



Minutes of the Waterford LAG Meeting
Thursday 11th December 2025, Videoconference, 10.00 a.m.

Present: **Non-Public Sector:** **Public Sector**

1. Gabriel Foley	PPN / Environment	1. Mayor Seamus Ryan (Chair)	Elected representative
2. Liam Quinn	CEO – Waterford Area Partnership	2. Cllr Damien Geoghegan (Deputy Chair)	Elected Representative
3. Ger Hurley	Waterford Chamber of Commerce	3. Margaret Mary Collins	TUSLA
4. Christine Rossi	CEO – WLP CLG	4. Gareth Evans	Head of LEO
5. Csilla Czelvikker	PPN / Community & Voluntary	5. Kathryn Kiely	SETU
6. Ian O’Brien	PPN / Community & Voluntary		
7. Mary Ray	Social Inclusion	Apologies:	
Apologies:		6. Kate Cassidy	HSE
8. Catherine Quinlan	I.C.M.S.A.	7. Cllr Liam Brazil	Elected representative
9. Jenny Beresford	CEO Dungarvan & West Waterford Chamber	8. Sean McKeown	CE, WC&CC
10. Sinead Kilcawley	PPN / Community & Voluntary	9. Karina Daly	WWETB

Staff Present: Chief Officer S Breathnach Community S.E.O., J. Codd S.O., S Whelan S.O. Community, Y Dam A.S.O. Community, Seamus DeFaoite D.O.S, O. Kelly A.O., E Smyth A.S.O., G Mulhall S.O. Community.

Apologies: O Matiut S.S.O., C Flavin S.O. Community, E Morrissey S.S.O, N Osborne LAIT Coordinator.

1.Total current Membership	19
2.Total attendees	12
3. Quorum % required (50% of 1 above)	Achieved – 63%

1. Confirmation of Quorum: Having reviewed the attendance record, Chief Officer Sinéad Breathnach informed the Committee a quorum was achieved. Chair Seamus Ryan opened the meeting.

2. Apologies.

As per table above, apologies were noted.

3. Conflict of Interest:

- (i) C.o.I. declarations: None
- (ii) Review of Quorum: Quorum achieved.
- (iii) J Codd asked all members to complete and return their conflict of interest forms.

4. Confirmation of Minutes of LAG Meeting held on 13th November 2025

Proposed: Cllr. D. Geoghegan	Seconded by: L Quinn
Abstentions: None	
Quorum achieved: Yes	Approved

5. Matters arising:

None.

6. Rural Development Programme.

- i) For Approval: Reallocation of funds to depleted strategic actions

Proposed: Cllr. D. Geoghegan	Seconded by: L Quinn
Abstentions: None	
Quorum achieved: Yes	Approved

- ii) For Approval: Munster Vales Marketing Campaign (IE31WAT100012) 2nd Extension request from 30 January 2026 to 29 July 2026

Proposed: Cllr D. Geoghegan	Seconded by: G. Foley
Abstentions: None	
Quorum achieved: Yes	Approved

i) Projects for Approval:

IE31WAT103059 Knockanore Farmhouse Cheese Co Ltd

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
<i>Outline the Evaluation Committee's consideration on each of the following:-</i>	
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-Minibus 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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Proposed: Cllr D. Geoghegan	Seconded by: I O'Brien
Abstentions: None	
Quorum achieved: Yes	Approved

IE31WAT103071 Woodbine Hill Farm Nature Restoration

Project Code:	IE31WAT103071
Project Type:	Analysis and development
Project Promoters Name:	Sam Roch-Perks and Tin Can Enterprises Ltd
Project Name:	Woodbine Hill Farm Nature Restoration
Address:	Woodbine Hill, Kinsalebeg, Co. Waterford
Description:	The project aims to deliver a feasibility, vision and action plan to assess the promoters 80 hectare farm, located at Kinsalebeg, if it can proceed with a biodiversity exemplar project of nature restoration
Total Project Costs	€30,000

