Media Release

Thursday, 7th August

An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe
agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta
Department of Rural and Community
Development and the Gaeltacht

Minister Calleary announces €14m in additional funding to Local Authorities for upgrade works on rural roads and laneways under the Local Improvement Scheme

- ***Minister confirms distribution of additional €14 million funding for 2025***

- ***Funding increases the total budget under the Local Improvement Scheme for 2025 to €30 million***

- ***Investment will improve access to rural homes, farms and outdoor amenities***

Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, Dara Calleary TD, has today, (Thursday, 7th August) announced a further €14 million investment in our rural roads and laneways.

The allocation represents a significant increase to the 2025 funding available under the Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) – bringing the overall investment to a record €30 million for the year.

The Local Improvement Scheme is designed to support the continued improvement of non-public roads in rural communities and improves access to rural homes and farms, as well as outdoor amenities such as our lakes, rivers, mountains and beaches.

These roads and laneways are not normally maintained by locally authorities, however they represent a vital piece of infrastructure for rural residents.

The allocation of additional funding comes following engagement between the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht and local authorities.

The county allocations are based on the level of works that each local authority indicated they could complete before the end of the year and represent the Minister's commitment to increasing funding for our rural roads.

The LIS scheme was re-introduced in 2017 and to date, over 20,000 landowners and rural residents have benefitted, with over 4,800 roads upgraded under the Scheme.

Announcing the additional funding, Minister Calleary said:

"I am delighted to have secured a further €14 million for the Scheme which almost doubles our investment this year. The €30 million which I have made available to our local authorities this year represents the highest annual funding level since the scheme was re-introduced.

"This additional funding demonstrates my commitment to improving connectivity for rural residents – whether it be access to homes, farms or outdoor amenities."

Under LIS, local authorities are responsible for identifying and prioritising roads for improvement works under the scheme, in consultation with residents/landowners.

The works must be completed before the end of the year.

The Minister continued:

"I am very much aware of the need to support this scheme and the demand that is apparent across our local authorities.

"Over the coming months, my Department officials will work closely with local authorities to ensure that this funding is fully delivered this year to improve our non-public rural roads and laneway

"The Programme for Government commits to increasing the Government's investment in our rural roads through the Local Improvement Scheme. With this additional funding under the Local Improvement Scheme this year, we will have invested almost €184 million in upgrading rural roads and laneways across the country since 2017."

Details of the allocation to each County under this additional funding and the total allocations for 2025 are set out below.

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Notes to editor:

The LIS was reintroduced in September 2017 and almost €170 million has already been provided for works on over 4,800 roads. The additional funding announced this year will bring that total to approximately €184 million.

Eligible Roads

Eligible roads under the Local Improvement Scheme are:

- Non- public roads providing access to parcels of land, of which, two or more are owned or occupied by different persons, one of which must be for agricultural/harvesting purposes, and
- 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.

2025 Local Improvement Scheme Allocations Including Tranche 2 announced August 2025

County	2025 LIS Original Allocation	2025 Supplementary allocation	Total 2025 allocation
Carlow	€373,479	€328,537	**€702,016**
Cavan	€519,476	€662,498	**€1,181,974**
Clare	€869,901	€788,498	**€1,658,399**
Cork	€1,163,479	€1,167,898	**€2,331,377**
Donegal	€1,123,479	€1,268,698	**€2,392,177**
Galway	€1,273,479	€843,137	**€2,116,616**
Kerry	€1,023,479	€1,202,000	**€2,225,479**
Kildare	€464,765	€102,097	**€566,862**
Kilkenny	€552,025	€264,537	**€816,562**
Laois	€470,536	€561,698	**€1,032,234**

Leitrim	€373,479	€528,098	**€901,577**
Limerick	€709,694	€700,298	**€1,409,992**
Longford	€373,479	€370,996	**€744,475**
Louth	€373,479	€364,298	**€737,777**
Mayo	€1,073,479	€504,537	**€1,578,016**
Meath	€548,771	€286,016	**€834,787**
Monaghan	€373,479	€588,297	**€961,776**
Offaly	€535,404	€515,497	**€1,050,901**
Roscommon	€661,677	N/A	**€661,677**
Sligo	€507,776	€321,645	**€829,421**
Tipperary	€1,023,479	€795,500	**€1,818,979**
Waterford	€502,162	€535,098	**€1,037,260**
Westmeath	€498,238	€463,437	**€961,675**
Wexford	€619,900	€560,298	**€1,180,198**
Wicklow	€541,406	€276,387	**€817,793**
Totals	**€16,550,000**	**€14,000,000**	**€30,550,000**

The Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht

The Department of Rural and Community Development is now known as The Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht. Our Minister's titles are Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, Dara Calleary TD and Minister of State with Responsibility for Community Development and Charities, Jerry Buttimer TD. The above titles should be used when referring to the Department and Ministers going forward.

