

Roscommon LEADER Partnership's

2022 Annual Report



Arna chomhchistiú ag an Aontas Eorpach
Co-funded by the European Union

Ár dTodhchaí Tuaithe
Our Rural Future



government supporting communities



The LEADER Programme 2014-2020 is financed by the Department of Rural and Community Development under the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 and by the EU under the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas.

This project is co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union or The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) is co-funded by the Government of Ireland, through the Department of Rural and Community Development, and the European Union



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Welcome From Our Chairperson



It is with great pride and a profound sense of optimism that I convey my message for the company's 2022 annual report. As we reflect upon the past year's journey, emerging from the shadow of the COVID-19 pandemic, I am thrilled to share the progress made and initiatives that defined our year. The year 2022 will be remembered for the remarkable qualities of resilience and adaptability that have been at the core of Roscommon LEADER Partnership's (RLP's) ongoing success. Despite the persistent global challenges over the past two years, RLP's team has demonstrated unwavering dedication to our mission and a profound support for one another. This collective spirit has been instrumental in guiding RLP through turbulent times and enabling RLP to thrive in an ever-changing landscape.

In retrospect, 2022 stands as a testament to RLP's success. As an organisation, RLP exceeded numerous targets set with our funders for the programmes we deliver. Throughout the year, we extended our support to more individuals and community groups than ever before, making a significant impact through our programmes and services. In making this statement, we extend our appreciation to our funding agencies, as the invaluable support provided by them is the cornerstone of RLP's ability to carry out its essential work.

A pivotal moment in 2022 was the launch of RLP's new strategic plan, unveiled in late spring this year. This plan promises to be a valuable asset for the organisation. Moreover, around the time of the plan's launch, it was particularly exciting to witness the return of all staff members to their respective workplaces, marking a significant shift from remote

work. This transition allowed RLP to deepen its integration with the community, further enhancing RLP's ability to deliver services.

I take immense pride in the work of RLP this year, particularly in the commendable manner in which the RLP team united at the onset of the Ukrainian war to welcome Ukrainian refugees as they arrived in County Roscommon. The team's extraordinary dedication is truly remarkable, and I take immense pride in the programmes and initiatives they are currently implementing to sustain and expand our support. Furthermore, I am immensely proud of the success of the diverse range of initiatives within the organisation, including the introduction of enhanced services which are outlined further in this report.

Looking ahead, I have every confidence that the organisation will continue its successful journey, making a lasting impact on the lives of many and the communities in County Roscommon.

Our core values and our history of achievements are firmly grounded in the principles of equality of access and an unwavering commitment to serving our communities. The significance of Roscommon LEADER Partnership's continued role in rural and community development, social inclusion, and activation has never been more evident than in recent times.

In closing, I wish to extend my sincere gratitude to my fellow board members, the dedicated volunteers who fortify our endeavours, and our exceptional staff for their tireless work and unwavering commitment to our core purpose. It is your collective dedication that paves the way for our continued success.



Ceo Statement



I am pleased to present to you Roscommon LEADER Partnership's 2022 report, which highlights our company's accomplishments in 2022. This report covers our activities, successes, and challenges. It also outlines the strategies and plans we implemented for the year. We hope this report will give you a better understanding of our work and our commitment to serving our community.

Besides highlighting the wide range of impacts across employment, well-being, inclusion, rural enterprise, community services, youth services, and the environment, the annual report also spotlights some highlights. The report highlights the success of a variety of initiatives, such as the introduction of enhanced services such as the new Growing Tree childcare service. In addition, it illustrates how the LEADER and SICAP programs support emerging businesses and create new job opportunities. The report applauds the local community's dedication to ensuring a better future.

In addition to thanking our Board of Directors, volunteers, and employees who fill 86 staff positions and participate in 20 employment programmes, I also wish to thank my colleagues. Your support has been invaluable and has helped to make Roscommon LEADER Partnership a great organisation. Thank you for your hard work and dedication and for being a true partner in our success. I look forward to continuing our work together.

Our work would not be possible without the support of our funding agencies/departments and their employees. In particular, I want to thank Roscommon County Council, members of the

Roscommon LCDC and CYPSC, as well as DRCD, Tusla, HSE, DSP, DCEDIY, GRET, Leargas and other funders for their support in ensuring that resources are made available to communities and businesses in the County whom we supported in 2022.

In February and March, the impact of the Ukraine war was felt across the company. This was especially in the Social Inclusion, TUS, RSS & LEADER teams as they worked together with and supported the Ukrainians as they arrived in the County. Throughout the process, the RLP SICAP team built trust and became a key point of contact for the Ukrainians, assisting with DSP registration, basic items and clothing needs, and immediate medical care. During 2022, a deeper understanding of long-term needs was revealed, and this has progressed further.

In addition, RLP is awaiting the SICAP call tender for 2024-2027, which is expected in early 2023, as well as the Rural Development Programme (LEADER) call to tender for 2024-2027. In 2023, preparations for these tenders will be expanded. RLP will focus on developing strategic partnerships with key stakeholders to ensure that it has the resources and expertise necessary to win the tenders. RLP will also review its current strategies and plans to ensure they are in line with the new tenders. Finally, RLP will create a plan of action to ensure the successful execution of the tenders.

All of our doors are open, and our staff are both willing and capable of providing assistance. We encourage everyone to take advantage of our services. Our staff are eager to help and answer any questions you may have. Please come in and visit us.



Company Governance

Incorporated as Roscommon Integrated Development Company CLG, Roscommon LEADER Partnership (RLP) is a company limited by guarantee and registered charity (CRO 455844 / Charity Registration 18467). Members of the Roscommon LEADER Partnership Board of Directors come from local community groups, statutory organisations and other public bodies.

RLP’s Board is guided by five overarching principles of good governance. These principles include integrity, responsibility, accountability, transparency, and fairness. Good governance principles ensure that RLP’s Board acts in the best interest of the organisation’s stakeholders. The Board of Directors is expected to provide leadership to the organisation, exercise control, be transparent in its dealings, and be accountable to its members and funders. Integrity and effective communication are also expected of directors.

Measures of quality and management effectiveness include:

- The Charities Regulator Authority (CRA) Governance Code

- The Statement of Recommended Practice for preparation and presentation of the Financial Statements

In addition to the 14-person Board of Directors, the company is managed by:

- RLP Board meetings held bi-monthly there were, 5 in 2022.
- The RLP Management Sub Board who have delegated responsibility for the HR, finance, Policy, Audit and Governance functions of the company met held monthly meeting, meeting 12 times in 2022.

The CEO of RLP oversees the company on a daily basis with the assistance of the Operations Manager, Lead SICAP Co-Ordinator, Ballaghaderreen SICAP Co-Ordinator, TUS & RSS Co-ordinator, Chief Financial Officer, and various teams within the company.

Our main office is located in Roscommon town, with four other offices located in Arigna, Castlerea, Boyle, and Ballaghaderreen with an outreach office in Monksland.