Theme:	Theme 3, Sustainable development of the rural environment and climate change mitigation and adaptation
Sub-theme:	3a sustainable development of the rural environment, strategic action 3.1 support for exemplar projects in biodiversity
Eligible Project Costs	€30,000
Funding sought by promoter:	A maximum of €22,500 or 75% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser
State one of the following: - First Review / Previously Deferred or Not Recommend	First review
<i>Outline the Evaluation Committee's consideration on each of the following:-</i>	
Deadweight:	The promoter has advised the project would not proceed without funding as one of the aims of the project is to demonstrate that private means are not required to deliver biodiversity solutions. From a project officer perspective, the promoter's willingness to engage in the study and hopefully host a potential exemplar project is dependent on grant funding with the promoter providing matching. Landowners are needed for this environmental theme to encourage more projects and assess WLP's role in this field
Displacement:	No, the project will not cause displacement given its research nature and lack of similar studies in the area
Innovative:	The project has researched other environmental solutions that are applied elsewhere and not yet in practice in Ireland around nature restoration. A study is being conducted on Woodbine hill farm looking at the use of nature and carbon credits to assist nature recovery and carbon sequestration on the farm. The study will review the viability of such an approach and whether it can be rolled out to other farms/land in the area and used as an exemplar project.
Reasonableness of Costs:	The promoter directly invited quotations and two comparable suppliers quoted and the most economic advantageous meat process was used to select the chosen supplier
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. By being a "pathfinder" the project hopes to develop methods and knowledge that others can use or build upon. 2. This project aligns with the Local Development Plan under Theme 3, Sustainable development of the rural

	environment and climate change mitigation and adaptation, sub theme, 3a sustainable development of the rural environment, strategic action 3.1 support for exemplar projects in biodiversity 3. The project scored 76/100. A maximum of €22,500 or 75% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser with the following condition: - 1. The final feasibility study must be provided as open access data, with Waterford LEADER Partnership CLG retaining full rights to use and disseminate the report in any manner they choose. 2. The final end report or an update report must be circulated to the Evaluation Committee within eighteen months of the Letter of Offer (grant offer) being issued.
Rationale for grant aid, having regard to the LDS:	The project findings will hopefully lend themselves to replication and ignite further interest in nature restoration and biodiversity
Added Value – How will the added value of LEADER funding be demonstrated in the delivery of this project?	The study will explore the viability of this nature restoration approach on farms which still can operate commercially and if it can be replicated elsewhere. It also potentially brings together industry and agriculture and the symbiosis between both
Economic Justification for Project:	This is a feasibility/analysis and development study to see if the proposed nature restoration approach can be replicated elsewhere and is also looking at valuing off set carbon
Average Score for Project and Ranking:	76/100 (1)
% level of aid & ceiling:	A maximum of €22,500 or 75% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser with the following condition: - 1. The final feasibility study must be provided as open access data, with Waterford LEADER Partnership CLG retaining full rights to use and disseminate the report in any manner they choose. 2. The final report or an update report must be circulated to the Evaluation Committee within eighteen months of the Letter of Offer (grant offer) being issued.

Is the project at Stage 10 on the IT System Y/N	Yes
Details of private funding:	€7,500 bank a/c
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 @ 75%
Total Funding	Analysis & development study - consultancy	€30,000	€22,500
		€30,000	€22,500
Was an assessment completed?: Date: _____	Yes, 6 th October 2025		
Are detailed costings provided for the project? Were the costs for the project considered reasonable and how was this measured?	Yes, direct tendering was used and the most economic advantageous tender process used to score 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:	Two tender submissions were received and scored according to the meat process advertised in the invitation. The scoring of comparable tenders resulted in the selection of the chosen supplier		

Jobs Created	Jobs Sustained	Match Funding	Previous Grant Aid Received
0	0	€7,500 bank a/c	€72,875.45 awarded 2024-2028 National Parks & Wildlife Services

