

Macroom Municipal District Officer's Report

26th January 2024



1. General Municipal Allocation

To date, the following claims have been submitted in relation to the Amenity, Capital and Community Contract allocations under the GMA.

- 2021 - €159,204.80
- 2022 - €133,177.00
- 2023 - € 35,692.20

2. Town Development Fund

To date, the following claims have been submitted in relation to the Town Development Fund under the GMA.

- 2021 - €54,700
- 2022 - €53,068
- 2023 - €13,916

Below are some images of the recently completed project by Naomh Ában GAA Baile Mhuirne with addition of gym equipment to their facility. This project was completed with assistance from the Community Fund.





3. 2023 CLÁR Fund - Announcement

The CLÁR (Ceantair Laga Árd-Riachtanais) programme by Dept of Rural & Community Development (DRCD) provides funding for small scale projects in rural areas that have experienced population decline. The 2023 programme is divided into three measures, which cover the different initiatives supported by the scheme.

Measure 1 supports the development of community and sports facilities, youth clubs, playgrounds, sensory gardens, walking tracks and more.

Measure 2 supports voluntary groups that provide free transport to people receiving cancer care and other treatment.

Measure 3 supports offshore island communities.

More than 150 successful projects nationwide were granted funding, under Measure 1 and Measure 3, which was announced on 12 January 2024 .

In Cork County 11 projects were successful in this announcement under the programme and in Macroom Municipal District all 3 projects put forward for funding were successful in this announcement. These approved projects are :

- Millstreet Community Hall Roof Repairs Project - granted €48,112
- Inchigeelagh Community Island Park Redevelopment – granted €43,200
- Muinefliuch Family Forest Nature Trail Development – granted €14,097

4. 2024 Community Fund

We are currently accepting applications for the 2024 Community Fund. Applications for the Fund can be made through the Council's website at www.corkcoco.ie or www.yourcouncil.ie. Guidelines, maps of the MDs and forms are all available on the online portal.

For 2024 Macroom Municipal District has been allocated a General Municipal Allocation of €197,253 which is maintaining previous years allocations. Applicants are strongly encouraged to make their applications online through either of the above portals. The closing date for applications is **4.00 pm on Wednesday 14th February 2024.**

5. 2024 Town Development Fund (TDF)

Again, CCC's 2024 Budgetary Plan has allocated €98,000 toward the TDF for Macroom Municipal District, maintaining the allocation to previous years. The overriding purpose of the TDF is to support initiatives which are targeted at assisting with the economic development of the main towns in the MD i.e. Macroom and Millstreet. Applications under this Fund will be considered as part of the 2024 Community Fund.

6. 2024 Village Enhancement Scheme (VES)

€68,750 has again been allocated to the 2024 VES, maintaining previous years allocations. Under this Scheme the following villages can now be considered :

KEY VILLAGES:	VILLAGES:	VILLAGES:	VILLAGES:
Killumney / Ovens	Aghabullogue	Courtbrack	Model Village (Dripsey)
Béal Átha n' Ghaorthaidh	Aherla	Crookstown	Rylane / Seiscne
Baile Mhic Íre / Baile Mhuirne	Ballinora	Inchigeelagh	Stuake / Donoughmore
Coachford	Cloughduv	Kilmurry	Upper Dripsey
	Clondrohid	Cill na Martra	

Since this Scheme's inception, the following villages in the MD has benefitted from it:

YEAR	VILLAGE
2017	Béal Áth n' Ghaorthaidh
2018	Grenagh (now under KMMD)
2019	Killumney
2020	Rylane

2021	Clondrohid + Speed Safety Measures
2022	Aherla + Speed Safety Measures
2023	Coachford + Speed Safety Measures

Members will now decide on the village to be allocated the 2024 funding through this Scheme, together with the locations for the speed safety measures. Proposals for 2024 will be brought before the Members at a future Municipal District Meeting for consideration.

7. Capital Projects in Macroom MD - Updates

(a) Macroom Library & Briery Gap Project

The construction phase of this project which commenced in December 2020 is due to be completed in mid-May 2024 with handover to the Library Service & Briery Gap Board anticipated to take place on 15th May 2024. As part of the handover phase, there will training on the Building Management System (BMS).

The fitout phase will then follow which is expected to take 2 - 3 months with the building then planned to be open to be public during Q3 2024.

(b) Heritage Led Regeneration Plan for New St & Castle St Macroom

This project, funded by the Heritage Council through the 2023 Historic Towns Initiative is almost complete. The plan, being completed by Southgate Associates is in the final stages and a presentation on this plan when finalised will be made in due course.

(c) Macroom Development Project

This project, funded by RRDF Category 1 funding of €7.2 m is currently being progressed with the detailed design phase of the project being undertaken. Once complete, the next step will be tender stage for the project. The first priority element of this project is the completion of the public realm at South Square to complement with the completion of the Library & Theatre building.

8. 2024 Funding Streams currently open

(a) Local Festivals Fund

This Fund closing today, **Friday 26th Jan at 5.00pm** is aimed at supporting festivals that drive domestic tourism and help to improve the visitor experience.

(b) 2024 Creative Communities Fund

The scheme is open to any group, organisation, or collective working to create or improve opportunities for creative engagement and experience in their community in County Cork. The scheme aims to promote creative engagement in communities by bringing together communities of place or interest, artists, creatives, festivals, voluntary and community groups, arts and heritage organisations, and others. The closing date for receipt of application is **16:00 on Friday 23 February 2024**.

(c) 2024 Community Monuments Fund

This fund is currently open for applications and has closing date of 4.00 pm on Wednesday 31st January 2024. Applications can be made by emailing corkheritage@corkcoco.ie or a hard copy application may be sought from Heritage & Conservation Office, Floor 3, Planning Department, County Hall.

Further information on any of the above funding schemes can be found on www.corkcoco.ie or www.yourcouncil.ie

Marie O'Leary

Macroom Municipal District Officer



Comhairle Contae Chorcaí
Cork County Council