



**Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit  
State Examinations Commission**

**Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme**

**Link Modules**

**Case Study 2010**

## KILMALOE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Kilmaloe is a small town situated on the west coast. Farming, fishing, construction and tourism were the main sectors offering employment opportunities for the local people. With the obvious decline in construction and farming, and the unlikely chance of a large scale employer coming to the area, the local people became proactive and decided to try and develop Kilmaloe to its full potential, and to guarantee the future for the community and especially for its younger population.

A community development committee was formed consisting of all the local stakeholders, including social, sporting, commercial and educational organisations, the local County Enterprise Board and the County Council. Kilmaloe has several safe sandy beaches with unpolluted waters providing an ideal location for swimming, diving, surfing and angling.

The area is surrounded by a number of scenic walks and heritage sites. With suitable grant aid these could be properly maintained and attractively signposted and promoted. It was also proposed that an Adventure Centre should be set up offering climbing, hill walking, horse riding, together with all the other water based activities. This Adventure Centre could appeal to families, schools, clubs and companies who want to develop team building amongst its staff.

First impressions last and proper landscaping, planting of shrubs and flowers are vital if Kilmaloe is to attract people all year round to experience its unique and pleasant environment. Proper maintenance and upgrading of both public and private buildings would be essential to create a positive image for the town. There is one old derelict mill in the area which is an eyesore but if restored it could provide work space for entrepreneurs wishing to set up small to medium sized businesses.

The local people were asked their opinion and suggestions put forward include provision of a crèche, internet café, gymnasium, a resource centre and a local website. Providing all of these services would obviously create employment and help to secure the town's future by making it attractive for the tourists to visit and for the local person who lives and works there. The committee are energetic and optimistic but finance is a big problem. Government agencies have less to give by way of grants and banks are also making it more difficult for borrowers to access funding for development projects.

**Table showing the Population of Kilmaloe between the years 1999 and 2009**

Age Groups	0 – 14 yrs	15 – 24 yrs	25 – 44 yrs	45 – 64 yrs	65+ yrs	Total
1999	673	469	667	554	412	2775
2009	528	348	580	670	458	2584

Communities, like Kilmaloe, that lack facilities are likely to see population changes (see table) over time particularly if there are few employment opportunities in the area.

1. (i) List three stakeholders other than the County Enterprise Board and the County Council.  
(ii) Give one reason why each stakeholder you mentioned would be involved with the Community Development Committee. (6)
2. (i) Why are the County Enterprise Board and County Council part of the Community Development Committee?  
(ii) Identify three ways the development of new enterprises in Killmaloe can be encouraged. Explain each of your answers. (12)
3. (i) Describe one way the local people may have been asked for their opinion. Give two advantages of this method of gathering information.  
(ii) Using the information in the table, suggest one trend that will influence the Community Development Committee's decisions.  
(iii) Outline two projects you think the Community Development Committee should prioritise to enable Killmaloe to meet the challenges it now faces yet retain what's good about the town/area. (12)