Confirmation on the applicant's position re De-Minibus and double from the relevant agencies.	Date of Confirmation	Signed By
Email correspondence from National Parks & Wildlife Services	1 st October	John Gallogly

Amount Recommended: €22,500	75% of Eligible Project Funding: €30,000
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Proposed: Cllr D. Geoghegan	Seconded by: G Hurley
Abstentions: None	
Quorum achieved: Yes	Approved

IE31WAT103072 Existing Machinery Upgrade

Project Code:	IE31WAT103072
Project Type:	Investment & other supports
Project Promoters Name:	Total Precision Ltd
Project Name:	Existing Machinery Upgrade
Address:	Unit 7, Riverstown Business Park, Tramore, Co. Waterford
Description:	The promoter is looking to upgrade to a new CNC machine with increased capacity of up to 20%, a broader range and advanced functionality and more efficient to run leading to energy savings and reduction in their carbon footprint
Total Project Costs	€219,500
Theme:	Theme 1, Economic development & job creation
Sub-theme:	1a Green Economy, Strategic action 1.1 Investment in existing and start up technology
Eligible Project Costs	€219,500
Funding sought by promoter:	€164,625
State one of the following: - First Review / Previously Deferred or Not Recommend	First review
<i>Outline the Evaluation Committee's consideration on each of the following:-</i>	
Deadweight:	The promoter has advised the project would not proceed without funding and will carry on with their current operation. Due to company turnover of under €3m, access to conventional credit is extremely challenging and have recourse to very expensive credit lines such as Linked Finance with interest at 8-10% annually. Without the proposed machine, business cannot grow and expand. From a project officer perspective, the addition of the new machine will increase the company's competitiveness, enabling it to expand production and be more adaptable to meet increasing UK business opportunities
Displacement:	Other similar businesses include Inmasol based in Knockenduff, Tramore whose expertise is purely in design but gives rise to some collaboration around supplying machines parts. Merchants Engineers based in the Tramore Business Park focus on finishing off product i.e. passivation, anodizing, etc. M & R Steel Fabrications also based in the Tramore Business Park operate solely in fabrication which is in a different sector to Total Precision
Innovative:	The new machine will enable the promoter to manufacture more complicated components which lends themselves to

	their size, flexibility and shorter lead times that other engineering companies cannot produce
Reasonableness of Costs:	The project was tendered and whilst only one supplier tendered, the price is competitive in the market place and provided a discount
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 sustains & creates additional employment in a rural area and helps the promoter create greater efficiencies within his business. 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 83/100. 4) As there is insufficient budget the Evaluation Committee recommend funding this project at a lower percentage rate of 54%. A maximum of €118,530 or 54% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser
Rationale for grant aid, having regard to the LDS:	The promoters are constantly looking at growing the business and sustaining 12 full time jobs in the area and creating a new full-time post. The new machine will provide greater efficiency and capacity enabling it to meet its growth targets
Added Value – How will the added value of LEADER funding be demonstrated in the delivery of this project?	The new upgraded CNC machine will increase production and capacity by up to 20% enabling it to adapt to shorter lead times
Economic Justification for Project:	The new upgraded machine will help them to stay ahead in terms of technology, keeping the business local. They are currently exporting to Parker Hannifin in Barnstaple, UK and will be able to produce the specific parts sought with the right machine capabilities thus increasing sales and sustaining employment
Average Score for Project and Ranking:	83/100 (1)
% level of aid & ceiling:	A maximum of €118,530 or 54% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser

Is the project at Stage 10 on the IT System Y/N	Yes		
Details of private funding:	€100,970 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 @ 54%
	CNC machine	€219,500	€118,530
Total Funding		€219,500	€118,530
Was an assessment completed?: Date:	Yes, 6 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 score the tender		
Where the procurement process resulted in less than 3 quotes, the EC must show the additional steps taken to ensure the reasonableness of costs:	Whilst the etender process was used, only one tender received. The price is comparable to market prices and a discount is provided by the renowned supplier		

