



Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) 2025

The Local Enhancement Programme 2025 is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development. Please see the following link to the press release announcing the Local Enhancement Programme 2025 at national level, by the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD, and the Minister of State with responsibility for Community Development and Charities, Joe O'Brien TD: [Press release]

This funding will consist of €6 million in capital supports essential for the many small community groups and organisations, particularly those who serve disadvantaged communities in rural and urban areas.

There will be a particular focus on small capital works/improvements, and the purchase of equipment for community use. The funding may be used, but is not limited to: improved access for persons with a disability; enhancing community participation for disadvantaged and marginalised groups, and improving energy efficiency of community facilities to reduce ongoing costs.

A further €1 million in current funding is available for Community Groups, including Men's Sheds and Women's Sheds, to assist with their energy and running costs, to help them continue their important work within the community.

The scheme is designed to ensure local priorities are identified and met, so as to improve and enhance community facilities for all. All funding will be available to a diverse range of community groups including, but not limited to, Men's and Women's sheds/groups, community centres, parish halls and local voluntary groups.

DLR LEP (Capital) Allocation €174,791

DLR LEP (Current) Allocation €29,132

DLR Total Allocation €203,922

At its meeting on 27 November, the Local Community Development Committee set a closing date for application for this new grant programme of **21 February 2025**. **The closing time is 1 pm**.

The LCDC also set an upper limit of €10,000 for any **capital** grant under this scheme, while noting that the Department have a preference for up to 30% of the funding to be utilised for grants of €1,000 or less to ensure maximum reach and impact among community groups. The LCDC set an upper limit of €1,200 for any **current** grant under this scheme.

Applications are now invited through the DLR online grants platform from community groups across the county and the forms can be accessed by clicking the following links.

Click <u>here</u> for LEP (Capital) Application

Click here for LEP (Current) Application

If any community group requires additional guidance with submitting the online grant please do not hesitate to contact the Community Department:

email: community@dlrcoco.ie or telephone (01) 205 4893