Overview

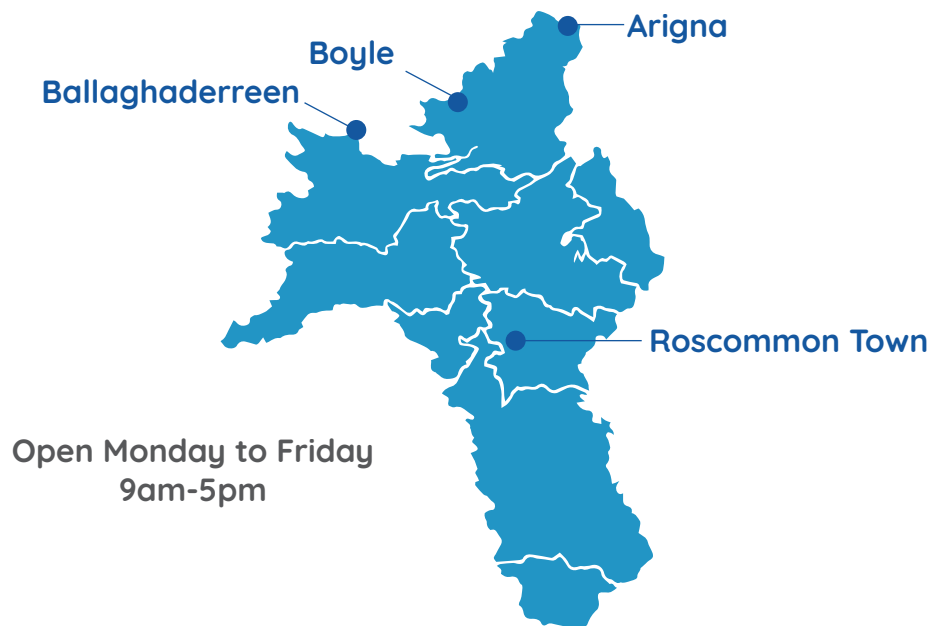
Roscommon LEADER Partnership is a partnership of agencies and groups representing the community, statutory and private sectors forming an Integrated Development Company and registered charity. It is funded by several government departments and agencies to deliver a variety of programmes and supports to individuals, communities, and businesses in Co. Roscommon.

The company was established in 2008 following the amalgamation of three organisations and traces its origins back to its securing of the LEADER programme in 1991 and the Local Development programme in 1995. Roscommon LEADER Partnership is governed by an independent Board of voluntary Directors. Sub- committees are in place under the board to oversee specific programmes and company governance areas.



As of 31 December 2022, Roscommon LEADER Partnerships Board membership was comprised as follows:

Trustee	Sector Represented
Micheal Frain	Community - Ballaghaderreen
Seamus Conway	National Social Partner - Trade Union
Anton Lennon	Community - Athlone
Tom Gunning	National Social Partner - ICOS
Brian Nerney	National Social Partner - IBEC
John Hanley	State Agency - IFA
Pat Compton	State Agency - An Post
Niall Rogers	Community - Roscommon
Stephanie O'Connor Shaw	State Agency - GRETB
Paraic Noone	Social Inclusion - Keadue Social Services
Marianne Fallon	Social Inclusion - Brothers of Charity
Caroline Duignan	State Agency - Tusla
Karen Keaveney	State Agency - UCD





Systems

RLP manages its day-to-day accounting with the SAGE accounting system and pays its employees with Collsoft Payroll. Reporting, expenditures, KPI's, and other activities are maintained and monitored by RLP's utilisation of the many CRM systems provided by the various programme funders. In 2022, the company successfully implemented the HR Locker system underpinned by staff training. In addition to being a people management and HR software platform, HR Locker is also designed for Not-for-Profit organisations.

Additionally, staff training and development programmes in 2022 are outlined below in summary:

- HR Locker Training
- Data Protection Training
- Túsla "Introduction to Children First" E-Learning Programme
- Training on Update Child Safeguarding Policy
- Manual Handling Training
- Fire Safety Training
- Safe Pass Training
- Training on Updated Employee Handbook
- Dignity & Respect at Work Training

Procedures & Policies

In October 2022, the company's Board approved amendments to its detailed procedures manual. The RLP employee handbook was also updated in November 2022.

Risk assessments are retained by the company, and were revised in 2022. All RLP employees are aware of the Company's Data Protection Policy, along with the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) requirements, and all new company policies and procedures are drafted with GDPR in mind.



Other policies, which were updated in 2022:

- **RLP Child Safeguarding Statement was updated and approved by the management sub board and Board in July 2022 & rolled out to all staff in August 2022.**
- **Equality Work, Customer Charter, Code of Practice and Feedback Policy approved by the Board in 2022**
- **RLP Governance Handbook approved by the Board in June 2022**
- **Financial Procedures approved by the Board in June 2022**
- **CCTV policies approved by the Board in June 2022**

In accordance with its various funders' procedure guidelines, and requirements, RLP delivered its reports on time.

Principal Risks Identified

RLP is mainly dependent on income provided from Government, Local Government and Semi-State funders. As with similar government funded companies, the Company is affected by both the budgetary constraints implemented by the government and by external economic restraints. The Directors have taken the necessary measures to manage these risks and have a risk register in place. Our internal admin team carry out a yearly audit of our compliance with our Finance and Administration Procedures Document and provide a report to the Board. Risks relating to tendering processes, which will be the focus of 2023.

