Jonathon Codd

From:	Jonathon Codd
Sent:	Tuesday 3 March 2026 16:12
To:	Jonathon Codd
Cc:	Sinéad Breathnach; Susan Whelan; Emma Smyth; Gerard Mulhall; Eoin Morrissey; Yvonne Dam; Mairead McKnight; Seamus De Faoite; Noeleen Osborne; Anita Maher
Subject:	Minister Calleary announces €17.5 million to Local Authorities for Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) / Preasráiteas: €17.5 milliún fógartha ag an Aire Calleary d'Údaráis Áitiúla i gcomhair na Scéime Feabhsúcháin Áitiúla (SFÁ)

Dear Chair and members of the LCDC/LAG,

Please see media release below.

I would highlight the Co. Waterford allocation of €506,930.00

Media release

Wednesday, 25 February 2026

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

Minister Calleary announces €17.5 million to Local Authorities for Local Improvement Scheme (LIS)

- ***LIS providing funding to upgrade rural roads and laneways***
- ***€2 million increase secured in Budget 2026***
- ***Essential funding to improve road access to homes and farms in rural areas***
- ***Ringfenced funding to upgrade eligible roads on our offshore islands***

The Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, Dara Calleary TD, has today (Wednesday, 25 February) announced the opening of the 2026 Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) which will provide €17.55 million for repairs and improvement works on non-public rural roads and laneways under the scheme.

This investment demonstrates the continued commitment of the Government to vital road infrastructure in rural Ireland, providing access to people's homes and farms.

This announcement brings to a total of over €201 million that has been allocated to local authorities under the Scheme since it was re-introduced in 2017. The allocation of funds is for works to be carried out in 2026 on roads not normally maintained by the local authorities

Speaking as he announced the allocations today, Minister Calleary said:

> *"I am delighted to announce funding today of €17.55 million for the Local Improvement Scheme which is an increase of €2 million which I secured in Budget 2026. This includes over €500,000 ringfenced to be spent specifically on LIS eligible roads on our offshore islands.*
>
> *"This scheme will improve hundreds of rural roads and laneways across the country and is a vital source of funding for non-public roads not normally maintained by local authorities.*
>
> *"It's a fantastic scheme under which the homeowners and farmers who use the lane make a small local contribution and the Government provides the balance of funding to ensure that people can continue to access their homes and farms on good quality surfaces."*

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

Minister of State Buttimer added:

> *"I am delighted to see the announcement of the 2026 Local Improvement Scheme today. As Minister for Rural Transport, I see the benefits provided to rural homeowners and farmers through this funding, through which local authorities carry out improvement works on rural lanes and non-public roads. I am particularly pleased to see the additional €2 million funding provided for the scheme this year."*

Minister Calleary concluded:

> *"I am aware that Local Authorities need to carry out LIS works when weather conditions are favourable and, in recognition of this, and to help local authorities better plan their work*

programmes, I am launching the scheme in February to ensure as many eligible roads as possible can be completed this year".

ENDS

Contact:
The Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht Press Office
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APPENDIX 1

Local Improvement Scheme 2026 Allocations by County

County	LIS 2026 Allocation	LIS Islands Funding	Total Allocation
Carlow	€374,850		€374,850
Cavan	€527,400		€527,400
Clare	€941,790		€941,790
Cork	€1,206,620	€140,000	€1,346,620
Donegal	€1,134,690	€100,000	€1,234,690
Galway	€1,170,380	€250,000	€1,420,380
Kerry	€1,133,190		€1,133,190
Kildare	€350,000		€350,000
Kilkenny	€565,890		€565,890
Laois	€469,530		€469,530
Leitrim	€434,040		€434,040
Limerick	€752,340		€752,340
Longford	€380,230		€380,230
Louth	€372,890		€372,890
Mayo	€1,154,780	€50,000	€1,204,780
Meath	€573,970		€573,970
Monaghan	€385,880		€385,880
Offaly	€546,240		€546,240
Roscommon	€695,560		€695,560
Sligo	€501,740	€10,000	€511,740
Tipperary	€1,119,280		€1,119,280
Waterford	€506,930		€506,930

Westmeath	€502,290		€502,290
Wexford	€646,150		€646,150
Wicklow	€553,340		€553,340
TOTAL	**€17,000,000**	**€550,000**	**€17,550,000**

Notes to editors:

Local Improvement Scheme (LIS)

The Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) was reintroduced in September 2017 and almost €184 million has already been provided for works on over 5,500 roads. The additional funding announced today will bring that total to over €201 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 and the Gaeltacht will be complemented by a local financial contribution from households/landowners who are beneficiaries under the scheme.