Jobs Created	Jobs Sustained	Match Funding	Previous Grant Aid Received
2ft	10ft & 1pt	€100,970 loan	€127,050 Enterprise Ireland

Confirmation on the applicant's position re De-Minibus and double from the relevant agencies.	Date of Confirmation	Signed By
Local Enterprise Office	24 th October 2025	Jamie Whitty

Amount Recommended: €118,530	54% of Eligible Project Funding: €219,500
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Proposed: Cllr D Geoghegan	Seconded by: M Ray
Abstentions: None	
Quorum achieved: Yes	Approved

IE31WAT103089 Farmhill Holiday Accommodation

Project Code:	IE31WAT103089
Project Type:	Investment & other supports
Project Promoters Name:	Christina & Conor McMaugh
Project Name:	Farmhill Holiday Accommodation
Address:	Ballybrien, Ballymacarbry, Co. Waterford
Description:	The project is seeking funding to repurpose an old traditional farm building for niche visitor accommodation that emphasises accessibility, inclusiveness and a safe environment particularly suited to children with autism and adults with mobility issues. The carefully designed farmhouse style accommodation is ideally located in a scenic rural area with access to a fenced outdoor play area with pigmy goats and kune kune pigs close by
Total Project Costs	€148,243.40
Theme:	Theme 1 Economic development & job creation
Sub-theme:	1a Green Economy 1.2 Repurposing farm and industrial buildings into niche visitor accommodation
Eligible Project Costs	€148,243.40
Funding sought by promoter:	€111,182.55
State one of the following: - First Review / Previously Deferred or Not Recommend	First review
<i>Outline the Evaluation Committee's consideration on each of the following:-</i>	
Deadweight:	The promoter advises the project would not go ahead without funding. Though the promoter operates a small suckler herd on an organic holding, the income would not support such an investment and grant assistance is crucial for this project to materialise. From a project officers perspective, the promoters are dependent on loan finance and a grant to deliver this project
Displacement:	A local audit has been completed of local accommodation providers which differ substantially from this proposal which focuses on inclusivity, accessibility and families with children. There has been a decline in the number of self-catering units in the village with currently only two offerings which are older cottages with space and accessibility limitations and similarly a further two properties are located in neighbouring villages. There are glamping and pod style accommodation units close by which are not easily accessible, spacious or offer enclosed safe space for children. There are two B&B's in the area which tend to attract solely adults as one offering does not host children

Innovative:	The project focuses on an inclusive cottage design, fully accessible and carefully thought out quiet and safe spaces set in a charming rural landscape with access to a private forest and watercourse and pet animals for handling under supervision. The property is located in the Nire valley with lots of walking trails directly from the proposed accommodation, all within easy reach of Ballymacarby, Clonmel and Dungarvan
Reasonableness of Costs:	The promoter directly invited quotations and whilst only received one quotation for the engineer costs, the quote was comparable to rates in the marketplace and similar builds. The two quotations received from the builders were also comparable to market prices and similar in values
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 is a good use of LEADER funds, as it provides a unique accommodation option for families with children in an inclusive, supportive, and accessible environment. 2. This project aligns with the Local Development Plan under Theme 1 Economic development and job creation, 1a, Strategic Action 1.2 Repurposing farm and industrial buildings into nice visitor accommodation 3. The project scored 84/100. A maximum of €111,182.55 or 75% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser
Rationale for grant aid, having regard to the LDS:	The promoter is repurposing an old farm building into useable, unique visitor accommodation which addresses a demand for custom designed, safe, inclusive and accessible space for families particularly children with autism
Added Value – How will the added value of LEADER funding be demonstrated in the delivery of this project?	The funding will repurpose an old farm building into niche visitor accommodation focusing on families and children with autism and/or adults with mobility and sensory issues. The accommodation proposed will complement existing accommodation providers who do not cater for this specific market with Failte Ireland has identified as a growing and unaddressed need in the market
Economic Justification for Project:	The promoter is repurposing an old farm building into useable, unique visitor accommodation which addresses a demand for custom designed, safe, inclusive and accessible space for families particularly children with autism where accommodation is in short supply. Visitors using the facility will spend money in the neighbouring village and surrounds