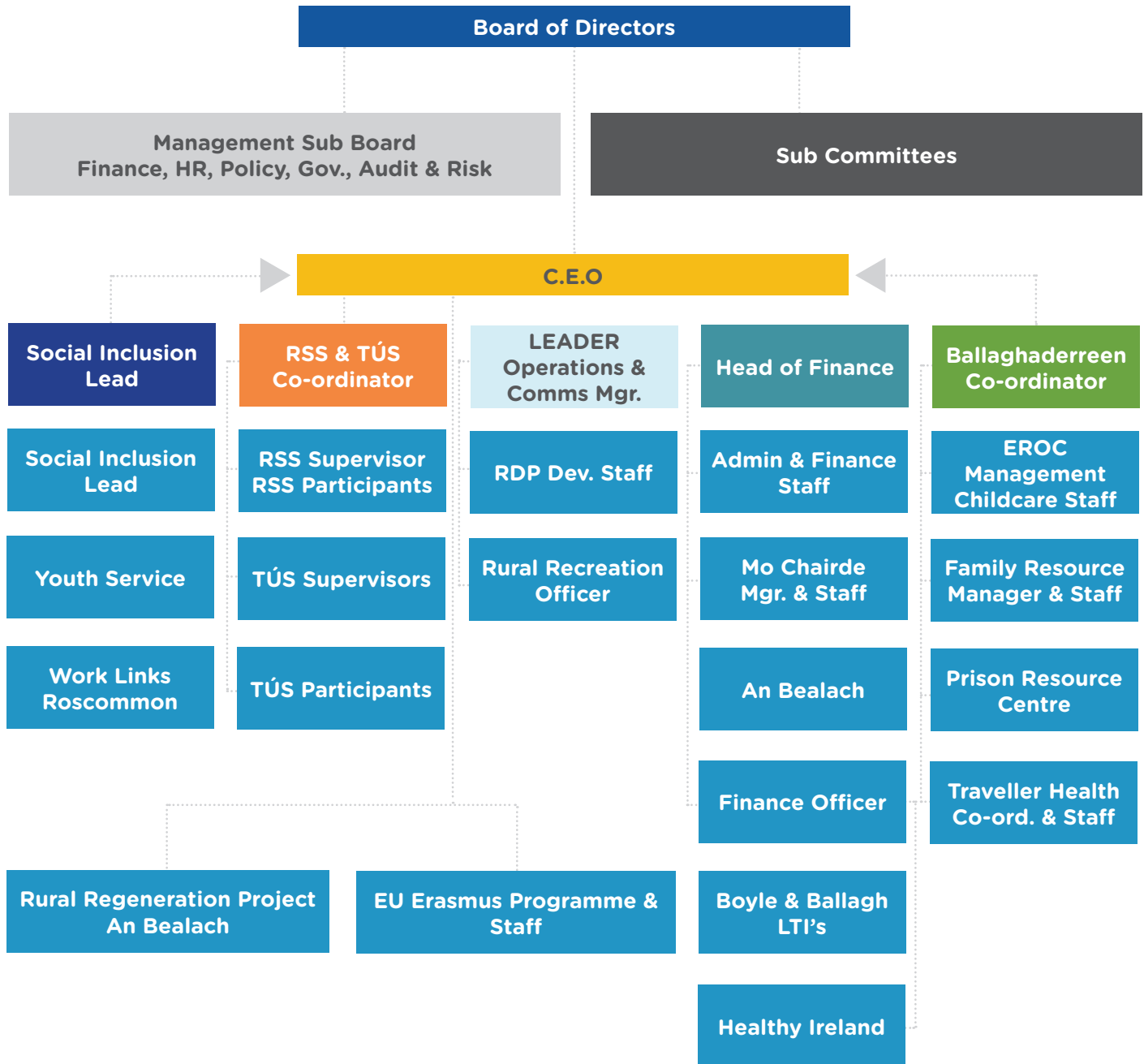
Charitable Purpose

Charitable Objects

The main object of the Company is to promote, support, assist and engage in (a) social development, (b) enterprise development to facilitate rural and urban regeneration or (c) community development, designed to benefit and promote the welfare of local communities or to deal with the causes and consequences of social and economic disadvantage or poverty.



Organisational Chart as of the 31.12.2022





Rural Development Programme LEADER

Roscommon Local Community Development Committee (LDCD) is the Local Action Group (LAG) for the LEADER Programme 2014-2020 in Co. Roscommon. RLP is the Implementing Partner for the delivery of the LEADER Programme 2014-2020 in Co. Roscommon. This role includes all interactions with the Promoter(s), up to and including processing of grant claim stage and ongoing monitoring of projects post payment. By the end of 2022, the Company had achieved 100% in terms of programme implementation.

LEADER Projects information for 2022:

Programme	Transitional LEADER Programme		European Union Recovery Instrument (EURI)		Co-operation		Food		TOTAL	
	Grant Expenditure	Number of projects	Grant Expenditure	Number of projects	Grant Expenditure	Number of projects	Grant Expenditure	Number of projects	Grant Expenditure	Number of projects
Rural Tourism	€0.00	0	€17,178.54	2	€0.00	0	€0.00	0	€17,178.54	2
Enterprise Development	€195,679.98	2	€461,137.37	6	€0.00	0	€0.00	0	€656,817.35	8
Rural Towns	€0.00	0	€0.00	0	€0.00	0	€0.00	0	€0.00	0
Basic Services	€60,407.40	2	€116,092.64	3	€0.00	0	€0.00	0	€176,500.04	5
Rural Youth	€0.00	0	€0.00	0	€0.00	0	€0.00	0	€0.00	0
Water resources	€0.00	0	€0.00	0	€0.00	0	€0.00	0	€0.00	0
Biodiversity	€0.00	0	€0.00	0	€0.00	0	€0.00	0	€0.00	0
Renewable energy	€22,727.30	1	€0.00	0	€0.00	0	€0.00	0	€22,727.30	1
Total	€278,814.68	5	€594,408.55	11	€0.00	0	€0.00	0	€873,223.23	16



Transitional LEADER Programme

The Total amount of funding:	€278,814.68
The Total no of projects funded:	5
The Total no of community led projects funded:	4
The Total no of private enterprise led projects funded:	1

European Union Recovery Instrument (EURI)

The Total amount of funding:	€594,408.55
The Total no of projects funded:	11
The Total no of community led projects funded:	4
The Total no of private enterprise led projects funded:	7



TOTAL

The Total amount of funding:	€873,223.23
The Total no of projects funded:	16
The Total no of community led projects funded:	8
The Total no of private enterprise led projects funded:	8



Images of LEADER funded projects





The Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme

Numbers for 2022

Total no of SICAP registered individuals supported	530
Total number of newly registered individuals supported	392
No's of individuals supported living in disadvantaged areas	168
Total number of children supported from disadvantaged areas	30
Total number of LCGs supported	58
No of people on SICAP funded courses (where the course was at least partly funded by SICAP)	447
No of individuals that completed lifelong learning supports	243
No of Individual follow up self-employment supports trading	24
No of individuals that completed labour market supports	306
No of individuals supported into employment	18
No of Ukrainians supported	109
No of course delivered	68
No of social enterprises supported	6
No of individual supported through self-employment supports and pre start up	70



SICAP addresses high and persistent levels of deprivation through targeted and innovative, locally led approaches. It targets and supports those who are disadvantaged in society and less likely to use mainstream services and assists both individuals and groups.

The Programme has two service provision goals, as follows:

Goal 1: Supporting Communities

To support communities and target groups to engage with relevant stakeholders in identifying and addressing social exclusion and equality issues, developing the capacity of Local Community Groups, and creating more sustainable communities.

Goal 2: Supporting Individuals

To support disadvantaged individuals to improve the quality of their lives through the provision of lifelong learning and labour market supports

SICAP highlights from 2022

Minister Joe O'Brien TD for Dublin Fingal, visited Roscommon on 29th April. He officially launched Roscommon Leader Partnership's (RLP's) strategic plans for TUS and the Rural Social Scheme (RSS). He visited the Family Resource Centre and cut the ribbon to officially open the new Childcare Centre in Ballaghaderreen, where he met early years learners, RSS members and RLP staff. There was also a presentation of the Ukrainian Refugee Reception Centre where service provision is being supported by RLP through our SICAP programme.

In 2022 we needed to respond to the Ukrainian Crises. We commenced by supporting the Ukrainians seeking refuge in our county, fleeing the war in their homeland, involves deploying staff to coordinate the provision of assistance. We are collaborating closely with all relevant agencies on the ground to facilitate a smooth transition for all Ukrainians coming here.

In this unparalleled humanitarian crisis, we understand the significance of minimizing bureaucracy and ensuring swift access to support and services for the Ukrainian community. Recognizing the enduring spirit of compassion and commitment within Roscommon communities, we believe that, now more than ever, these communities will warmly welcome Ukrainians to Co. Roscommon. We are positioned as an information hub for host families.

We actively identifying various forms of support, including childcare, housing, GP referrals, English classes, and labor market assistance. Our collaboration with Roscommon County Council, local social enterprises, and businesses is integral to supporting the operation of Cuisle. The aim is to provide comprehensive aid and resources for a successful integration process.

A job fair was conducted at Kilbride Community to facilitate the integration of new arrivals into the workforce. Morning, a sizable crowd, primarily composed of refugees from Ukraine, gathered at Kilbride Community Centre for the job fair.



Numerous employers participated in the event, offering a multitude of job opportunities in various sectors such as hospitality, administration, maintenance, the motor industry, healthcare, sales, and medical GP practice, among others.

Ongoing efforts in job preparation, CV compilation, development of personal action plans, and the provision of various supports and referrals are being diligently carried out by the staff, ensuring continued assistance for those seeking employment opportunities.



Social Enterprise and Self-Employment Awards

County Roscommon’s Social Enterprise and Self-Employment Awards, which were held on October 14th, 2022, were an outstanding success, showcasing the dedication and innovation of social enterprises and self-employed individuals.

The Minister for Social Protection and Rural & Community Development addressed the crowd with a video presentation. In the meantime, Carrie Ann Moran, Sustainability and Circular Economy Business Expert, and Dr. Nicholas O’Sheil, Chief Executive of Omagh Enterprise Centre, gave presentations while the judges deliberated.

Roscommon LEADER Partnership, Roscommon Herald, and Shannonside FM co-hosted the awards ceremony to promote the role of self-employed businesses and social enterprises in the County. It

was a testament to the power of local communities coming together and supporting one another. On the night, judges included Western Development Commission, Shannonside FM, Roscommon Herald, and NC Training Consultant and the Local Enterprise Office.





