



Cork County Council

Funding Schemes Open to Communities 2017

Summary

Cork County Council operates a comprehensive range of funding schemes open to communities offering direct support to the communities and voluntary groups of County Cork.

Fund contributions under the various schemes are available as direct financial support to community groups and local organisations wishing to undertake development projects in their area and to support local projects that enhance the area in which the group is active.

The following is a collated list of the principle community grant schemes currently operational in the County.¹

Community Funding Schemes 2017

1. **COMMUNITY GRANT CAPITAL**
2. **COMMUNITY CONTRACTS**
3. **AMENITY GRANTS**
4. **ARTS GRANTS**
5. **HERITAGE GRANTS**
6. **CLAR**
7. **TOWN AND VILLAGE RENEWAL**
8. **LEADER**
9. **SICAP**
10. **COMMUNITY FACILITIES SCHEME**
11. **OUTDOOR RECREATION INFRASTRUCTURE**
12. **MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS STREETScape, PAINTING SIGNAGE AND IMPROVEMNT SCHEME**
13. **REDZ**

¹ It should be noted that not all calls for projects under these schemes are currently open and it is vital that any community group considering making an application for funding contact the relevant office in advance to determine potential project eligibility, appropriate deadlines for making an application and the specific requirements of each grant scheme. See Appendix 1 for advised closing dates of 2017 schemes.



1. Community Grants Capital

The aim of this Scheme is to support community groups and local organisations in County Cork who wish to undertake infrastructural projects costing over €20,000 which will improve the range and/or quality of community based facilities within their area e.g. Community Halls, sporting facilities, etc. Proposals from individuals will not qualify. Project development should be well advanced before any application is submitted. If Planning Permission is required then it must be obtained prior to an application being submitted. Priority will be given to projects where the applicants are in a position to effectively commence.

Eligible Projects: The scheme will focus on supporting the provision of new and/or improvements to existing facilities being provided by communities and local sporting organisations/clubs that are geared towards supporting the following categories:

- Youth/Aged
- Development and support of sustainable community and voluntary effort.

Further information and application forms available from:

Each Cork County Council Municipal District Office

2. Community Contracts

The Community Contract is an opportunity for local communities to work with Cork County Council on local works and projects -agreed with the local Area Engineer -that enhance the area in which the group is active. Generally works would be of a recurring type, such as maintenance of open spaces, environmental improvements and litter picking

The level of support available under the Scheme will depend on a range of factors, including type of works/project, availability of other sources of funding, and the overall number of applications seeking funding under the Scheme.

Amounts awarded will be at the discretion of the Council and will take into consideration the qualifying works/project proposed and the group's capacity to complete the proposed works/project. The maximum value of any contract will not exceed €20,000

Further information and application forms available from:

Each Cork County Council Municipal District Office

3. Amenity Grants

The Amenity Fund Scheme provides for support to local community groups and organisations by part funding projects. The overall cost for a project under this Scheme must be less than €20,000. Successful Fund applications must show how a project directly benefits communities and



meets particular needs.

Each project must also employ sound community development practices. The Council prefers to support groups that have the skills and capacity to implement proposals as well as groups that show local funding, time commitment or other useful contributions.

Whilst the Amenity Fund can be combined with other grants the Council must take into account funding support from other government or state agencies. The amount of Fund contribution per successful project depends on project type, overall demand for funding as well as other funding sources and ability to deliver proposed project by your group.

Eligible projects that will be considered for support include:

- Tidy town projects
- Festivals
- Amenity improvements
- Equipment purchase
- Projects may also include building and improvement of facilities.

Further information and application forms available from:

Each Cork County Council Municipal District Office

4. Arts Grants

Cork County Council invites applications for arts projects and activities that may be eligible for funding under various Arts Grant Assistance schemes in 2017.

