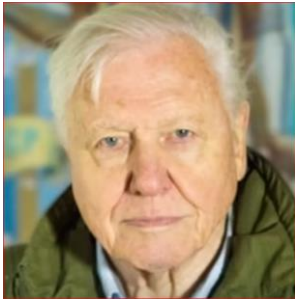


2024.02.24 Fiesty Furry Caterpillar Garden Tiger Moth Catterpill...



2024.02.26 Elephant Hawk Moth Caterpillar Alison Day Flickr

Sir David Attenborough



"It's surely our responsibility to do everything within our power to create a planet that provides a home not just for us, but for all life on Earth."



Flickr John Pervis



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Thank you