



Roscommon LEADER Partnership

Newsletter



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Welcome
- LEADER Programme 2014-2020: Update
- Roscommon Rural Men's Groups
- Warmer Homes Scheme
- SICAP – Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme
- Rural Social Scheme
- TÚS

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Welcome to the New Roscommon LEADER Partnership Newsletter

Welcome to the inaugural issue of the Roscommon LEADER Partnership Newsletter which we hope you find informative and useful. A quarterly publication, the aim of the RLP Newsletter is to keep you up to date of what we do and how we can assist you or your group, as well as the latest happenings on each scheme and programme we run and any new schemes or services which may commence.

With each issue, RLP also wants to keep you informed of the many and varied services and schemes/programmes that we provide, whether through direct funding schemes and programmes, assistance to the unemployed and disadvantaged or specific actions to aid identified target groups.

Roscommon LEADER Partnership (RLP, also known as RIDC – Roscommon Integrated Development Company Ltd.) is an organisation that brings together key development projects including rural enterprise, development and social inclusion that work for the betterment of the people of Co. Roscommon. RLP and its predecessors have supported and assisted enterprise and individuals in Co. Roscommon since 1991. Throughout that time, we have seen many changes to Irish society, not least in Co. Roscommon. There has also been much change to many of the programmes and services we provide. It is our wish, through this newsletter, to keep you abreast of all the latest developments with our schemes and programmes.

RLPs current responsibilities include the delivery of the Rural Development Programme (LEADER) and the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP). A number of other initiatives, funded by various Government Departments and Agencies/Bodies in Ireland and EU are also delivered by the company, including the Rural Social Scheme, TÚS, Warmer Homes Scheme and the Traveller Health Initiative. Roscommon LEADER Partnership has a very broad remit, having a role in such diverse subjects as tourism, enterprise, environment, recreation, social inclusion and assistance to the unemployed to name but a few.

Roscommon LEADER Partnership operates throughout the whole of Co. Roscommon and can be contacted at the number, email and locations listed above. Further information on all our schemes, programmes and services is available on our website, www.rosleaderpartnership.ie.



Martina Earley, CEO, Roscommon LEADER Partnership



PROGRAMMES, etc.



LEADER Programme 2014–2020: Update

In May 2015, Roscommon Local Community Development Committee (LCDC), a committee of Roscommon County Council, in conjunction with Roscommon LEADER Partnership, submitted an Expression of Interest for the new LEADER Programme (LEADER 2014 – 2020) to the Dept. of Environment, Community & Local Government. This Expression of Interest has been successful and RLDC, RCC and RLP are now proceeding to draw up the Local Development Strategy (LEADER Plan) for County Roscommon. The LDS will be submitted to the Dept. by the end of September 2015 and it is hoped that the new LEADER Programme 2014-2020 would be up and running in Co. Roscommon before the end of the year.

Roscommon LEADER Partnership continues to accept LEADER Project Proposals (Expressions of Interest) for the LEADER Programme 2014-2020. Forms can be downloaded from our website – www.rosleaderpartnership.ie.

Town Teams Public Meetings

Recently, Town Teams public meetings were held in Ballaghaderreen, Boyle, Castlerea, Monksland, Roscommon Town and Strokestown. Town Teams Committees have been set up in each of the 6 towns. Plans are now underway to appoint a Facilitator to work with the new committees to develop Town Teams Plans. Further updates will be available on the Roscommon County Council website <http://www.roscommoncoco.ie/>.

Town Teams is a collaborative approach to identifying priorities within towns and planning for towns' future. The approach will encompass all aspects of economic and social life in each town.

WARMER HOMES SCHEME



The Warmer Homes Scheme (WHA), funded by the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI), funds energy efficiency improvements in the homes of the elderly and vulnerable, making the homes more comfortable, healthier and more cost effective to run.

The service involves the installation of standard energy efficiency measures appropriate to the eligible household, subject to a house (building) survey, budget allocation and available capacity. The service is provided at no cost to the household and the measures currently available under this scheme are:

- Attic insulation
- Draught proofing
- Lagging jackets
- Low energy light bulbs
- Cavity wall insulation
- Energy advice
- Ventilation
- BER

The WHS is available to homes which meet the following criteria:

- Owner occupied non-Local Authority homes
- Constructed before 2006
- The owner is in receipt of one of the following
 - Fuel Allowance as part of the National Fuel Scheme
 - Job Seekers Allowance for over six months and with children under 7 years of age
 - Family Income Supplement

For further information or to make an application, contact Roscommon LEADER Partnership at 090 663 0252 or email warmehomes@ridc.ie.

Thinking of Recruitment?

Roscommon LEADER Partnership has a selection of clients registered with JobsPlus, who have qualifications and skills in the following sectors:-

- Administration
- Event Management
- Childcare
- Information Technology
- Retail Services
- Construction Industry

By recruiting one of our clients, you may benefit from the Employer Incentive Scheme.

