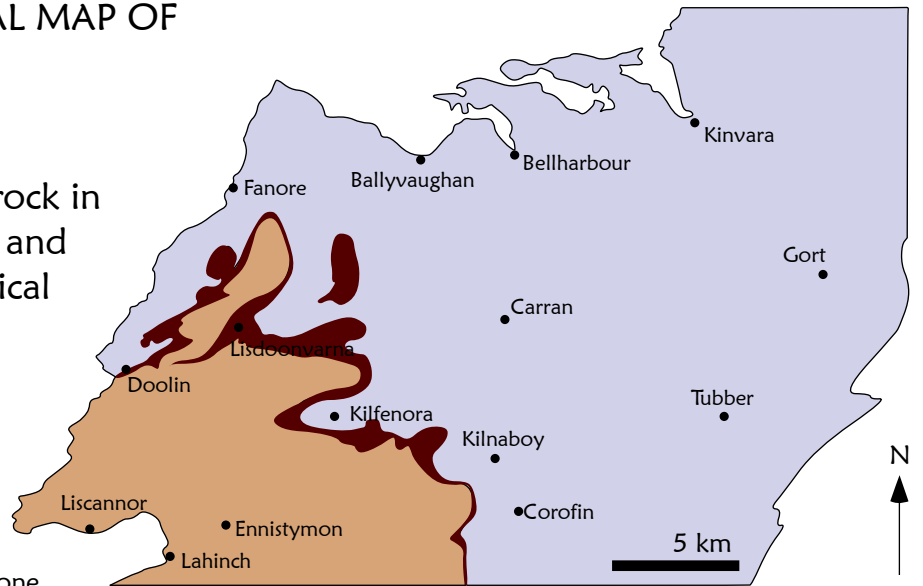
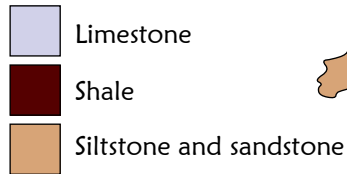


# EXPLAINING THE GEOLOGICAL MAP OF NORTH CLARE

There are three major types of rock in North Clare: limestones, shales, and siltstone/sandstone. This geological map shows the distribution of these rock types.



Rock type	Composed of	Size of grains	Mechanical strength	Dissolves in rainwater?
Limestone	calcium carbonate (CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	coarse grained (grains visible with naked eye)	strong (good building stone)	Yes
Shale	clay (FeMgAlSiO <sub>3</sub> )	very fine grained (grains visible only with microscope)	weak (poor building stone)	No
Siltstone and sandstone	silica (SiO <sub>2</sub> )	medium to coarse grained (grains visible with lens or eye)	strong (good building stone)	No

This table summarises the main features of each of these rock types.

The column on the left shows a cross-section of the rocks, i.e. what you would see if you were to dig a borehole through the rocks.

This bracket shows which parts of the rock sequence are exposed in North Clare.