The winners of each category, Roscommon Windows and Triest Press, received 2,000 euros, and the runners-up, Lough Ree Access for All and Enhanced Motion, received 500 euros. Further enhancing their visibility in the community, Shannonside FM and the Roscommon Herald offered one lucky winner a comprehensive advertising deal.



TUS Programme

Tús is an activation initiative for those who are unemployed and on the Live Register. Tús will provide short-term quality and suitable working opportunities for people who are unemployed while at the same time carrying out beneficial work within communities.

RLP Supervisory staff endeavour to source work best suited to the participant in terms of location, abilities and areas of interest that might help build confidence and skills and also, best match the needs of the Community group or voluntary organisation.

Participants continue to work across a variety of environments in the county and engage in various disciplines and types of projects.

Through their involvement on the Tús scheme in 2022, our participants have developed their lack of confidence, experienced new work environments, gained experience in the work place and enhanced their skills base for re-entry to the workforce.

The programme continues to be well received in the community and is reflected in the significant number of community group and voluntary organisations seeking assistance through the Tús programme in 2022.

Tus Partnership placement by job



Roscommon Town
Village enhancement,
Admin, Caretaking,
Retail
37

Ballinasheglish
Village Enhancement
2

Donamon
Admin
1

Creggs
Village Enhancement
1

Kilbegnet
Admin
1

Dysart
Village Enhancement
1

Cloonfad
Walks, Maintenance,
Community Centre
4

Ballaghaderreen
Village Enhancement
Admin
22

Gorthaganny
Village Enhancement,
Caretaking
3

Cloonkuskert
Village Enhancement,
1

Kimurray
Caretaking
2

Knockcroghery
Caretaking /
Maintenance
1

Ballyleague
Admin
1

Castlerea
Maintenance, Charity,
Shops, Resource Centre,
Caretaking
1

Ballinlough
Village Enhancement,
Admin
3



Work placement example

The TÚS Community Work Placement Initiative has been offering support to the Irish Wheelchair Association (IWA) Charity Shop since 2015. The Irish Wheelchair Association charity shop in Roscommon town is vital to the organisation. The charity shop provides local communities with new and lightly worn items at affordable prices, and also provides the organisation with an income source that directly funds essential services for people with physical disabilities. The charity shop is managed by a professional retail team and assisted by a large number of amazing volunteers and TÚS participants.



In August 2020, Eva Dzurikova a member of the Roma Community commenced on the TÚS Community Work Placement Initiative. During this time Eva developed her English language whilst learning new retail skills, due to the COVID - 19 pandemic Eva was granted an extension to her contact this allowed her to further develop her skills. Eva can stay on TÚS until February 2023 and the IWA charity shop have already offered her a part-time position within the shop when she is finishes on TÚS.



The TÚS Community Work Placement Initiative continues to offer employment support to the IWA charity shop.



Rural Social Scheme

The Rural Social Scheme is a part-time flexible employment opportunity for low income farmers. Participants on the scheme work 19.5 hours per week with local community organisations.

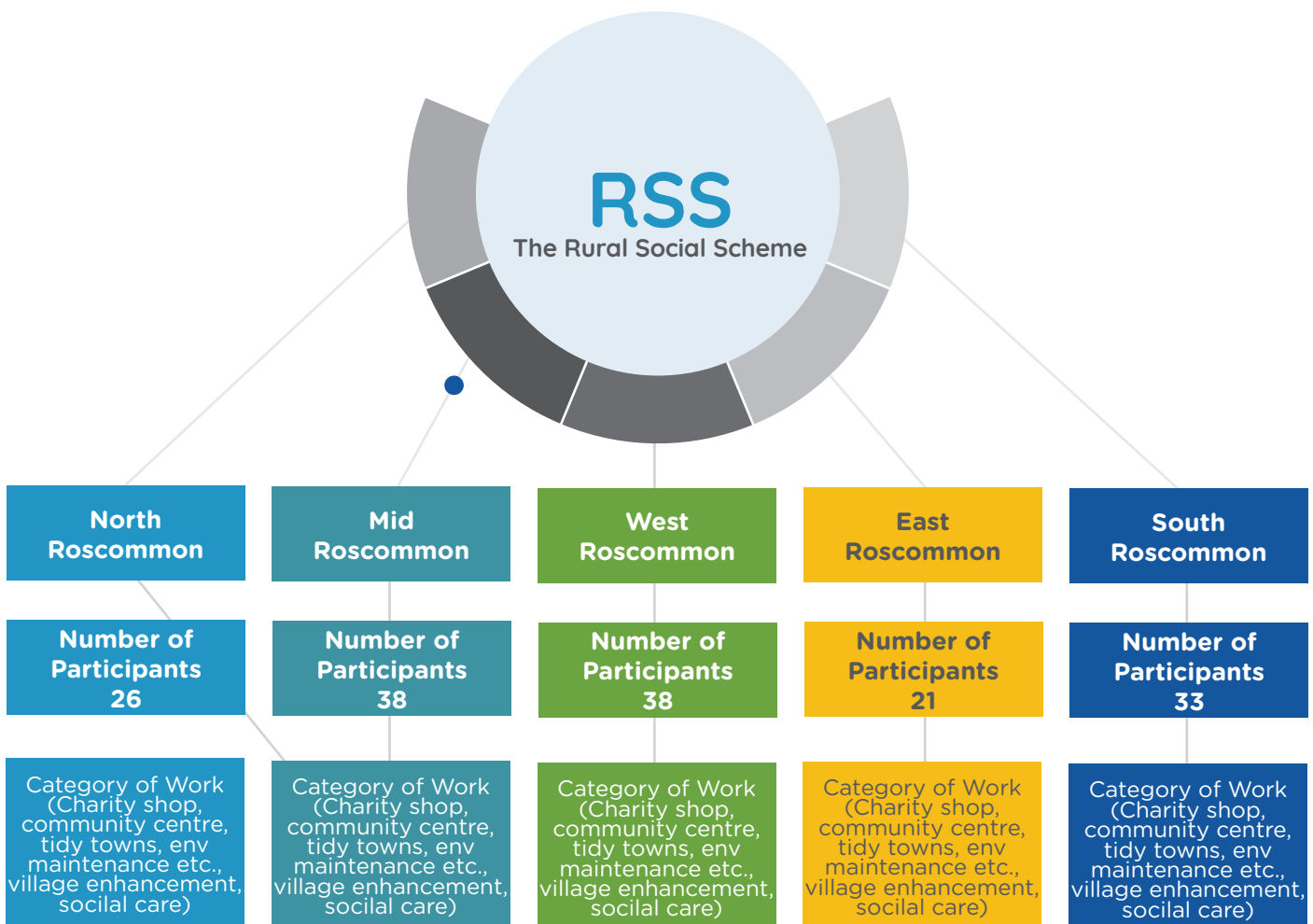
The numbers of people applying for the RSS has declined in recent years for a number of reasons but mainly due to the strict eligibility criteria for the scheme and the fact that most farmers are now working outside of the farm in full time employment.

As you will see a number of Participants left the scheme to take up employment in 2022 which rarely happened in the past.

We are actively recruiting for Participants through local media outlets, social media, local DSP offices, teagasc etc.

Many projects were completed by the RSS Participants and Supervisors in 2022 and despite the decline in numbers the work carried out by the RSS team is still outstanding and a credit to all employees involved.

The scheme is a model of co-operation between Roscommon LEADER Partnership, local Communities, Supervisors and Participants.