For further information, please contact:
Tel: 090 66 30252 Email: helenmcginty@ridc.ie

**Roscommon LEADER Partnership
Education & Training Fair**

Wednesday, 21st October 2015

11.00am – 2.30pm Kilbride Community Centre,
Four Mile House, Roscommon

All welcome - especially school leavers, mature students & unemployed

For further information, see www.rosleaderpartnership.ie or email sandra@ridc.ie

**Wellness Programme
for
Parents**

Would you like time out to gain skills to better manage life's daily challenges?

You will develop

- Identify triggers of stress
- Action plan
- Developing supports
- Daily maintenance plan
- Wellness tools

Family Life Centre Boyle, Co. Roscommon
4 X Mondays (commencing September 21st 2015)
Time: 10am to 12.30pm daily

To book a place contact Teresa O'Brien,
086 0291215 or email teresa@ridc.ie
Places are limited, Free of Charge



SICAP - Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme

Roscommon LEADER Partnership designs and delivers specialised training programmes and interventions for our SICAP target groups. RLP will utilise a number of actions to enable socially excluded people to work together in developing a fairer and more equal society in Co Roscommon. All of our supports under the SICAP programme are free to eligible individuals and groups. SICAP offers support to individuals, young people, older people & rural men living in Roscommon. For further information, please call us directly and/or visit our website www.rosleaderpartnership.ie

<p>What can we provide you, as AN INDIVIDUAL?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One to one support, advice and guidance • Signposting and referrals • Training and support for job seekers • Self-employment options and training • Back to Work and Short Term Enterprise Allowance Schemes • Entrepreneurship workshops • Tailored training courses –Accredited and Non-Accredited • Work placement opportunities • Volunteering opportunities • English Language support • Information Technology skills development • Support to parents • Skills development • Social farming 	<p>What can we provide you, as A COMMUNITY?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance with setting up groups and mentoring committees • Identifying needs and finding solutions for groups or communities • Support for volunteers • Support your group to have your voice heard on local decision making structures • Active citizenship training • Men's Sheds • Roscommon Rural Men's Groups 	<p>What can we provide you, as A YOUNG PERSON?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One to one support • Training and support for job seekers and early school leavers • Self-employment options and training • Work placement opportunities • Social skills training • Awareness training on positive wellbeing • Activities for youth • Linkage with county based youth programmes • Volunteering opportunities • Afterschool supports • Parenting life skills with a young focus • Support for young carers living in Co. Roscommon 	<p>What can we provide you, as AN OLDER PERSON?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roscommon Friendly Call Service • Social Car Scheme • Older People Network • Community Education Programmes with Citizens Information Service • Ambassadorship Peer Education Programme • Volunteering opportunities • Computer training • Active citizenship
	<p>What can we provide you, as AN EMPLOYER?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage with employers around recruitment needs • Employment supports available to employers • Government Employer Incentives 		

The aim of the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme is to reduce poverty and promote social inclusion and equality through local, regional and national engagement and collaboration. Its vision is to improve the life chances and opportunities of those who are experiencing forms of marginalisation in society, living in poverty or in unemployment through community development approaches, targeted supports and interagency collaboration, where the values of equality and inclusion are promoted and human rights are respected.

The individuals assisted will include the most vulnerable in society who are unable or unlikely to access mainstream supports. The following are the groups to be engaged in SICAP services:

- Children and families
- Lone parents
- New communities (including refugees/asylum seekers)
- Disadvantaged communities
- People with disabilities
- Travellers
- Roma
- The Unemployed (including those not on the live register)
- Young unemployed people

For further information on SICAP, please contact RLP – Tel: 090 663 0252, email reception@ridc.ie or web www.rosleaderpartnership.ie.

The Rural Social Scheme (RSS)

The Rural Social Scheme, benefits farming families offering a supplementary income to farming. It gives the opportunity of employment in rural areas where jobs are few. The main benefit of this employment scheme for farmers is that it is part time, thus allowing, within reason, flexible time for both farming and employment.

The Rural Social Scheme also impacts greatly on life within Co. Roscommon – for example, RSS Participants are involved in projects relating to tourism; pride of place; village enhancement; rural enhancement; information/visitor centres; heritage; village/rural development; walks; social care; assisting the elderly with small tasks in and around their homes. Participants also work with voluntary organisations whose remit it is to assist other groups with networking opportunities and organise volunteering opportunities. This role also includes the dissemination of information on agencies and schemes operating with the county and the types of funding available to community and voluntary groups.

Other benefits to this very valuable scheme are;

- It provides participants with a social outlet, offering the opportunity to get out and interact with other people on a regular basis.
- The scheme helps to address isolation. This is an important contributor to building the confidence and self esteem of participants.
- It has a significant impact on additional income earned - giving an increased cash-flow to participant households.

The voluntary activity undertaken by the members of the sponsor committees has been complemented and supplemented by the skills and experience that RSS participants can bring to many initiatives such as walks, stone wall building, Golden Mile, Care and Repair, gardening, general maintenance and many other projects which helps to secure recognition for communities and community effort encouraging a mix of voluntary and RSS input.

At present, there are approximately 2,600 participants nationally on the Rural Social Scheme and 130 Supervisors; Co. Roscommon has 149 participants and 7 Supervisors.