Eligible Roads

Eligible roads under the Local Improvement Scheme are:

- non-public roads that provide access to parcels of land of which 2 or more are owned or occupied by different persons, one of which must be for agricultural purposes;
- provide access for agricultural / 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 leading to commercial enterprises. Further information can be found in the Scheme outline, published on gov.ie

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 where all beneficiaries contribute.

The Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht
The expanded Department is now known as the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht.
The Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, Dara Calleary TD leads the Department and is supported by the Minister of State with Responsibility for Community Development and Charities, Jerry Buttimer TD.

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Preasráiteas

Dé Céadaoin, 25 Feabhra 2026

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

€17.5 milliún fógartha ag an Aire Calleary d'Údaráis Áitiúla i gcomhair na Scéime Feabhsúcháin Áitiúla (SFÁ)

- ***SFÁ ag cur maoiniú ar fáil chun bóithre agus lánaí tuaithe a uasghrádú***
- ***Méadú €2 milliún faighte i mBuiséad 2026***
- ***Maoiniú bunriachtanach chun feabhas a chur ar rochtain bhóthair ar thithe agus feirmeacha i gceantair thuaithe***
- ***Maoiniú imfhálaithe chun bóithre incháilithe ar ár n-oileáin amach ón chósta a fheabhsú***

Inniu (Dé Céadaoin, 25 Feabhra) d'fhógair an tAire Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta, Dara Calleary TD, go n-osclófar Scéim Feabhsúcháin Áitiúil (SFÁ) 2026 faoina gcuirfear €17.55 milliún ar fáil i gcomhair deisiúchán agus oibreacha feabhsúcháin ar bhóithre agus lánaí neamhphoiblí.

Léirítear leis an infheistíocht seo tiomantas leanúnach an Rialtais don bhonneagar bhunriachtanach i gceantair thuaithe na hÉireann, chun rochtain ar thithe agus feirmeacha a chur ar fáil.

Fágann an fógra seo gurb é an t-iomlán a leithdháileadh ar údaráis áitiúla faoin Scéim ná breis is €201 milliún ó tugadh ar ais í in 2017. Tá an maoiniú á leithdháileadh i gcomhair oibreacha atá le déanamh in 2026 ar bhóithre nach ndéanann na húdaráis áitiúla cothabháil orthu de ghnáth.

Agus é ag fógairt na leithdháiltí inniu, dúirt an tAire Calleary:

"Is cúis áthais dom maoiniú €17.55 milliún a fhógairt inniu don Scéim Feabhsúcháin Áitiúil, ar méadú €2 milliún é a fuair mise i mBuiséad 2026. San áireamh, tá breis is €500,000 imfhálaithe le caitheamh ar bhóithre atá incháilithe i gcomhair SFÁ ar ár n-oileáin amach ón chósta.

"Faoin scéim seo cuirfear feabhas ar na céadta bóthar agus lána tuaithe fud fad na tíre, agus is foinse bhunriachtanach mhaoinithe í do bhóithre neamhphoiblí nach ndéanann na húdaráis áitiúla cothabháil orthu de ghnáth.

"Scéim iontach í faoina ndéanann úinéirí tí agus feirmeoirí a bhaineann úsáid as an lána ranníocaíocht bheag áitiúil, agus an Rialtas ag cur iarmhéid an mhaoinithe ar fáil le cinntiú go mbeidh rochtain leanúnach ag daoine ar a dtithe agus a bhfeirmeacha, ar dhromchlaí de chaighdeán maith".

Tá na húdaráis áitiúla freagrach as bóithre a shainaithint agus a chur in ord tosaíochta i gcomhair oibreacha feabhsúcháin faoin scéim, i ndiaidh dul i gcomhairle leis na cónaitheoirí/úinéirí talún.

Dúirt an tAire Stáit Buttimer:

"Tá áthas orm fógra Scéim Feabhsúcháin Áitiúil 2026 a fheiceáil inniu. Mar Aire Iompair Tuaithe, feicim na buntáistí do húinéirí tí agus feirmeoirí faoin tuath tríd an maoiniú seo, trína

ndéanann údaráis áitiúla oibreacha feabhsúcháin ar lánaí tuaithe agus ar bhóithre neamhphoiblí. Tá áthas ar leith orm an maoiniú breise €2 milliún a cuireadh ar fáil don scéim i mbliana a fheiceáil."

Ar deireadh, dúirt an tAire Calleary:

"Tá a fhios agam nach mór do na hÚdaráis Áitiúla oibreacha SFÁ a dhéanamh de réir mar a oireann an aimsir agus, mar aitheantas air seo, agus mar chabhair do na húdaráis agus iad ag pleanáil a gclár oibre, táim ag seoladh na scéime i mí Feabhra chun gur féidir an líon is mó bóithre incháilithe a chríochnú i mbliana."