- Arts Grant Scheme
- Artists in Schools Scheme
- Artists Funding Schemes (open to practicing artists only)
- Creative Communities Scheme

Further information and application forms available from:

**The Arts Office,
Cork County Council,
County Hall,
Cork.
Tel: 021 4346210
Email: arts@corkcoco.ie**

5. Heritage Grants

Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2017.

Further information and application forms available from



Architectural Conservation Officer, Planning Dept, Floor 3, County Hall, Cork.
mona.hallinan@corkcoco.ie.

6. CLAR Funding

The CLÁR 2017 programme is a targeted investment programme for rural areas, designed to address the problem of de-population and the lack of and decline in services. It supports physical, economic and social infrastructure in rural areas across a variety of measures.

A total national allocation of €5m is available under the following measures:-

Measure 1: Support for Schools/Community Safety Measure (€2m)

Measure 2: Play Areas (€0.75m)

Measure 3: Targeted Community Infrastructure Needs (€1.5m) – support for small to medium sized Community based capital/infrastructure projects that don't qualify for other existing schemes.

Measure 4: First Response Support measure (€0.75m)

Applications will be accepted from Local Authorities for Measures 1,2 and 3. Measure 4 will be accepted directly by the Department from established organisations/groups that operate entirely on a voluntary basis and are involved in emergency rescue/first response efforts.

The maximum Grant available under the scheme ranges from €5,000 - €50,000 or 90% of the cost of the works whichever is the lesser (max. grant payable is €50,000). The remaining 10% should be provided through Local Authority/community/other resources with a minimum of 5% cash contribution from the School/Community.

Further information and application forms available from

All potential applications to Ms. Mary Hayes, Senior Executive Officer who is co-ordinating the scheme for the County maryp.hayes@corkcoco.ie

7. DAHRRGA Town & Village Renewal Funding

Overview

The scheme has an overall fund of €10 million nationally.

The central aim of the scheme is to support the revitalisation of towns and villages in order to improve the living and working environment of their communities and increase their potential to support increased economic activity into the future. The type of projects to be funded under this initiative is primarily a matter for the Local Authorities (LAs) to identify in partnership with local business and communities. However, the overall intention of the funding is to:

- increase the attractiveness of the town or village as a local commercial and social centre, and as a result increase its sustainability as a place in which to live and work;
- enhance the towns/village environment and amenities in the interests of residents, businesses, and visitors;
- promote the town/village's potential for tourism and as a centre for culture and local heritage, thus enhancing the sense of identity - physically and socially.



Further information and application forms available from:

Each Municipal District Office

8. LEADER

Rural Development Programme (LEADER) Funding 2014-2020

The LEADER programme is an EU initiative to support rural development projects initiated at the local level in order to revitalise rural areas and create jobs. The programme is overseen in Cork County by Local Action Groups in North, South and West Cork and is implemented on the ground by six Implementing Partners. Calls for eligible projects are both open and there are also specific time-bound targeted calls. Available funding amounts vary depending on the nature of the calls.

Projects are eligible for funding under the following areas:

Theme 1: Economic Development, Enterprise Development and Job Creation

Sub Theme 1: Rural Tourism

Sub Theme 2: Enterprise Development

Sub Theme 3: Rural Towns

Sub Theme 4: Broadband

Theme 2: Social Inclusion

Sub Theme 5: Provision of Basic Services Targeted at Hard to Reach Communities

Sub Theme 6: Rural Youth (defined as people aged 15 to 35 years)

Theme 3: Rural Environment

Sub Theme 7: Protection and Sustainable use of Water Resources

Sub Theme 8: Protection and Improvement of Local Biodiversity

Sub Theme 9: Development of Renewable Energy

Further information on Calls and application forms available from:

LDC Contacts

SECAD	RDP Co-Ordinator
Owennacurra Business Park, Knockgriffin, Midleton, Co. Cork	Katie Currans Ross Curley