Average Score for Project and Ranking:	84/100 (1)
% level of aid & ceiling:	A maximum of €111,182.55 or 75% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser

Is the project at Stage 10 on the IT System Y/N	Yes		
Details of private funding:	€37,060.85 loan		
Voluntary Labour: YES / NO (If yes provide detail)	No		
Detail exactly what WLP will be funding (List items from Project Assessment Report) Total Funding	Detail	Total Cost (Expenditure)	Grant Aid recommend by the Evaluation Committee @ 75%
	Dunurtaigh Construction	€130,775	€98,081.25
	Liam Buck	€4,428	€3,321
	Ikea	€9,554.40	€7,165.80
	ESB Networks	€3,486	€2,614.50
	Total Funding	€148,243.40	€111,182.55
Was an assessment completed?: Date: _____	Yes, 6 th October 2025		
Are detailed costings provided for the project? Were the costs for the project considered reasonable and how was this measured?	Yes, direct tendering was used and the lowest price criteria 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:	Whilst the promoter made every effort to seek the required number of quotes i.e. invited 8 builders and only 2 quoted and invited 5 engineers and only 1 quoted. Two builders were within a price margin and provided comparison values. In the case of the engineer, the price provided is a similar rate to what is available in the market place based on other construction projects		

Jobs Created	Jobs Sustained	Match Funding	Previous Grant Aid Received
.133% fte – 5hrs/week	0	€37,060.85 loan	€0

Confirmation on the applicant's position re De-Minimis and double from the relevant agencies.	Date of Confirmation	Signed By
Email correspondence from Failte Ireland	24 th October	Ivona Carr

Amount Recommended: €111,182.55	75% of Eligible Project Funding: €148,243.40
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Proposed: M Ray	Seconded by: I O'Brien
Abstentions: None	
Quorum achieved: Yes	Approved

iii) Projects for Rejection

IE31WAT103066 Our Nature Corridor

Project Code:	IE31WAT103066
Project Type:	Investment and other supports
Project Promoters Name:	Bioregional Weaving Alliance Ireland CLG
Project Name:	Our Nature Corridor
Address:	Dunhill Eco Park, Dunhill, Co. Waterford
Description:	The project is a robust digital infrastructure with a supporting digital and in person service for land stewards of different types (farmers, gardeners, urban and rural, estates and community spaces) to engage actively through pledging their own land and green spaces to nature. The approach has proven successful in other countries and is now being piloted in west Waterford. The project proposes two main elements, lot 1 digital infrastructure and lot 2 land advisor/ecologist and project manager to engage the stakeholders
Total Project Costs	€155,502.75
Theme:	Theme 3, Sustainable development of the rural environment and climate change mitigation and adaptation
Sub-theme:	3a sustainable development of the rural environment, local objective 09 support for exemplar projects in biodiversity
Eligible Project Costs	€155,502.75
Funding sought by promoter:	€116,627.06
State one of the following: - First Review / Previously Deferred or Not Recommend	First review
<i>Outline the Evaluation Committee's consideration on each of the following:-</i>	
Deadweight:	The project would not go ahead without funding. The promoter is confident that they have completed ample preparatory work