TÚS Programme

TÚS is a Community Work Placement Scheme providing short-term working opportunities for the long-term unemployed. It started in 2011 in Roscommon and is implemented by Roscommon LEADER Partnership on behalf of Dept. of Social Protection. There are approximately 8,000 places nationwide, with 140 placements in County Roscommon.



Historical Old Forge, Brideswell

TÚS participants spend 1 year working 19.5 hours per week for a local community group, while still maintaining all their social welfare entitlements. In general, DSP chooses TÚS participants by way of a random selection of those who are signing on for Jobseekers

Allowance for 12 months or more, but a limited number can also be self-referrals (contact RLP for more details).

The objectives of TÚS are to provide work and training opportunities for those who are long-term unemployed, as well as providing income support for those on social welfare payments. TÚS is also a great way to harness the skills and talents of participants to benefit local communities.

The types of work undertaken under TÚS include:

- Childcare and Social Care
- Caretaking, securing, supervising of community buildings and spaces
- Renovation of community and sporting facilities
- Cultural and Heritage activities
- Community administration and community event management
- Town and Village enhancement
- Retail Services in Charity Shops
- Energy Conservation

For more information on TÚS, email brenda@ridc.ie.

Certified Training Opportunities Offered by RLP*

***All courses are Certified - All courses are free of charge to qualifying persons – Qualifying Criteria and Terms & Conditions will apply – All courses will run subject to demand**



Roscommon LEADER Partnership is in the process of organising the following training courses to be held during Autumn 2015. For further information or to apply for a course, please contact Linda or Anthony at 090 663 252 or email linda@ridc.ie or anthony@ridc.ie.

- ♦ Train The Trainer - QQI L6
- ♦ Sustainable Building Technology - NFQ L5
- ♦ IT Game Analysis Design - QQI L5
- ♦ Media/Radio Skills Training - QQI L3
- ♦ Health & Safety at Work - QQI L5
- ♦ Communication Skills - QQI L3 & L4
- ♦ Customer Service Skills - QQI L3 & L4
- ♦ Computer Literacy - QQI L3
- ♦ Team working - QQI L4
- ♦ Work Experience - QQI L3 & L4
- ♦ Personal/Interpersonal Skills - QQI L3 & L4
- ♦ Career Planning - QQI L4
- ♦ Managing Personal Finances - QQI L3
- ♦ Nutrition & Healthy Options - QQI L3
- ♦ Tourism - QQI L3
- ♦ Focus on Farming
- ♦ Social Media
- ♦ Digital Photography
- ♦ Email/Attachments etc
- ♦ Internet Skills
- ♦ Retail Sales Techniques



Active Citizenship & Politics – FETAC Level 6

Are you a member of a community group? Or are you interested in establishing a community group or organisation? Do you want to help make a change to your own situation and that of others or locally within your community? Do you want to be listened to?

If so, this course may be for you....

It will help you identify how best you can engage in citizenship and how you can influence decision makers!

Roscommon LEADER Partnership, in conjunction with Roscommon County Council, is offering community leaders and activists the opportunity to build their skills, and affect real change by funding Active Citizenship Training.

What will you learn?

- What Active Citizenship is & how Political Systems work
- It will provide you with the confidence to engage effectively as leaders and to help create change
- It will support you to work through conflict within groups
- It will teach you how to engage in the decision-making process at various levels
- It will provide an understand political ideologies, power and how we live as citizens
- And it will provide the 'How to' of lobbying, its process and purpose

This course will begin in early Autumn in Roscommon LEADER Partnership Offices, Roscommon Town, one evening per week for 7 weeks and one full Saturday (*this may be subject to change based on consultation with course participants*).

The course is free; however places are limited and early booking is advisable.

For more information, or to request an application form, please contact Linda on (090) 663 0252 or email linda@ridc.ie.



Non Accredited Training for potential Back to Work Enterprise Allowance Clients (BTWEA)

Need

- Need highlighted when 77 people attended 6 self employment workshops held throughout County Roscommon during April & May 2015
- Long-term unemployed setting up enterprises need training and mentoring supports
- Tailormade specialist training and mentoring that helps to build confidence in the long-term unemployed who want to set up enterprises
- Main needs are around enterprise feasibility for pre-enterprise clients and business planning training for those preparing to go on the Back the Work Enterprise Allowance Scheme
- Completion of a business plan is a requirement for going on the Back to Work Enterprise Allowance Scheme

Training & Mentoring Courses

Could I be my Own Boss? This training course is targeting at the pre-enterprise stage. Participants are mentored & trained in how to appraise and evaluate their enterprise ideas with regard to the potential viability of their projects.

Business Planning Business planning training consists of group and one-to-one training sessions that mainly cover market research techniques, marketing strategies and financial projections. The outcome from this training is a completed business plan.

Introduction to Bookkeeping Back to Work Enterprise Allowance clients are introduced to basic bookkeeping skills.

The above training and mentoring courses are provided when a suitable number of participants can be identified. Potential Back to Work Enterprise Allowance clients are also referred to a wider choice of training and mentoring options that can add further value through the Local Enterprise Office.

For further information, contact Noel on (090) 663 0252 or email noel@ridc.ie.