

Jonathon Codd

From: Jonathon Codd
Sent: Wednesday 15 February 2023 11:01
To: Jonathon Codd
Cc: Sinéad Breathnach; Ivan Grimes; Kevin Moynihan; Emma Smyth; Colette O'Brien; Susan Whelan; Eoin Morrissey; Ovidiu Matiut
Subject: Minister Heather Humphreys announces over €12.5 million for upgrade works on rural roads and laneways

Dear Chair and members of the LCDC/LAG,

Please see press release below.

Media release

Monday February 13th 2023



**An Roinn Forbartha
Tuaithe agus Pobail**
Department of Rural and
Community Development

Our Rural Future: Minister Heather Humphreys announces over €12.5 million for upgrade works on rural roads and laneways

- ***Essential funding to improve access to homes, farms and outdoor amenities***
- ***Dedicated allocation for island communities introduced for the first time***
- ***Brings total investment in local connectivity to over €112 million since 2017***

Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD, has today announced funding of **€12.5 million** for repairs and improvement works on our rural roads and laneways.

The funding, under the **Local Improvement Scheme (LIS)**, will support the continued improvement of non-public roads and lanes that are not normally maintained by the local authorities.

The investment is key to supporting vital road infrastructure in rural communities, as well as providing access to homes, farms and outdoor amenities such as lakes, rivers and beaches.

And for the first time under the scheme, the Minister today announced the ring-fencing of **€500,000** to support rural roads on our offshore islands.

This investment will benefit island communities in Galway, Cork, Donegal, Mayo and Sligo.

The overall announcement by Minister Humphreys means some €112 million has now been allocated to local authorities under the Local Improvement Scheme since it was re-introduced in 2017.

Making the announcement today, Minister Humphreys said:

“I am delighted to announce €12.55 million in funding to improve hundreds of roads and laneways in towns and villages across Rural Ireland.

“Local connectivity is absolutely vital for our rural communities and this investment will benefit the lives of families in every single county.

“We all know parts of rural Ireland that can be difficult to access because the road or laneway is in need of repair.

“The Local Improvement Scheme is about making people’s lives that bit easier, ensuring we have good access to homes, farms and our local amenities.

“This is what ‘Our Rural Future’ is all about – ensuring more and more people can live work and raise a family in rural communities throughout Ireland.”

The Minister added:

“I’m also really pleased today to announce an investment of €500,000 specifically for our island communities.

“Having visited many of our offshore islands in recent months, I know that there are many road projects in need of investment.

“This is the first time that the islands have been specifically included in the Local Improvement Scheme, which demonstrates my commitment to enhancing island life.”

Minister Humphreys concluded:

“Since this scheme was reintroduced in 2017, over 3,700 roads have been funded for repair works. This has made a real difference to the lives of over 16,000 landowners and residents.

“I would urge each local authority to use the funding announced today and complete the repair works on the selected roads as soon as possible.”

The allocation to each county under the LIS for 2023 is set out below:

County	2023 Main LIS Allocation	Islands Allocation	Total
Carlow	€304,736		€304,736
Cavan	€336,913		€336,913
Clare	€597,910		€597,910
Cork	€925,151	€140,000	€1,065,151
Donegal	€840,509	€100,000	€940,509
Galway	€954,736	€250,000	€1,204,736
Kerry	€797,367		€797,367
Kildare	€304,736		€304,736
Kilkenny	€361,156		€361,156
Laois	€304,736		€304,736
Leitrim	€304,736		€304,736
Limerick	€478,587		€478,587
Longford	€304,736		€304,736
Louth	€304,736		€304,736
Mayo	€954,736	€50,000	€1,004,736
Meath	€407,406		€407,406
Monaghan	€304,736		€304,736
Offaly	€348,777		€348,777
Roscommon	€442,825		€442,825
Sligo	€320,752	€10,000	€330,752
Tipperary	€744,914		€744,914
Waterford	€269,062		€269,062
Westmeath	€321,095		€321,095
Wexford	€411,705		€411,705

Wicklow	€353,247		€353,247
TOTAL	€12,000,000	€550,000	€12,550,000

2023 LIS Islands Allocations

County	Island	Grant €
Co. Donegal	Árainn Mhór	€100,000
	Inis Bó Finne	
	Inis Fraoigh	
	Toraigh	
	Gabhla	
Co. Sligo	Coney	€10,000
Co. Mayo	Clare Island	€50,000
	Inis Bigil	
	Inishcottle	
	Inishlyre	
	Inisturk	
	Clynish	
Co. Galway	Inishbofin	€250,000
	Árainn	
	Inis Oírr	
	Inis Meáin	
	Inis Bearacháin	
	Inis Treabhair	
	Inse Ghainimh	
	Omey	
Co. Cork	Bere	€140,000
	Cléire	
	Dursey	
	Heir	
	Long	
	Sherkin	
	Whiddy	
Total		€550,000

ENDS

Notes to editors:

Local Improvement Scheme (LIS)

The Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) was reintroduced in September 2017 and over €100 million has already been provided for works on over 3,700 roads. The additional funding announced today will bring that total to over €112 million.

Local authorities are responsible for identifying and prioritising roads for improvement works under the scheme, in consultation with residents/landowners. The funding provided by the Department of Rural and Community Development will be complemented by a local financial contribution from landowners/householders, as well as local authority resources.

Eligible Roads

Eligible roads under the Local Improvement Scheme are:

- non-public roads that provide access to parcels of agricultural land, or provide access for harvesting purposes (including turf or seaweed) for two or more persons.; or
- non-public roads leading to important community amenities such as graveyards, beaches, piers, mountains, etc.

Non Eligible Roads

Non-eligible roads include:

- roads serving only houses or buildings occupied or used by persons not engaged in agriculture, and
- roads leading to commercial enterprises

Local contribution

The financial contribution provided by the household/landowner is set at:

- 10% of the estimated cost for eligible roads with up to and including five households/landowners, and
- 15% for those roads with six or more households/landowners.

The maximum amount that any household/landowner is required to contribute is capped at €1,200.

Kind Regards

Johnny Codd

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Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge
Waterford City & County Council