CRÍOCH

Teagmháil:
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AGUISÍN 1

Scéim Feabhsúcháin Áitiúil 2026 - Leithdháiltí de réir an Chontae

Contae	Leithdháileadh SFÁ 2026	Maoiniú SFÁ do na hOileáin	Leithdháileadh Iomlán
Ceatharlach	€374,850		€374,850
An Cabhán	€527,400		€527,400
An Clár	€941,790		€941,790
Corcaigh	€1,206,620	€140,000	€1,346,620
Dún na nGall	€1,134,690	€100,000	€1,234,690
Gaillimh	€1,170,380	€250,000	€1,420,380
Ciarraí	€1,133,190		€1,133,190
Cill Dara	€350,000		€350,000
Cill Chainnigh	€565,890		€565,890
Laois	€469,530		€469,530
Liatroim	€434,040		€434,040
Luimneach	€752,340		€752,340

An Longfort	€380,230		€380,230
Lú	€372,890		€372,890
Maigh Eo	€1,154,780	€50,000	€1,204,780
An Mhí	€573,970		€573,970
Muineachán	€385,880		€385,880
Uíbh Fhailí	€546,240		€546,240
Ros Comáin	€695,560		€695,560
Sligeach	€501,740	€10,000	€511,740
Tiobraid Árann	€1,119,280		€1,119,280
Port Láirge	€506,930		€506,930
An Iarmhí	€502,290		€502,290
Loch Garman	€646,150		€646,150
Cill Mhantáin	€553,340		€553,340
IOMLÁN:	**€17,000,000**	**€550,000**	**€17,550,000**

Nótaí d'Eagarthóirí:

An Scéim Feabhsúcháin Áitiúil (SFÁ)

Tugadh an Scéim Feabhsúcháin Áitiúil (SFÁ) ar ais i mí Mheán Fómhair 2017 agus tá beagnach €184 milliún curtha ar fáil cheana i gcomhair oibreacha ar bhreis is 5,500 bóthar. Fágfaidh an maoiniú breise a fógraíodh inniu go n-ardófar an fhigiúir sin thar €201 milliún.

Tá na húdaráis áitiúla freagrach as bóithre a shainaithint agus a chur in ord tosaíochta i gcomhair oibreacha feabhsúcháin faoin scéim, i ndiaidh dul i gcomhairle leis na cónaitheoirí/úinéirí talún. Beidh an maoiniú atá á chur ar fáil ag an Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta á chomhlánú le ranníocaíocht áitiúil ó thithe/úinéirí talún a bhainfidh tairbhe as an scéim.

Bóithre Incháilithe

Is iad na bóithre atá incháilithe faoin Scéim Feabhsúcháin Áitiúil ná:

- bóithre neamhphoiblí lena dtugtar rochtain ar phíosaí talún, a bhfuil péire nó níos mó díobh faoi úinéireacht nó in úsáid ag daoine éagsúla, agus ní mór
-

  ceann acu a bheith chun críocha talmhaíochta;
- bóithre lena dtugtar rochtain chun críocha talmhaíochta / bainte (móin nó feamainn san áireamh) do bheirt nó níos mó daoine; nó,
- bóithre neamhphoiblí chuig áiseanna tábhachtacha poiblí ar nós reiligí, tránna, céanna, sléibhte, srl.

Bóithre Neamh-Incháilithe

Áirítear ar bhóithre neamh-incháilithe:

- bóithre chuig fiontair thráchtála. Is féidir teacht ar thuilleadh eolais san achoimre ar an Scéim, atá ar fáil ar gov.ie.

Ranníocaíocht áitiúil

Is mar seo a leanas a socraíodh an ranníocaíocht atá le híoc ag an líon tí/úinéir talún:

- 10% de chostas measta na mbóithre incháilithe do suas le cúig theach/úinéir talún, agus
- 15% do na bóithre siúd ar a bhfuil sé theach/úinéir talún nó níos mó.

Is é an t-uaslíon a mbeidh ar líon tí/úinéir talún amháin a íoc ná €1,200, i gcásanna ina bhfuil gach tairbhí toilteanach ranníocaíocht a dhéanamh.

An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta

Tugtar an Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta ar an Roinn mhéadaithe anois. Is é an tAire Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta, Dara Calleary TD, atá i gceannas ar an Roinn agus tacaíonn an tAire Stáit atá Freagrach as Forbairt Pobail agus Carthanachtaí, Jerry Buttimer TD, leis.

Tá an preasráiteas seo á fháil agat mar go bhfuil tú ar liosta meán na Roinne Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta faoi láthair.

Mura mian leat ríomhphoist den chineál seo a fháil ón Roinn a thuilleadh, is féidir leat díliostáil trí fhreagairt chuig an seoladh ríomhphoist seo leis an bhfocal "díliostáil" sa líne ábhair agus déanfaimid do sheoladh ríomhphoist a bhaint dár mbunachar sonraí.