Rural Social Scheme working with The Growing Tree 2 in 2022

The Rural Social Scheme has been providing a much needed services to local voluntary and community groups in Roscommon for the past 18 years and 2022 is no different.

One of the projects that we worked on throughout 2022 which we are very proud of is the Growing Tree 2 Childcare facility which provides early years' education in Ballaghaderreen.

Ballaghaderreen town had no early pre-school services since August 2019 when the existing service closed unexpectedly. It was agreed that Roscommon Leader Partnership through its Rural Social Scheme would work with the management team in facilitating the opening of a much needed service for the children of the area.

Working alongside the Project Co-ordinator and the Growing Tree Manager the RSS team assisted in preparing the facility for opening and ensuring all ECCE standards are complied with. The work included.

- **Cleaning of site.**
- **Removal of all equipment from the building in preparation for renovations.**
- **Painting of the entire centre.**
- **Erecting shelving, coat hangers, presses pictures etc.**
- **Power washing, outside play area, sanding and painting all external timber including timber shed**
- **Laying foam on outside play area and erecting foam protection on steel girders in the play area**
- **Preparing flower beds and ground works in the play area.**

With the support of the Roscommon County Childcare Committee and Roscommon LEADER Partnership (RLP), community childcare services were up and running in September 2022 in time for the new ECCE year.

The service is fulfilling a considerable local need by providing essential early years education in literacy, numeracy and other aspects of formative education. The centre open in September 2022 catering for 36 pre-school children under the Early Childhood Care and Education ECCE.





Roscommon Youth Service

The aim of the service is to provide support for young people living in county Roscommon aged 10-24 years who are at risk of not reaching their full potential due to a variety of factors including but not limited to economic disadvantage, marginalisation, rural isolation, social isolation, mental health concerns, disability etc.

Roscommon Youth Service 2 is a mobile service working in Elphin, Strokestown, Monksland, Ballyfarnon and those with disabilities in Roscommon. To provide this mobile service in each area we rent the local Community Centres which is a youth friendly space and creates no barriers to the young people accessing the service. In Ballyforan we recently brokered an agreement with Roscommon County Council to utilise a free unit onsite to enable the Youth Service to provide and deliver a sustainable and reliable Youth service in an environment where the families can access and will engage with on a regular occurrence. This will not only benefit Roscommon Youth Service, but services such as the afterschool support service will be able to deliver their programme onsite without any barriers.

The service supports young people through a variety of different methods such as structured and unstructured group work, individual work, residential trips, Support of young volunteers, outreach and advocacy. In 2022 we supported young people receive counselling and play therapy where required while also supporting families through individual and group work.

Throughout 2022, the young people participated in a variety of activities enabling them to build on much needed life skills such as confidence, personal and interpersonal skills, independence, social skills, relationship with peer and resilience. This was completed through a variety of non-formal methods such as, Music Generation, Pizza making, Tidy Towns bulbs for bee's project, farm walks, Quizzes, Arts & Crafts, Exploring their local areas, STEAM, Upcycling Fashion Show, Board games, Lego, HYPE music festival and team building trips to name a few.

Two of our young people represented Roscommon Youth Service and their community at the Youth Service at the National Rural Youth Assembly in Dublin.

ACORN

Roscommon Youth Service was also involved an Erasmus Project focusing on Activating Young Rural Development (ACORN). Activating Young Rural Development (ACORN) is a landmark project for European Year of Youth 2022 which will develop a new suite of resources including a transferable mechanism for youth inclusive rural development in Europe. Championed by partners in four European regions during the lifetime of the project, ACORN will engage, empower and inspire rural young people to become active citizens, co-creators and implementers of rural development initiatives. The project creates lasting and powerful impact by contributing to a stronger, connected, resilient and more prosperous rural Europe, especially for rural youth. There are 5 countries involved in this project these include, Malta, Slovenia, Spain, Denmark and Ireland.



Gaisce- Certificate of Participation
Bulb for Bees



Farm walk, Farm safety, Haltering and cleaning
animals, preparing stock for shows.



Board Games



Lego Challenge



Air Suspension



HYPE Youth Festival



Lilliput Adventure Center



Dublin Zoo



The Growing Tree Childcare and Early Years education services

The two Growing Tree Childcare and Early Years education services are based in convent road and the EROC Centre in Ballaghaderreen. The centre based in the EROC centre was open in 2018 for 50 weeks of the year from 9.30am to 2.30pm Monday to Friday offering a Part- Time Service.

The centre based on Convent road was extensively redeveloped in the Summer of 2022 with our talented Rural Social Services team playing a central in realising the transformation of a derelict building into a fulling functioning sessional service. Doors were opened on September 26th 2022.

In 2022 the combined services supported 79 children in total to access early childhood care education, having by the end of 2022 10 people working in the services (this includes 2 staff on long term sick leave). The staff are very helpful in assisting children who do not have English as their first language, to settle in the service and help with the settling in process and translating information. Many staff have attended training on “Working With Children who have been through Trauma” and “Working with children where English is not their first language”.

Traveller Health Initiative Aim

- Improve the Health and Wellbeing of Travellers in Co. Roscommon; through initiatives in collaboration with Travellers and Health Service provides
- Increasing the empowerment and participation of Travellers in addressing health inequalities highlighted in the All Ireland Traveller Health Study



Focus is on community wellness and prevention

HSE funded and managed by Roscommon LEADER Partnership

Peer Led Primary Health Care Project - KPI returns HSE on Cardiovascular, Diabetes and Mental Health

3 members of the Traveller Community employed as healthcare workers

Men's Health Work

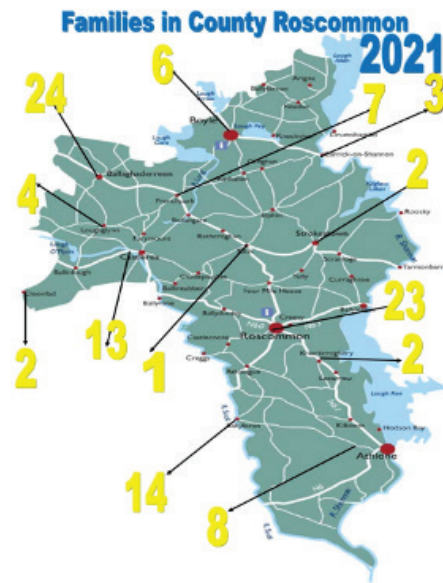
Social Determinants of Health

Education, Employment, Accommodation, Poverty, Discrimination, Lifestyle and Access/Utilisation of services



No of males reached	79 Individuals KPI's of Cardio, Mental Health and Diabetes
No of females reached	65 individuals KPI's of Cardio, Mental Health and Diabetes
Total no of health topics covered	12
Total no of contacts	
Total no of contacts	115 Households approx. 241 adults
Total no of supported	
Total no of supported	Adults and Children approx. 500 in 2022

520
 Members of the Traveller Community in Roscommon registered on our database receiving supports



Men's Health

Supports in Boyle, Ballaghaderreen and Ballinagare on boxing club and gym memberships. Approximately 31 boxing club members supported. Facilitated Soccer training with 5 men once a week in Ballinagare in preparation for soccer tournament, 13 men attended 3 events. Attended a presentation on Masculinities and Men's Health - What Does Real Change Look Like?