	on the project that now requires this investment to progress and is aware that the council are doing habitat mapping but at a scale and focus at odds with this proposal. From a project officers perspective, the project requires funding due to the cost of the proposed investment if it is deemed necessary
Displacement:	While there are other initiatives that are somewhat similar to the project, they are different in ambition, scope, scale and cross sectoral integration these include, the National Biodiversity Centre – Maps for Biodiversity, All-Ireland Pollination Plan and Waterford City and County Council ecological corridor work
Innovative:	The Evaluation Committee expressed the opinion that the idea is brilliant, but the project is still far from being ready for funding. The outcomes were unclear and, therefore, they were unable to assess the level of innovation.
Reasonableness of Costs:	The project was tendered and the most economic advantageous tender process used to select the chosen suppliers
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 not funding this project for the following reasons:- 1. There are no defined, measurable outcomes for the project. 2. The project scored 58/100. A maximum of €0 or 75% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser
Rationale for grant aid, having regard to the LDS:	The project fits under local objective 09 exemplar projects in biodiversity
Added Value – How will the added value of LEADER funding be demonstrated in the delivery of this project?	The Evaluation Committee were unclear about what the defined, measurable outcomes would be following funding, so they did not discuss added value.
Economic Justification for Project:	The Evaluation Committee were unclear about what the outputs would be following funding, so they did think it was appropriate to recommend funding at this stage.
Average Score for Project and Ranking:	58/100 (1)
% level of aid & ceiling:	A maximum of €0 or 75% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser

Is the project at Stage 10 on the IT System Y/N	Yes		
Details of private funding:	€38,875.69 own funds		
Voluntary Labour: YES / NO (If yes provide detail)	No		
Detail exactly what WLP will be funding (List items from Project Assessment Report) Total Funding	Detail	Total Cost (Expenditure)	Grant Aid recommended by the Evaluation Committee @ 0 %
	Lo1 Digital Infrastructure – branding, mapping, website & database	€67,250	€0
	Land advisor & project management	€88,253	€0
		€155,502.75	€0
Was an assessment completed?: Date:	Yes, 17 th October 2025		
Are detailed costings provided for the project? Were the costs for the project considered reasonable and how was this measured?	Yes, etending was used and the most economic advantageous tender process used to select the chosen suppliers		
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
0	2ft, 2pt	€38,875.69 own funds	€0

Confirmation on the applicant's position re De-Minibus and double from the relevant agencies.	Date of Confirmation	Signed By
Email correspondence from Waterford City & County Council	29 th October '25	Bernie Guest

Amount Recommended:€0	0% of Eligible Project Funding: €155,502.75
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Proposed: Cllr D Geoghegan	Seconded by: K Kiely
Abstentions: None	
Quorum achieved: Yes	Approved

IE1WAT103074 Kilcannon Stables No. 1

Project Code:	IE31WAT103074
Project Type:	Investment and Other Supports
Project Promoters Name:	Gertie and Pat Ormond
Project Name:	Kilcannon Stables No. 1
Address:	Kilcannon House, Cappagh, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford
Description:	This project is seeking funding to convert an existing disused single storey farm outbuilding (62 sqm) to use as a one-bedroom short stay holiday unit, tourism accommodation (Kitchen/Dining/Living Area, Bedroom + WC+ Shower
Total Project Costs	€200,090.00
Theme:	Theme 1: Economic Development and Job Creation
Sub-theme:	Sub-theme 1a: Green Economy Strategic Action 1.2: Repurposing of farm and industrial buildings into niche visitor accommodation
Eligible Project Costs	€200,090.00
Funding sought by promoter:	€150,067.50
State one of the following: - First Review / Previously Deferred or Not Recommend	First Review
<i>Outline the Evaluation Committee's consideration on each of the following:-</i>	
Deadweight:	Promoter: The promoter has advised that the project will not go ahead without grant funding. Although the promoter operates an existing B&B the income would not cover the cost of this project. Project Officer: The promoter would need the LEADER funding to realise this project.
Displacement:	In the area (Cappagh) there are no other B&B's.