Eisiúint Meáin

Déardaoin, an 7 Lúnasa

An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe
agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta
Department of Rural and Community
Development and the Gaeltacht

Fógraíonn an tAire Calleary €14m i maoiniú breise do na hÚdaráis Áitiúla le haghaidh oibreacha uasghrádaithe ar bhóithre tuaithe agus lánaí faoin Scéim Feabhsúcháin Áitiúil

- ***Deimhníonn an tAire dáileadh maoinithe breise €14 mhilliún do 2025***

- ***Méadaíonn an maoiniú an buiséad iomlán faoin Scéim Feabhsúcháin Áitiúil do 2025 go €30 milliún***

- ***Feabhsóidh infheistíocht rochtain ar thithe tuaithe, feirmeacha agus áiseanna lasmuigh***

Inniu (Déardaoin, an 7 Lúnasa) d'fhógair an tAire Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail agus na Gaeltachta, Dara Calleary TD, infheistíocht bhreise €14 mhilliún inár mbóithre agus lánaí tuaithe.

Is méadú suntasach é an leithdháileadh ar an maoiniú atá ar fáil faoin Scéim Feabhsúcháin Áitiúil do 2025 – rud a thugann an infheistíocht iomlán suas go dtí €30 milliún don bhliain, an líon ab airde riamh.

Dearadh an Scéim Feabhsúcháin Áitiúil chun tacú le feabhsú leanúnach bóithre neamhphoiblí i bpobail thuaithe agus feabhsaítear leis rochtain ar thithe agus ar fheirmeacha tuaithe, chomh maith le háiseanna lasmuigh ar nós ár lochanna, ár n-aibhneacha, ár sléibhte agus ár dtránna.

De ghnáth ní dhéanann údaráis áitiúla cothabháil ar na bóithre agus na lánaí seo, ach is píosa ríthábhachtach bonneagair iad do mhuintir na tuaithe.

Tagann an leithdháileadh maoinithe breise i ndiaidh rannpháirtíochta idir an Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail agus údaráis áitiúla agus na Gaeltachta.

Bunaíodh na leithdháiltí contae ar an leibhéal oibreacha a léirigh gach údarás áitiúil a d'fhéadfaidís a chríochnú roimh dheireadh na bliana agus léiríonn siad tiomantas an Aire chun maoiniú a mhéadú dár mbóithre tuaithe.

Athbhunaíodh an Scéim in 2017 agus go dtí seo, tá breis is 20,000 úinéir talún agus cónaitheoir tuaithe tar éis leas a bhaint aisti, agus uasghrádaíodh breis is 4800 bóthar faoin Scéim.

Agus an maoiniú breise á fhógairt aige, dúirt an tAire Calleary:

"Tá áthas orm €14 milliún breise a fháil don Scéim, rud a mhéadaíonn ár n-infheistíocht i mbliana faoi dhó, beagnach. Is ionann an €30 milliún a chuir mé ar fáil dár n-údaráis áitiúla i mbliana agus an leibhéal maoinithe bliantúil ab airde ó athbhunaíodh an Scéim.

"Léirítear sa mhaoiniú breise seo mo thiomantas chun nascacht a fheabhsú do mhuintir na tuaithe – bíodh sé ina rochtain ar thithe, ar fheirmeacha nó ar áiseanna lasmuigh."

Tá údaráis áitiúla freagrach as bóithre a aithint agus tosaíocht a thabhairt dóibh le haghaidh oibreacha feabhsúcháin faoin Scéim, i gcomhairle le cónaitheoirí/úinéirí talún.

Ní mór na hoibreacha a chur i gcrích roimh dheireadh na bliana.

Lean an tAire ar aghaidh:

"Tuigim go rímhaith an gá atá le tacú leis an Scéim seo agus an t-éileamh atá le feiceáil ar fud ár n-údarás áitiúil.

"Le linn na míonna amach romhainn, oibreoidh oifigigh mo Roinne go dlúth le húdaráis áitiúla chun a chinntiú go seachadfar an maoiniú seo go hiomlán i mbliana chun ár mbóithre tuaithe agus ár lánaí neamhphoiblí a fheabhsú.