Men's Health Week June 2022



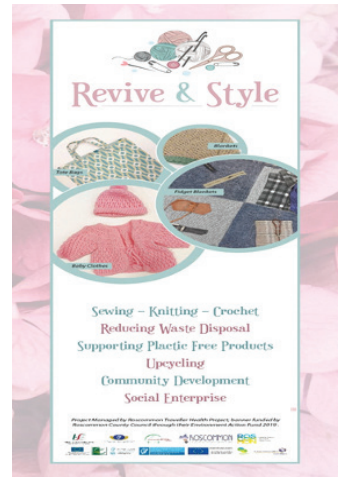
Boxing Club and Soccer Tournament Participants Supported with gear and fitness bags





Revive and Style

Supports to Early Years Committee and Healthy Ireland in the making of bags and puppets for Children. Making and Provision of masks to families that request them. Making and Provision of masks to families that request them. Revive and Style continued to make products such as tote bags, baby knits and fidget blankets. Continued to explore establishing Revive & Style as a potential Social Enterprise



**Cultural Action even and CHW in attendance July 2022
Tusla Foster Recruitment Campaign**



Family Support

TUSLA funds the employment of a dedicated Family Support position that provides support and guidance to families in ways that are culturally sensitive and competent. The Family worker works with children and families building on their strengths and supporting them to overcome difficulties. We recognise that each family is unique and all families need support at different times in their lives. Underpinning the company’s Children First safeguarding agenda, this resource is of vital importance.

The Family Support worker provides advice, support to families, helping them to identify and find appropriate ways of solving the issues that come up in the day to day management of family life and will sign post them to appropriate services as required.

The Family Support worker is part of a team that works together to ensure the best possible outcomes for children.

They provide support to families, enabling them to make informed decisions about their children’s safety and wellbeing.

They also provide a link between the family and the relevant services and professionals.

They are also a Parenting Support Champion and part of the National Project since 2016 where there is a collaboration between practitioners and parents to learn and share information about Parenting and the Parenting24seven messages(Developed by the PSC National Project). The aim of this work is to support Parenting in Ireland and to promote Parenting24seven.

They deliver various parenting programmes to best suit the needs of the families attending the service Common Sense Parenting, Parenting When Separated, Parenting Plus Early Years Programme, Parenting Plus Parenting Core Programme, Mindful Parenting.

They also work using the Marte Meo method which is a video-based interaction programme that provides concrete and practical information to parents, carers, teachers and professionals on supporting the social, emotional and communication development of children and adolescents in daily interaction moments. Marte Meo is a strength-based programme – it looks at what a child can do and where they might need extra support in their personal development.

They have also set up, developed and run the Roscommon Parenting Hub on facebook providing up to date information on programmes, events or workshops coming up in the county of Roscommon. This online resource provides parents with the advice, practical support and relevant information that they may need.

They also run the Family Support Drop In Clinic in collaboration with the Roscommon Family Resource Centre.

No of face to face visits in 2022	210 face to face visits
No of families supported in 2022	10 families long term families plus 30 through the Family support Drop In Clinic and delivery of parenting programmes



Ballaghaderreen Family Resource Centre

Roscommon LEADER established an interagency Family Resource Centre in Ballaghaderreen and is currently hosting the project. Engagement with the ROMA community in Ballaghaderreen depends on the ability to connect with all the Family Resource Centres in the County. A variety of services are provided by the FRC to socially vulnerable individuals, and by interacting and engaging with the FRC, RLP can offer a more comprehensive service to clients, giving them a greater opportunity to engage with all the various programs the company offers.

The FRC supports and enhancing the well-being of individuals and families within their local communities. Services that FRC provide:

Support Services:

The FRC offer various support services to families facing challenges, parenting support, and assistance with family issues.

Information and Advice:

The FRC serve as a valuable source of information and advice on a wide range of topics, including health, education, social services, and community resources.

Parenting Programs:

The FRC often organise parenting programs and workshops to help parents develop effective parenting skills, address behavioral issues, and foster positive family dynamics.

Youth Programs:

Programs and activities for children and youth are commonly provided, including after-school programs, homework assistance, and recreational activities.eg Logo and Craft groups

Community Development:

FRC is actively engaged in community development initiatives, collaborating with local organisations

and authorities to address community needs and improve overall well-being.

Health and Well-being Initiatives:

Organises health-related workshops, fitness programs, and initiatives to promote overall well-being within families.

Social Inclusion:

FRC works to foster social inclusion by organising community events, social gatherings, and activities that bring community members together.

Community Advocacy:

We advocate for the needs and rights of the local community, representing community interests to policymakers and service providers.

The most noteworthy moment for 2022 was the relocation to the Old Brothers School. The transition into the newly renovated building has been nothing short of fantastic, greatly expanding the possibilities for the FRC. The move has provided the freedom to host a diverse range of events and groups, thanks to the remarkable space now available.



Before



After



Work Links Roscommon

The goal of the Work Links Roscommon (WLR) project is to provide training and assistance to individuals with disabilities, helping them complete both certified and non-certified training programs. The aim is to enhance their employment prospects, facilitate work placements, and ultimately help them secure jobs. The project collaborates with employers, empowering and enhancing their skills to hire individuals with disabilities by offering information, HR support, and employee training. This collaborative effort involves key stakeholders in County Roscommon, spanning from rural areas like Arigna to more urbanized locations such as Monksland, including larger towns like Castlerea, Boyle, Roscommon, Ballaghaderreen, and Strokestown. The project also accommodates individuals residing outside the main towns.

Roscommon LEADER Partnership has a proven history of working with people with disabilities, assisting them in identifying their strengths and goals, and supporting them in achieving progress. With experience in diverse settings, including remote rural areas and urban centers, the organisation recognizes the importance of guiding individuals with disabilities toward employment for the promotion of independent living and an improved quality of life within society.

The WLR project has recognized a significant opportunity for businesses to hire individuals with disabilities. James, for example, embarked on a new job at Hodson Bay Hotel after enrolling in a QQI level 3 Work Experience course with WLR. Through his work experience at Hodson Bay Hotel, James successfully secured paid employment, showcasing the tangible impact of the WLR project in facilitating employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.



WLR honored the accomplishments of individuals with disabilities at Hannon’s Hotel. A gathering of over a hundred family members, friends, and supporters joined to applaud the participants as they were presented with awards by Minister Frank Feighan. The recipients were acknowledged for their completion of various courses and were presented with certificates for their achievements in completing the following courses:

- QQI Level 3 Work Experience Module**
- HACCP Food Safety**
- Manual Handling**
- Healthy Food Made Easy**
- Digital Skills**
- Employability Skills Development including**
- Self-Management**
- Team Working**
- Business & Enterprise**
- Customer Awareness**
- Problem Solving**
- Communications**
- Working with Numbers**
- IT in the Workplace**
- Applying for a job**
- Exploring job opportunities**
- Rights and responsibilities at work**
- Health & Safety in the Workplace**



Rural Recreation

The Great outdoors

The Rural Recreation Office programme is funded through the Department of Rural & Community Development (DRCD). RLP employs a Rural Recreation Officer (RRO), who works with our partners in Roscommon County Council, Suck Valley Way Co-operative and Una Bhan Tourism.

RLP brings a whole of company approach to developing and maintaining our registered trails in the County and our rural social scheme teams are vital as is the goodwill and hard work of the land owners who maintain their sections of the trail. Our Rural Recreation Officer supports the continuing management of the walking, cycling and other leisure trails in the County. RLP manages the Walks Scheme payments and landowner relationship and liaises with trail stakeholders in Co. Roscommon. The RRO is assisted in the actual development and maintenance by a dedicated team of Rural Social Scheme Supervisors and participants. In 2022, RLP received funding through the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme for the following initiatives:

Enhancement of Slatta walking, running and cycling trails.

Funding to the sum of € 21,420.00 was secured for the enhancement to Slatta walking, running and cycling trails to include the upgrading of signage and pathways, and the development infrastructure for the trail.

Enhancement of Roosky walking, running and cycling trails.