(021) 4613432 www.secad.ie info@secad.ie	
Avonduh Blackwater Partnership	RDP Co-Ordinator
The Mill, Castletownroche, Co. Cork (022) 46580 www.avonduhblackwater.com info@avonduhblackwater.com	Niall Walshe
IRD Duhallow	RDP Co-Ordinator
James O’Keeffe Institute, Newmarket, Cork (029) 60633 www.irdduhallow.com duhallow@irdduhallow.com	Triona Murphy
Ballyhoura Development	RDP Co-Ordinator
Main Street Kilfinane Co. Limerick (063) 91300 www.ballyhouradevelopment.com info@ballyhoura.org	David O’Grady (063) 91739
Udaras na Gaeltachta	RDP Co-Ordinator
Baile Mhic Íre, Cork (026) 45366 www.udaras.ie corcaigh@udaras.ie	Fionnan O’hAin
Comhar na nOileán Teo	
Inis Oírr, Oileáin Árann, Co. na Gaillimhe H91 D27X (099) 75096 www.oileain.ie fios@oileain.ie	Maire Ui Mhaolain (CEO)



9. SICAP

The SICAP programme aims to tackle poverty and social exclusion through local engagement and partnership between disadvantaged individuals, community organisations and public sector agencies.

The Department of Housing Planning, Community and Local Government is the lead funding Department for SICAP.

The Programme targets the following groups;

- Children and Families from Disadvantaged Areas
- Lone Parents
- New Communities (including Refugees/Asylum Seekers)
- People living in Disadvantaged Communities
- People with Disabilities
- Roma
- The Unemployed (including those not on the Live Register)
- Travellers
- Young Unemployed People from Disadvantaged areas

Further information and application forms available from

Local Community Development Committees are managing SICAP at a local level. A public procurement process has been used to select Local Programme Implementers who are delivering SICAP in each area and the relevant Local Development company for your area should be contacted in the first instance.

10. Community Facilities Scheme

The Community Facilities Scheme 2017 is focused on providing small-scale capital grants (under €1000) to help grass roots community projects get underway or take the next step towards completion. It will operate in a complementary manner with other schemes or programmes being operated in communities, including in particular, the SICAP (Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme), a recast RAPID (Revitalising Areas by Planning, Investment and Development) and CLÁR (Ceantair Laga Árd Riachtanais) Programmes, adding value to those and other front-line schemes. The Scheme will include capital funding for projects falling under the following areas, note this list is not exhaustive:

- Development/renovation of community centres
- Community amenities
- Youth clubs
- Sports/recreation facilities
- Improvements to town parks and common areas and spaces
- Creative Ireland Programme 2017-2022 projects

The application process for this scheme will remain open until 30 June 2017.

Contact details: Fergal Gough/Fiona Hayes Local Community Development



11. Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme 2017

The Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme 2017 is part of the Government's Action Plan for Rural Development and will provide funding for the development of new outdoor recreational infrastructure or the necessary maintenance, enhancement or promotion of existing outdoor recreational infrastructure.

For the most part, projects will be required to be completed in 2017. Large scale projects (see Measure 3 below) must be completed by the middle of 2018. A total of €11 million will be allocated to projects approved in 2017 nationally, with up to 60% of this (€7 million) available for draw-down in 2017; the balance will be available for draw-down in 2018.

Funds will be released to successful applicants in tranches, based on a specified level of works being completed.

Categories of Application

Applications will be accepted under three measures:

Measure 1: Small Scale Maintenance/Promotional and Marketing

Projects to include grant aid amounts of up to €10,000.

Eligible Activities: Resources to support countryside recreation², including for the upkeep and maintenance of already established trails/walkways/cycleways/blueways, improved access to leisure or recreational facilities, and the promotion and marketing of such infrastructure.

Measure 2: Medium Scale Repair/Upgrade and New Trail Development

Grant Amounts: Grant amounts of up to €100,000.

Eligible Activity: These projects could include the development of new trails/walkways/cycleways/blueways, or other recreational facilities, or extensions to already established trails/walkways/cycleways/blueways. Projects can also include works for the enhancement, maintenance or promotion of such infrastructure.

