

Meitheal Chiarraí

WORKING TOGETHER FOR OUR FUTURE

2002 - 2011

Having your say...

Written submissions are being accepted by Kerry County Development Board until 8th February 2002.

These can be posted to:

Kerry County Development Board, Kerry County Council, Áras an Chontae, Tralee.

You can also make your submission by e-mail to: cdb@kerrycoco.ie
or forward your submission online by logging onto www.kerrycdb.ie/countystrategy.

You will receive an acknowledgement of your submission and you will be informed of the Board's assessment of your submission.

The Draft Strategy document which has been compiled by the members of Kerry County Development Board, following consultation throughout the county, will be available for viewing at the following locations...

ACCESS POINTS FOR VIEWING MEITHEAL CHIARRAÍ DOCUMENT

Community & Enterprise Department Offices, Kerry County Council, *Tralee and Killarney*
Kerry County Council, Áras an Chontae, Tralee
Kerry County Council area offices
Urban District Council offices
Libraries and Mobile Library
Local LEADER / ADM offices
Citizens' Information Centres

For more information on access points in your area please contact our office or visit the website

CONTACT DETAILS

Office of the Director of Community and Enterprise, Kerry County Council, Áras an Chontae, Tralee, Co. Kerry

Telephone: 066 7183680 / 066 7121111 [[Tralee](#)]
064 30301 [[Killarney](#)]

Facsimile: 066 7183678 [[Tralee](#)]

Website: www.kerrycdb.ie Email: comm&ent@kerrycoco.ie

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KERRY COUNTY
DEVELOPMENT BOARD
BORD FORBARTHA CHONTAE CHIARRAÍ

Have your say in Kerry's future...



KATHLEEN O'REGAN SHEPPARD
Employers/Business Sector

It's vital that Kerry has a Strategy in place that will leverage increased investment into the county, particularly in infrastructure - access (roads; rail; air), energy and broadband. Increased investment in the county's infrastructure should enhance Kerry's employment opportunities and quality of life. Ní neart go chur le chéile.



OGIE MORAN
Shannon Development

Ten years from now Kerry will be a very different place to what it is today. This brochure tells you about a comprehensive Strategy - *Meitheal Chiarraí* - being developed for the county for the next ten years and beyond.

There are many strategies, plans and programmes operating within County Kerry. But this is not just another strategy, another plan, another programme. This is the first time that a Strategy of this nature, working towards a common vision of where County Kerry should be in ten years time, has been developed in County Kerry.

It is an entirely new way of doing business in the county in that it gives the people of Kerry a real say in the quality, quantity and effectiveness of services delivered to them. Essentially, this Strategy is about co-ordinating the activities of all the agencies working in the county to enhance the quality of life for the people of Kerry.

A strategy for the county requires input from the people of the county. Consultation has taken place with various sectors across the county over the last 18 months. It is now time for YOU to have your say in the social, cultural and economic development of your county.

Meitheal Chiarraí is about working together for the future of Kerry and all its citizens.

It's about shaping our future together to ensure an enhanced quality of life for everybody. Please take time to find out more about the proposed Strategy and let us have your views.

Gach ráth ar an obair.

Brian O'Leary Chairman, Kerry County Development Board

It's extremely important to plan for the future development of our county. From an economic development perspective, the creation of full-time and sustainable jobs for those people who want to live and work in Kerry is of paramount importance. We need to create the right environment so that both Irish and overseas investors will have the confidence to invest and create new opportunities for our people.

With their input into Meitheal Chiarraí, Community and Voluntary groups are playing a major role in planning for the future of Kerry. This is the first time that the Community and Voluntary sector has had a voice in such strategic policy-making at a county level.



ANTAINE Ó SÉ
Meitheal Forbartha na Gaeltachta Teo



HELEN FITZGERALD
Community & Voluntary Sector

Did *you* know?

The draft COUNTY STRATEGY covers all aspects of life in the county, from agriculture to education and from disability issues to the environment. The issues are clustered under five general headings, as set out below. The relevance of the Strategy to all people and communities within the county can be seen from the following examples.

Meitheal Chiarraí

THIS IS *your* OPPORTUNITY TO INFLUENCE CHANGE



...that Kerry had the second lowest disposable income per capita in the state in 1998?

ECONOMY OF KERRY

One of the issues which has come up as part of the consultation process to date is the fact that there are over 4,500 Kerry students attending universities and institutes of technology in the state.

How can we create a vibrant economy which will keep our highly-skilled graduates living and working locally?

...that there was a 25% decrease in the number of pupils attending primary schools in Kerry in the period 1988 - 2000?

SOCIAL AND HEALTH ISSUES IN KERRY

Research carried out in connection with preparing the draft Strategy has indicated that Kerry's population is ageing - 14% of the population are 65 and over.