Funding to the sum of €29,250 was secured for the enhancement to Roosky walking, running and cycling trails to include the upgrading of signage and pathways, and the development infrastructure for the trail.

Enhancement of Loughglinn mass path and recreation trails.

Funding to the sum of €29,700 was secured for

the enhancement of Loughglinn mass path and recreational trails. Work to include the development of a new trail and repair works to an old dam.

Walks Scheme

The Rural Recreation Development Programme includes the administration of the Walks Scheme for three priority walking trails, whereby local landowners and farmers agree to carry out essential maintenance of the trails for a bi-monthly payment. The Walks Scheme was launched nationally in 2008 and has resulted in significant improvements in the quality of our walking trails, with increased enjoyment for trail users and benefit for local businesses as tourism increases in these rural areas.

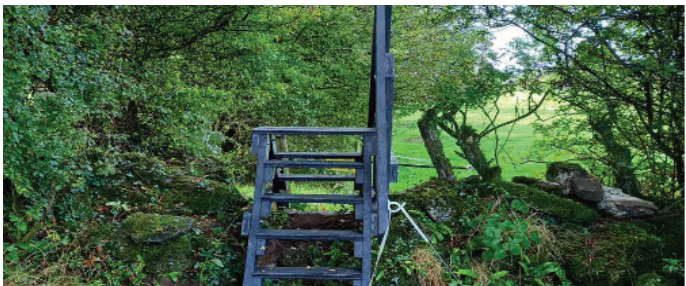
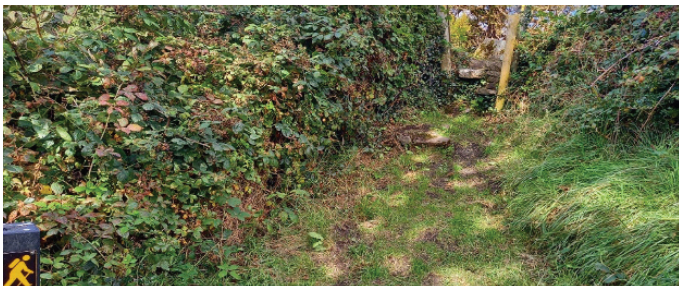


The Suck Valley Way
105Km
 in Length
86
 Landowners supported

The Miners Way & Historical Trail
60Km
 in Length
84
 Landowners supported

Lung Lough Gara Way
38Km
 in Length
9
 Landowners supported

The Walks Scheme at a glimpse...





Local Training Initiatives

Roscommon LEADER Partnership’s Local Training Initiatives (LTI) operate in Boyle, Ballaghaderreen and Carrick on Shannon

Home Improvements Skills Training Programme - Local Training Initiative

SICAP has taken the lead on researching the needs of our Rural Communities. In 2020 a study was published entitled Roscommon 2020 - ‘The Realities of Rural Living’ with a particular focus on farm families and rural dwellers, and one of a number of needs that was identified was the need to supplement the farm and household incomes with off farm employment.

This need, coupled with the ongoing shortage of skilled workforce in the area of construction, and maintenance initiative, a working partnership between Roscommon LEADER Partnership under SICAP and the Galway and Roscommon Education and Training Board was formed to deliver on an innovative Local Training Initiatives pilot programme entitled ‘Home Improvements Skills Programme’

The programme commenced in May 2022 and completed in November 2022 and based in Carrick Showgrounds, Carrick-on-Shannon. It was delivered 3 days per week over a 26-week period with 13 trainees on board. Participants received QQI L4 Certification in ‘Home Repairs and Maintenance’ which comprised of skills training in floor & wall tiling, plumbing, carpentry, slabbing, painting & decorating, block laying and plastering, workplace safety and team working. Throughout the

HOME IMPROVEMENT SKILLS PROGRAMME

COMMENCING MID MAY 2022

WE OFFER:

- QQI L4 Floor & Wall Tiling
- QQI L4 Home Repairs & Maintenance including Plumbing, Electricity, Carpentry, Slabbing, Painting & Decorating
- QQI L4 Workplace Safety
- QQI L4 Team Working
- Small Engine Repairs
- Safe Pass
- Manual Handling
- Basic IT & Digital Skills
- Landscaping/Garden Design and Maintenance
- Recycling and the Green Economy
- Start Your Own Business Workshops
- Chainsaw Operation
- Work Placement

FREE OF CHARGE

A 26 week local training initiative in the Showgrounds, Carrick on Shannon, focusing on Home Repairs & Maintenance Skills to prepare you for construction related employment / self-employment

For More Information or to Register your Interest, Contact: Anthony – 086 820 4868

Eligibility Criteria May Apply

www.letchcourses.ie

programme participants received their safe pass, manual handling, small engine repairs, chainsaw operation, concreting, fencing, timber decking, computers & digital skills, CV, job seeking and interview skills, time management, start your own business, recycling and the green economy.



For the remaining 2 days per week, participants availed of work experience to practice and improve their skillset either through their farm business or with an employer.

On completion on the first pilot programme a follow up similar programme was delivered for a new group of participants which immediately followed. On this programme 9 participants were upskilled over the 26-week period.

On completion of both programmes 9 out of the 21 participants secured full time employment within 12 weeks of completion. 3 individuals moved towards self-employment and started their general repairs, tiling & painting business, 3 secured seasonal employment and others continue to seek suitable employment.

In summary, this programme was an innovative hands-on approach to upskilling jobseekers locally and provided them with both skills and qualifications required to secure meaningful employment or self-employment and to provide the community with a much need skills set.





The LTI programme is focused on addressing the training needs of economically, socially, geographically or educationally disadvantaged learners, primarily 18 – 35 years of age, with no formal qualifications or incomplete secondary-level qualifications. It encourages learners, who otherwise might not avail of mainstream training, to develop their existing skills and learn new skills in an environment that is tailored to their particular individual needs.

RLP has three Local Training Initiative situated in Ballaghaderreen, Boyle, and Carrick.

Ballaghaderreen

Practical Computers with Word, Spreadsheets and Databases Level 4

This course is for students who would like to work in an office or administration setting, gaining practical computer skills such as Word Processing, Spreadsheets, Databases, Email, and the Internet is very beneficial and will be valuable skills on your CV. This entry-level course will provide students with those skills.

This course provides foundation knowledge in essential office and business skills such as Spreadsheets, Databases, Word Processing, Internet and email, Communications, Business English Terminology, Data Entry Skills, Reception Skills, and Functional Mathematics at QQI level 4.

This is an 11-month, full-time day course offering a QQI Major Level 4 Award in Office Skills 4M2070 on successful completion of all essential modules.

Past students of this course have gone on to work in environments that require the skills this course provides as well as using the points earned from this course to progress to a level 5 course of their choice.

Office & Business Admin with Payroll and Accounts Level 5

This course is for students who aspire to work in an office or administration setting, the Business Administration with Manual and Computerised Payroll and Bookkeeping course, will boost chances of employment in this sector. This is an 11-month, full-time day course offering a QQI Major Level 5 Award in Business Administration 5M2468 on successful completion of all essential modules.

This course provides essential office and business skills such as Payroll, Bookkeeping, Spreadsheets, Databases, Word Processing, Communications and Business Administration at QQI level 5. This program



will provide learners with the confidence, skills, and knowledge to work effectively and professionally in a modern office or administration environment.

Past students of this course have gone on to work in environments that require the skills this course provides as well as using the points earned from this course to progress to a third-level field of study.

Boyle

Boyle is a town steeped in heritage and culture and the next step is to develop tourism and market the town's local attractions and amenities. With this development in mind, the aim of this course is to enable learners to develop their skills, knowledge and competencies to work within the tourism, hospitality, cultural and heritage sectors.