Measure 3: Large Scale Repair/Upgrade and New Strategic Trail Development

Grant amounts: Grant amounts of over €100,000 and up to €1million



Eligible Activity: These projects could include the development of new larger-scale recreational infrastructure, or resources to complete larger scale/longer term developments, as well as significant repair and maintenance on already established trails/walkways/cycleways/blueways.

Contact details: *Vincent Florish, Assistant Engineer, ph 021-4285649*

12. MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS STREETScape, PAINTING SIGNAGE AND IMPROVMENT SCHEME 2017

The existing painting scheme has been updated in order to assist the Council in tackling dereliction. Anyone interested in availing of this scheme should contact their local Municipal District office for details of the Scheme being rolled out in their Municipal District.

Further information and application forms available from:

Each Cork County Council Municipal District Office

13. REDZ

CEDRA Rural Economic Development Zone Funding

Rural Economic Development Zones (REDZ) are functional, rather than administrative geographic, areas that reflect the spatial patterns of local economic activities and development processes. They are, in effect, the sub-county zones within which most people live and work. The central objective of the REDZ model is to utilise the synergies and interdependencies between rural towns and their hinterlands to generate economic activity in the local area. The involvement of local communities, including the business community, is a key element in the REDZ model.

In 2016, €5.3m in funding was allocated to 41 projects nationally. The following Cork projects receiving funding under this phase are:

Project	Grant Awarded
Beara Bridleway Phase II	€58,000
Inniscarra Lake Development	€150,000
Blueway Feasibility Study	€40,000
Munster Vales	€500,000
Charleville / Kilmallock Engineering Cluster	€100,000 (Limerick City & County Council)



Appendix 1 CLOSING DATES FOR COMMUNITY FUNDING APPLICATIONS 2017

	<u>Scheme</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Closing Date</u>
1.	COMMUNITY GRANT CAPITAL	Municipal District Office	17 February 2017
2.	COMMUNITY CONTRACTS	Municipal District Office	17 February 2017
3.	AMENITY GRANTS	Municipal District Office	17 February 2017
4.	ARTS GRANTS	Mr. Ian McDonagh County Arts Officer	Various
5.	HERITAGE GRANTS	Ms. Mona Hallinan Heritage Officer	February 2017
6.	CLAR	Ms. Mary Hayes, SEO	28 April 2017
7.	TOWN AND VILLAGE RENEWAL	Mr. Enda O'Halloran MDO	19 May 2017
8.	LEADER	Local Development Companies	Various
9.	SICAP	Local Development Companies	Various
10.	COMMUNITY FACILITIES SCHEME	Ms. Fiona Hayes/Mr. Fergal Gough Community Development	30 June 2017
11.	OUTDOOR RECREATION INFRASTRUCTURE	Mr. Vincent Florish	June 2017
12.	MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS STREETScape, PAINTING SIGNAGE AND IMPROVMENT SCHEME	Municipal District Office	Various
13.	REDZ	TBC	TBC



Appendix 2: MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS CONTACT DETAILS

Ballincollig / Carrigaline Municipal District

Mr. Kevin O' Regan,
Municipal District Officer
021-4285352 086-8030764

Cobh Municipal District

Mr. Paraig Lynch,
Municipal District Officer
021-4811307 087-4125931

East Cork Municipal District

Mr. Joe McCarthy,
Municipal District Officer
021-4631580 086-8114963

Blarney Macroom Municipal District

Ms. Marie O' Leary
Municipal District Officer
026 41047 085 8876767

Mallow / Kanturk Municipal District

Ms. Liz Donovan,
Municipal District Officer
022-30471 086-8508615

Fermoy Municipal District

Ms. Pauline Moriarty
Municipal District Officer
025-31155 086-7916105

West Cork Municipal District

Mr. Justin England Municipal District
Officer
023-8833380 087-7838409

Bandon-Kinsale Municipal District

Mr. Enda O'Halloran
S/Municipal District Officer
021-4772137 085-8884567