Is Kerry a good county to grow old in?

How can we preserve, strengthen and expand the range and scale of community, educational and social services in the villages in County Kerry?

...that County Kerry has the largest area of native wood cover in Ireland?

CULTURE, HERITAGE AND THE IRISH LANGUAGE IN KERRY

There is a wealth of archaeological heritage spread throughout the land and sea of Kerry, which attracts 100,000 heritage activity visitors per year, who spend £47m.

How do we protect our heritage and culture while at the same time ensuring that the needs of our special interest visitors are met?

...that there was an increase of over 100% in planning applications to Kerry County Council between 1996 and 2000?

ENVIRONMENT AND SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT IN KERRY

County Kerry is highly regarded for its high quality environment and landscape.

How do we ensure that we pass on to our children at least as good an environment as we have received from our parents?

...that about 40% of the rural population in Kerry live in areas without any kind of scheduled public transport service?

INFRASTRUCTURE IN KERRY

The County Development Board, through consultation, has identified a number of deficiencies in infrastructure provision - roads, energy, broadband communications - within and to the county.

How do we develop public transportation systems as an alternative to the private car and ensure that all transport systems are supported and used by the public?

These are examples of the types of issues being addressed in the County Strategy. *Please read the Strategy and let us have your views.*

What is Meitheal Chiarraí?

MEITHEAL CHIARRAÍ IS A TEN-YEAR STRATEGY NOW BEING DEVELOPED WHICH WILL COVER ALL ASPECTS OF LIFE IN THE COUNTY.

- Tackling job creation, technology and economic development.
- Improving the standard of health, policing and other services available to us in the county.
- How we engage in cultural activity and protect our heritage.
- Ensuring that the Irish language continues to make a contribution to the uniqueness of our county
- How we safeguard the quality of our environment.
- How we plan sensitively for the growth of our towns and villages and other infrastructural development in the county.
- How we deal with rural isolation
- How we revitalise rural areas
- Identifying the level of sports facilities needed for the county
- Ensuring lifelong education opportunities can be accessed by all
- How we provide adequate and universally available childcare
- Prioritising quality of life for all our citizens and communities.

WHY THIS STRATEGY IS IMPORTANT FOR THE COUNTY...

The strategy document that is being compiled will inform and influence the quality and implementation of services at all levels in Kerry over the next decade.

Based on the Strategy, which will be finalised before March 2002, an action plan will be put in place to ensure its implementation.

HOW THE STRATEGY WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO YOU...

This is a ten-year Strategy but it will have a much longer lasting impact than just ten years. Each of the agencies operating within the county will have to ensure that their plans and strategies do not conflict with this detailed Strategy for the county.

You will notice improvements in the way public services are delivered and the way in which needs not currently being met by any agency will be addressed in a more coherent manner.

You will see over time measurable improvements in areas such as housing, roads, health services and education, because the various organisations responsible for delivering on these services within the county will reflect in their strategic plans, the needs identified by the people of Kerry.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PUTTING THE STRATEGY IN PLACE?

In every County and City, a wide range of bodies work on behalf of the community. The County and City Development Boards were set up to integrate the work of Local Government, State Agencies and Local Development Bodies and improve the services available to people.

The KERRY COUNTY DEVELOPMENT BOARD was set up in February 2000 by Government and is responsible for developing a Strategy that will shape the economic, social and cultural life of the county over the next ten years and beyond.

Kerry County Development Board brings together for the first time all the key players at local level to engage in a process of long-term planning for the County over the next ten years and the Board includes:

- **Representatives from Local Government**, including local Councillors and the County Manager.
- **State Agencies** such as the Southern Health Board, Kerry Education Service (the VEC), Gardaí, Enterprise Ireland, FÁS, Teagasc, Shannon Development, Cork/Kerry Tourism, Údarás na Gaeltachta, IDA Ireland and the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs.
- **Local Development Agencies** such as the LEADER, ADM (Area Partnership/Community groups) organisations and the County Enterprise Board.
- **The Social Partners**; Business, Trades Unions, Farmers and the Community and Voluntary sector.

The Board is connecting with communities and citizens throughout the county, with business communities, farming communities and statutory agencies to ensure consultation and participation in this unprecedented and inclusive process. It's your county and your future and you are invited to give your views about how Kerry should develop to shape this strategic plan for the decade ahead. *You will find details of where to send your views on the back page of this brochure.*

INVOLVING LOCAL COMMUNITIES

From the start of the process, local communities have been involved in developing the Draft Strategy. The Community and Voluntary Forum, which is represented on the Board, facilitates two-way communication and provides a mechanism whereby everyone can have his/her voice heard in relation to the preparation of the Strategy. Similarly, the business and farming sectors have been encouraged and facilitated by their representatives on the Board to have an input into this countywide consultation process.