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**Transition Year Schools Competition**

**“The Importance of Ports in the Mid-West Region”**

01 May 2014

Shannon Foynes Port Company (SFPC) is pleased to announce its inaugural competition for secondary schools. The purpose of the competition, which we expect to host annually in the future, is to foster greater awareness amongst students of their local region, particularly on the businesses and resources which play an important role in its development. The competition will be open to schools in Counties Clare, Limerick and Kerry, as these border the Shannon Estuary. SFPC envisages that this competition will be of particular interest to Transition Years, as the format is designed to facilitate creativity, teamwork and public presentations.

The theme chosen for our first competition is designed to introduce this to schools in the region, as well as to allow them to develop an understanding of ports and their function in modern economies. The broad theme allows for students to approach the issue from a number of perspectives, which could include business, geography, environmental science or economics. A panel of judges will adjudicate on the submissions. The top five entries will be asked to make a public presentation of their project at a gala event, to which all entrants will be invited, with the winners receiving prizes (a) for school (b) team member prizes.

Entrants will be provided with a briefing package to guide them in their project creation; judges will be asked to pay particular attention to creativity, critical and comparative analysis and presentation of findings, and will also be asked to take into account evidence of team-work. SFPC is happy to host visits to the port facilities during the student’s preparation for the project.

Enclosed please find an application form; the closing date for intending entrants is Friday 30th May 2014. The closing date for submission of projects will be Friday 14th November 2014. The date for the gala prize giving ceremony will be announced later, but will take place in early December.

We look forward to hearing from you; if you need any further clarification or information, please do not hesitate to contact us (details below).

Yours sincerely

Captain Hugh Conlon Evelyn Adams

Community Liaison Officer Schools Coordinator

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**Competition Rules**

Multiple Entries per school permitted

Max number per team: 7

Final presentation: the final five teams will be required to make a presentation to the gala event, following which the judges will announce the winners. This presentation will be strictly limited to 10 minutes.

**Entry Form**

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| **Name of School** |  |
| **Address** |  |
| **Supervising Teacher** |  |
| **Email Contact** |  |
| **Phone Contact** |  |
| **Number of Participating Teams (Max 7 per team)** |  |

Entry forms to be returned to :

Evelyn Adams, Shannon Foynes Port Company, Mill House, Foynes, Co. Limerick ([eadams@sfpc.ie](mailto:eadams@sfpc.ie))