

MEDIA RELEASE

FUNDING BOOST FOR BURREN CENTRE IN KILFENORA CONFIRMED BY MINISTER KILLEEN

Kilfenora, County Clare, IRELAND, 26th April 07 – Minister for Labour Affairs and Clare T.D., Mr. Tony Killeen has confirmed that The Burren Display Centre in Kilfenora has been approved funding for the next three years, under the Government's Community Services Programme (CSP).

Minister Killeen said the popular facility, more commonly known as The Burren Centre, was one of thirty-four CSP projects approved to benefit from existing funding levels for the next three years.

Commenting on funding announcement, Minister Killeen stated, *“The Burren Centre is located at the gateway to the Burren making it a prime tourist attraction. The increasing number of visitors to the facility has provided a welcome economic boost to Kilfenora and the North Clare Region. I would like to congratulate Frances Connolle, Padraig Howley and John Keane for their continued good work in developing the facility and promoting the unique facets of the Burren.”*

The Minister indicated that the Government remained fully committed to the preservation and promotion of Ireland's culture and heritage, as typified by the announcement concerning The Burren Centre.

“A significant proportion of the Community Services Programme projects to benefit from funding are heritage-based. They include St. Mary's Church in the centre of Oranmore, the restoration of the Old Station House in Donegal Town and the Mayo-based Ballina Heritage Costume Company Ltd. These projects, like The Burren Centre, help conserve Ireland's invaluable heritage as well as attract visitors to their respective areas, therefore contributing to the local economy”, the Minister concluded.