	In the wider county visitor accommodation is available but considering the general shortage of visitor accommodation, as identified by Failte Ireland, this project will not displace other providers.
Innovative:	This project is unique as it will be converted former stables which were built in the traditional style and methods. -Project i.e. Kilcannon Stables No: 1 is an old farm building that will be renovated. -The Development creates a Housing Unit, with high levels of insulation, to help reduce the environment impact and energy use over the long term. -The building envelope will be insulated to beyond the minimum target values of the building regulation standards, where applicable. -Where possible, it is proposed to use 'low embodied energy' materials and processes in the construction of the proposed House. -An efficient sustainable heating system (an air to water Heat Pump is proposed) will be installed, with suitable controls including thermostats. -Low energy light fittings will be used, some using the latest LED technology. Natural day lighting will be used where possible. -The Dwelling Unit has been designed to benefit from south facing windows to both Living Area and Bedroom (where possible).
Reasonableness of Costs:	The project was eTendered and whilst only one supplier tendered, the price is competitive in the market place.
In-house projects: are there other providers that can deliver the project more cost effectively?	N/A. Not an in-house project.
Recommendation of the Evaluation Committee:	The Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend not funding this project for the following reasons:- 1) The project was not considered viable as presented 2) The project scored 61/100. A maximum of €0 or 0% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser
Rationale for grant aid, having regard to the LDS:	The Evaluation Committee did not recommend funding this project as they did not consider it viable as presented.
Added Value – How will the added value of LEADER funding be demonstrated in the delivery of this project?	The Evaluation Committee did not discuss added value as they did not consider the project viable as presented

Economic Justification for Project:	The Evaluation Committee determined that there was no economic justification for funding the project, as the proposal did not present sufficient evidence of financial viability or demonstrate that the projected outcomes would warrant investment.
Average Score for Project and Ranking:	61/100 (0)
% level of aid & ceiling:	A maximum of €0 or 0% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser

Is the project at Stage 10 on the IT System Y/N	N		
Details of private funding:	€50,022.50 – Promoter savings in post office account		
Voluntary Labour: YES / NO (If yes provide detail)	No		
Detail exactly what WLP will be funding (List items from Project Assessment Report) Total Funding	Detail	Total Cost (Expenditure)	Grant Aid recommend by the Evaluation Committee @ 0%
	Out-Building Conversion for Kilcannon House Stables No: 1(see bill of Quantities for detail)	€ 200,090.00	Not recommended
Was an assessment completed?: Date: _____			
Are detailed costings provided for the project? Were the costs for the project considered reasonable and how was this measured?	Yes Yes		
Where the procurement process resulted in less than 3 quotes, the EC must show the additional steps taken to ensure the reasonableness of costs:	The project was not recommended.		

Jobs Created	Jobs Sustained	Match Funding	Previous Grant Aid Received
0	1 Part-time cleaner will become full-time	€50,022.50	N/A

Confirmation on the applicant's position re De-Minus and double from the relevant agencies.	Date of Confirmation	Signed By
Not applicable. The promoter has not accessed state aid in the last three years.		

Amount Recommended: Not recommended	% of Eligible Project Funding: Not recommended
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Proposed: Cllr D Geoghegan	Seconded by: M Ray
Abstentions: None	
Quorum achieved: Yes	Approved

7. Circulars

Circular 11 - 2025 - v6 updates to the 2023-2027 LEADER Operating Rules

8. Correspondence: (extranet)

- Key Milestone reached as Minister Calleary announces onboarding of the 400th Connected Hub
- Minister Calleary announces Éamon Ó Cuív as new Chair of Comhairle na Tuaithe
- Minister Jerry Buttimer, TD, opens the Seventh National Social Enterprise Conference takes place in Ballinasloe, Co. Galway

9. A.O.B.

10. Date and venue of next LAG meeting: 11.00am Thursday 8th January Dungarvan (Hybrid).

Signed _____
CHAIRPERSON

DATE