Through practical modules such as Work Experience and IT along with engagement with local tourism organisations, Digital Media Technology and Tourism Visitor Care, on completion of the course, learners will be skilled to meet employment opportunities in the fast growing Tourism Sector. Learners will have a broad range of skills and tools to identify and market local attractions, amenities, services, cultural and leisure activities.

The course will lead to a Level 4 Major Award 4M0855 in ICT Skills with an additional component award in Tourism Customer Care. Learners will be able to go directly into employment or progress to programmes at the same level subject to the entry requirements for the programmes. They may also progress to Level 5 programmes on the National Framework of Qualifications subject to entry requirements.



ERASMUS+

KA1 Youth Exchange

In September 2022, we were successfully awarded € 97,732.00 from Erasmus+ to complete a project with a group of young people. The group consists of young people aged 18 to 24 years, including those with an Intellectual Disability. The Key topics for the Erasmus project are; Youth, Employability & Disabilities. We will engage our youth and participate 3 exchanges between Ireland, Greece and Spain over the duration of 24months. This project commenced in October 2022.

Throughout the duration of the exchange the participants will gain;



On Friday the 14th of October, numerous Social Enterprises & Self Employed organisations gathered in Kilbride for the Social Enterprise & Self Employment Awards which were hosted by Roscommon LEADER Partnership. Throughout the night there were multiple business and organisations that were showcasing their programs and projects. One project in particular - The ECCE (Empowering Circular Creative Entrepreneurs), which was being showcased by Roscommon LEADER Partnership, was on display.

This project, also known as “Circular Creatives” is a European funded project which aims to Empower Creative Circular Entrepreneurs to upskill creatives and aspiring creatives AND those who train them (VET educators), to embrace circular economic principles as a key tool to adapt their business to a more sustainable model that reduces costs and waste while protecting and creating jobs. This project is being undertaken by multiple European partners in Ireland, Germany, Greece, Croatia & Denmark.

- **Confidence Building and exposure to new experiences**
- **Exposure to and sharing of key words in foreign language, i.e learning how to greet in English, Spanish and Greek - Improved language skills and also use of picture/ word cards in respective languages to support learning for people with intellectual disabilities**
- **Sense of initiative and entrepreneurship - Build teamwork and interpersonal skills like conflict management, personal responsibility and problem-solving.**
- **Cultural awareness - speak confidently about their own culture. Enhanced awareness of EU Citizenship and the differences in Cultures through promotion of social inclusion and tolerance**

To further highlight the importance of introducing Circular Economy into people’s businesses, we invited a Social Entrepreneur in Sustainability and Circular Economy Fashion and Textiles, and the founder of Circular Fashion Ireland, Carrie Ann Moran, to speak at the event.





Mo Chairde

RLP delivers the Keadue Social Services Community Services programme which is a meals and wheels and active age centre, it has its own wheel chair access 16-seater mini bus and has a qualified driver employed, these transport resources are used to meet the transport needs of the clients.

Fundraising

We undertook a few fundraising activities this year, we held a pub quiz in October which was a huge success, we also held a card drive in November which was popular with great attendance on the night. We had organised a church gate collection in a local parish but had to cancel last minute due to a local funeral. We have further church collections booked for next year. We also went live with a website that has a donation link to let people donate online, we have already had a few donations through the website

Our Services

We now provide a meal on wheels to a much larger number of people than ever before and this year extended our service to a local DEIS school. We ensure to supply meals to the school that help promote healthy eating habits in children. Our dinner delivery service has grown substantially and has been a great support for the vulnerable in our area. Our laundry service has seen demand far past what we projected this year and is a vital service for some clients

Rebrand

We successfully rebranded from Keadue Social Services to Mo Chairde this year and have had a few advertisement campaigns that were very successful.

We also had features written on us in our local papers. The rebrand coincided with a revamped to our Facebook page and the creation of an all new website which has been a huge success. We are also distributing Mo Chairde branded Calendars to any person who donates to us, thus promoting our brand further

Intergenerational

Last year we could not go ahead with any intergenerational events due to COVID however we can now proceed, This December we plan on having the children from a local school come and put on a nativity play in the day room for our clients





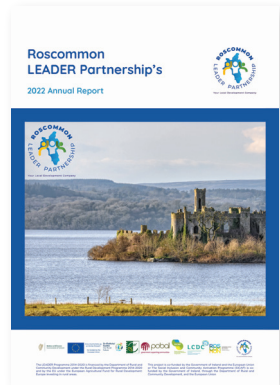
Month	Dinners in the Centre	Meals Delivered	School Dinners Delivered	Laundry
Jan	8	332	227	6
Feb	74	705	391	17
Mar	40	747	391	10
April	58	733	207	10
May	80	1046	517	8
June	59.5	824	333	9
July	59.5	879	0	9
August	47.5	768	0	8
September	61	917	620	10
October	145.5	1183	782	7
November	98	887	360	5
December	96	709	450	2
Total	827	9730	4278	101





Snap Shot Highlights Of 2022

Opening of Growing Tree 2
Pre- School in Ballaghaderreen



Launch of RLP Strategic Plan

Rebranding of RLP





Financial Statements - Summary 2022

**Roscommon Integrated Development Company Ltd by Guarantee
(A Company Limited by Guarantee and not having Share Capital)**

**Income and expenditure account
Financial year ended 31 December 2022**

	Note	2022 €	2021 €
Income	5	4,286,458	3,235,398
Gross income		4,286,458	3,235,398
Expenditure		(4,290,633)	(3,259,541)
Other operating income		10,875	10,874
	6	6,700	(13,269)
Surplus before taxation		6,700	(13,269)
Tax on surplus		-	-
Surplus for the financial year		6,700	(13,269)

All the activities of the company are from continuing operations.

The company has no other recognised items of income and expenses other than the results for the financial year as set out above.

**Roscommon Integrated Development Company Ltd by Guarantee
(A Company Limited by Guarantee and not having Share Capital)**

**Balance sheet
As at 31 December 2022**

	Note	2022 €	€	2021 €	€
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8	289,574		272,212	
			289,574		272,212
Current assets					
Debtors	9	428,726		182,889	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,659,139		1,598,792	
			2,087,865		1,781,681
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(2,085,185)		(1,757,464)	
Net current assets			2,680		24,217
Total assets less current liabilities			292,254		296,429
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	11		-		(10,875)
Net assets			292,254		285,554
Capital and reserves					
Reserves account			292,254		285,554
Members funds			292,254		285,554

These financial statements were approved by the board of directors on 23 May 2023 and signed on behalf of the board by:

Seamus Conway

Seamus Conway
Director

Michael Frain

Michael Frain
Director



Funders & Partners Acknowledgement

Without the support of our funders, our Board, Partners and Staff we would not be in a position to undertake the range and scope of the work outlined in this report nor would we be able to achieve the significant positive outcome experienced by the people we serve.

We would like to acknowledge the support of all the statutory bodies at a European, National and local level who contributed to the broader range of activities during 2022.

On behalf of the RLP team and our clients, we say thank you. Without the support of our funders, our Board, Partners and Staff we would not be in a position to undertake the range and scope of the work outlined in this report nor would we be able to achieve the significant positive outcome experienced by the people we serve.

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On behalf of the RLP team and our clients, we say thank you.



Your Local Development Company



Roscommon LEADER Partnership Company is delivering the SICAP programme on behalf of Roscommon Local Community Development Committee, which is a committee of Roscommon County Council.

The Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) is co-funded by the Irish Government, through the Development of Rural and Community Development, and the European Social Fund Plus under the Employment, Inclusion, Skills and Training (EIST) Programme 2021-2027.