"Geallann clár an Rialtais infheistíocht an Rialtais inár mbóithre tuaithe a mhéadú tríd an Scéim Feabhsúcháin Áitiúil. Leis an maoiniú breise seo faoin Scéim Feabhsúcháin Áitiúil i mbliana, chuireamar infheistíocht beagnach €184 milliún in uasghrádú bóithre agus lánaí tuaithe ar fud na tíre ó 2017."

Leagtar amach thíos sonraí an leithdháilte do gach Contae faoin maoiniú breise seo agus na leithdháiltí iomlána do 2025.

CRÍOCH

Teagmháil:

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Nótaí don Eagarthóir:

Tugadh an Scéim Feabhsúcháin Áitiúil ar ais i Meán Fómhair 2017 agus cuireadh beagnach €170 milliún ar fáil cheana féin le haghaidh oibreacha ar bhreis is 4800 bóthar. Tabharfaidh an maoiniú breise a fógraíodh i mbliana an t-iomlán sin suas go dtí thart ar €184 milliún.

Bóithre Incháilithe

Is iad seo a leanas na bóithre incháilithe faoin Scéim Feabhsúcháin Áitiúil:

- Bóithre neamhphoiblí ar a soláthraítear rochtain ar phíosaí talún, agus dhá cheann nó níos mó díobh faoi úinéireacht nó áitiú ag daoine éagsúla, agus caithfidh ceann acu a bheith chun críocha talmhaíochta/fómhair, agus
- Bóithre neamhphoiblí a théann chuig áiseanna tábhachtacha pobail amhail reiligí, tránna, céanna, sléibhte, srl.

Bóithre Neamh-Incháilithe

I measc na mbóithre neamhincháilithe tá:

- Bóithre a fhreastalaíonn ar thithe nó ar fhoirgnimh amháin atá áitithe nó in úsáid ag daoine nach bhfuil ag gabháil don Talmhaíocht, agus
- Bóithre a théann chuig fiontair thráchtála.

Leithdháiltí na Scéime Feabhsúcháin Áitiúil (SFÁ) 2025, le Tráinse 2 a fógraíodh i Lúnasa 2025 san áireamh

Contae	Leithdháileadh Bunaidh SFÁ 2025	Leithdháileadh Forlíontach 2025	Leithdháileadh Iomlán 2025
Ceatharlach	€373,479	€328,537	**€702,016**
An Cabhán	€519,476	€662,498	**€1,181,974**
An Clár	€869,901	€788,498	**€1,658,399**
Corcaigh	€1,163,479	€1,167,898	**€2,331,377**
Dún na nGall	€1,123,479	€1,268,698	**€2,392,177**
Gaillimh	€1,273,479	€843,137	**€2,116,616**
Ciarraí	€1,023,479	€1,202,000	**€2,225,479**
Cill Dara	€464,765	€102,097	**€566,862**
Cill Chainnigh	€552,025	€264,537	**€816,562**
Laois	€470,536	€561,698	**€1,032,234**
Liatroim	€373,479	€528,098	**€901,577**
Luimneach	€709,694	€700,298	**€1,409,992**

Longfort	€373,479	€370,996	**€744,475**
Lú	€373,479	€364,298	**€737,777**
Maigh Eo	€1,073,479	€504,537	**€1,578,016**
An Mhí	€548,771	€286,016	**€834,787**
Muineachán	€373,479	€588,297	**€961,776**
Uíbh Fhailí	€535,404	€515,497	**€1,050,901**
Ros Comáin	€661,677	N/A	**€661,677**
Sligeach	€507,776	€321,645	**€829,421**
Tiobraid Árann	€1,023,479	€795,500	**€1,818,979**
Port Láirge	€502,162	€535,098	**€1,037,260**
An Iarmhí	€498,238	€463,437	**€961,675**
Loch Garman	€619,900	€560,298	**€1,180,198**
Cill Mhantáin	€541,406	€276,387	**€817,793**
Iomlán	**€16,550,000**	**€14,000,000**	**€30,550,000**

An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta

Anois is é ainm nua na Roinne Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail ná an Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta. Is iad na teidil atá ag ár mbeirt Airí ná an tAire Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta, Dara Calleary TD agus an tAire Stáit le Freagracht as Forbairt Pobail agus Carthanas, Jerry Buttimer TD. Ba cheart úsáid a bhaint as na teidil thuas agus tagairt á déanamh don Roinn agus do na hAirí as seo amach.