



COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 26th SEPTEMBER, 2022.

Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. Sheahan

I will move at the next Meeting that Limerick City and County Council adopt a more considered and unconstrained interpretation of the Guidelines to qualify for a Local Improvement Scheme as set out in the February/April 2020 Memorandum and Scheme Outline issued by the Department of Rural and Community Affairs.

Reply:

The Local Improvement Scheme 2022 Scheme Outline provides clarification on eligible and non-eligible LIS schemes. The Scheme Outline defines these projects as follows

Eligible road projects are those that involve the construction or improvement of non- public roads as follows:

- Road projects which provide access to parcels of land of which two or more are owned or occupied by different persons engaged in separate agricultural activities; or
- Road projects which provide access for harvesting purposes (including turf or seaweed) for two or more persons; or
- Road projects which provide access to at least one parcel of land owned or occupied by a person engaged in agricultural activities AND which separately provides access for harvesting purposes (including turf or seaweed) for at least one other person.

In addition, works can also be carried out on Amenity Roads. Amenity Roads are non- public roads leading to important community amenities such as graveyards, beaches, piers, mountain access points or other tourist/heritage sites. Such roads may not account for more than 25% of the allocation provided to each Local Authority.

Applicants should provide documentation (**NOTE 1**) to verify that they are engaged in agricultural activities on the parcel of land accessed by the road project e.g. a herd/flock number and a copy of the maps associated with their Basic Payment Scheme application provided by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, or equivalent documentation. The onus shall be on individual applicants to submit the required documentation in support of their eligibility. *The local authority should demonstrate a degree of flexibility in relation to this requirement if alternative documentary evidence can be provided.*

Non-eligible road projects

The following road projects are not eligible for funding under the Scheme:

- A road serving only houses or buildings occupied or used by persons not engaged in agriculture.
- A road serving only Local Authority properties.
- A road leading to bogs developed commercially for large scale turf production.
- Projects involving drainage works only.
- A road leading to commercial enterprises.
- A road involving minor works which is within the competence of the applicants to do themselves.
- A road which, because of its small size, would involve work which the local authority would consider as being uneconomic to carry out.

NOTE 1

Where the documentation to be provided is assessed by LCCC as being insufficient to meet the DRCD's scheme guidelines, LCCC are happy to seek clarification from the DRCD if an applicant is not satisfied with such an assessment

**Hugh McGrath, S.E.,
Roads, Traffic & Cleansing,
Transportation and Mobility Directorate
21st September 2022**