



Comhpháirtíocht Leader Waterford Leader
Phort Láirge Partnership

Decision of Evaluation Committee

Project Code:	IE31WAT103059
Project Type:	Investment and other supports
Project Promoters Name:	Knockanore Farmhouse Cheese Co Ltd
Project Name:	Knockanore Farmhouse Cheese 2025 cheese packing equipment upgrade
Address:	Ballyneety, Knockanore, Co. Waterford
Description:	Funding is sought for an auto cheese packing line which will facilitate less packaging material and enable the use of recyclable packaging materials whilst being more time efficient and producing greater output
Total Project Costs	€110,000
Theme:	1, Enterprise development and job creation, 1a Green Economy, 1.1 Investment in existing and start up technology
Sub-theme:	1a Green Economy, 1.1 Investment in existing and start up technology
Eligible Project Costs	€110,000
Funding sought by promoter:	€82,500
State one of the following: - First Review / Previously Deferred or Not Recommend	First Review
Outline the Evaluation Committee's consideration on each of the following:-	
Deadweight:	According to the project promoter, the project would proceed on a much-reduced basis and over a longer time period. From a project officers' perspective, the promoter is dependent on loan finance secured from the bank to match and bridge the project, but credit lines are tight and funding would be a huge help to the business to invest in this new technology. Current funds in the current account are kept for contingencies and any sudden market changes
Displacement:	The project is unlikely to complete with other similar facilities in the area due to the company's specialisation and place in the market, making and blending cheese and cutting and packing cheese for external customers such as Dunnes Stores, Traditional Cheese Co. and Rockfield Dairy. The nearest cheese companies are Little Milk Co, Bo Rua Farm, and Hegarty's Cheese
Innovative:	The auto cheese packing line will enable the business to use less packing material and recyclable packaging to support the promoter's membership of Origin Green
Reasonableness of Costs:	Etendering was used and the most economic advantageous tender process used to select the chosen supplier. Three suppliers tendered
In-house projects: are there other providers that can deliver the project more cost effectively?	N/A

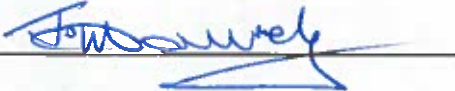
Recommendation of the Evaluation Committee:	The Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend funding this project for the following reasons:- 1) Funding this project will enable the promoter to use recyclable packaging thereby making the business more sustainable. 2) This project aligns with the Local Development Plan under Theme 1 Economic development and job creation, sub theme 1a Green Economy – 1.1 Investment in new technology for existing enterprises 3) The project scored 80/100. 4) As there is insufficient budget the Evaluation Committee recommend funding this project at a lower percentage rate of 44%. A maximum of €48,400 or 44% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser
Rationale for grant aid, having regard to the LDS:	Investment in indigenous rural enterprises to maximise efficiencies and competitiveness
Added Value – How will the added value of LEADER funding be demonstrated in the delivery of this project?	The proposed project will facilitate an increase in the business's cutting, packing and labelling capacity and enable the use of recyclable packaging
Economic Justification for Project:	Ensure competitiveness, promoting its green image and sustain 9 full time jobs and the create up to 3 new roles
Average Score for Project and Ranking:	80/100 (2)
% level of aid & ceiling:	A maximum of €48,400 or 44% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser

Is the project at Stage 10 on the IT System Y/N	Yes		
Details of private funding:	€61,600 loan		
Voluntary Labour: YES / NO (If yes provide detail)	No		
Detail exactly what WLP will be funding (List items from Project Assessment Report)	Detail	Total Cost (Expenditure)	Grant Aid recommend by the Evaluation Committee @ 44%
	Auto cheese packing line	€110,000	€48,400
Total Funding		€110,000	€48,400
Was an assessment completed?: Date:	Yes, 16 th October 2025		
Are detailed costings provided for the project? Were the costs for the project considered reasonable and how was this measured?	Yes, etendering was used and the most economic advantageous tender process used to select the chosen supplier		
Where the procurement process resulted in less than 3 quotes, the EC must show the additional steps taken to ensure the reasonableness of costs:	N/A		

Jobs Created	Jobs Sustained	Match Funding	Previous Grant Aid Received
3ft	9ft	€61,600 loan	€232,695 - €143,695 LEADER funding (equipment), €41,000 Bord Bia (marketing) & €48,000 LEO (equipment)

Confirmation on the applicant's position re De-Minimus and double from the relevant agencies.	Date of Confirmation	Signed By
Local Enterprise Office	24 th October	Jamie Whitty

Amount Recommended: €48,400	44% of Eligible Project Funding: €110,000
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Signed: 

Chairperson of Evaluation Committee

Date: 19/11/2025

Issues / Queries raised by Evaluation Committee	Project Officers Response

Signed: Chairman

Dated: 12/11/2025

WLP Project Officer



Overall Evaluation Committee Scoring Record

Project Title: <i>Knocknaree Farmhouse Cheese 2025</i>	Project Reference no: <i>LE31WAT103055</i>	Date: <i>10 Nov 25</i>	Time: <i>11am</i>
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Cheese packaging equipment upgrade

Q	Assessment Criteria	Objective	Evaluation Committee comments	Weighting	Score
1	Has project development officer report indicated that any documentation / information requested has not been provided by the project promoter(s)	Ensure that the project promoter has provided all the required information / documentation requested by project development officer to progress this project.		N/A	☒ Pass ☐ Fail
2	Displacement	Does the project comply with displacement requirements?		N/A	☒ Pass ☐ Fail
3	Compatibility with Local Development Strategy (LDS)	Do the project proposals meet the criteria set out in the LAG's LDS for the relevant measure?		15	12
4	Innovation	Is the project innovative in its nature?		15	12
5	Project Promoter experience	Does the promoter have the training/skills, track record or experience to deliver?		15	12
6	Financial Viability	Do the proposed actions and associated costs appear reasonable and represent value for money, and is adequate funding available to co-fund the project?		25	20
7	Sustainability	Is the project viable and will the service continue to be delivered?		15	12
8	Requirement	Does the proposal target a specific need or address a specific gap in the market?		15	12
9	Deadweight	Would the project proceed without LEADER funding?	☒ YES ☐ NO	N/A	N/A
N.B. Prior to being recommended for approval, projects must: - pass question 1 and 2 - answer no to question 9 - receive a minimum score of 65%.				100 / Total:	80%

Recommendation of the Evaluation Committee: *Approved on a lesser rate*

Signature of Committee Chair: *[Signature]* Date: *10/11/2025*

