

# Macroom Municipal District Officer's Report

24<sup>th</sup> January 2025



## 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.

- 2022 - €202,514.50
- 2023 - €135,471.31
- 2024 - € 18,250.00

## 2. Town Development Fund

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

- 2022 - €89,514.86
- 2023 - €27,853.32
- 2024 - €27,911.34

Below are some images of the recently completed project by Eire Óg Ovens with the development of two additional training pitches. This project was completed with assistance from the Community Fund.





### **3. 2024 Community Recognition Fund – Window 3**

The Community Recognition Fund 2024 launched by the Dept of Rural & Community Development (DRCD) is a funding program that aims to support the development of community infrastructure and facilities in recognition of the contribution being made by communities across the country in welcoming and hosting significant numbers of arrivals from Ukraine and other countries. This €50 million fund is allocated between each local authority based on the number of new arrivals located there. Projects to be funded will be capital in nature, deliver medium-long term benefits for the communities in which they are located, and be capable of being delivered over the course of 2025 and 2026. Cork County Council's allocation under this Fund is **€2,014,691.**

Eligible projects will receive funding for capital costs, but not for any ongoing operational or running costs. The minimum level of funding for an individual project is €50,000 with a maximum of €500,000 applying for this Fund.

Types of projects eligible to be considered for funding include:

- development, enhancement or refurbishment of community or cultural facilities including play areas, walkways, parks, community/sensory gardens, allotments, and recreational areas;

- development, enhancement or refurbishment of local club and sports facilities including facilities such as community swimming pools, changing rooms, toilets, digital aids such as score / information boards etc.;
- enhancement to school/parish facilities which are open to use by all of the community after school hours;
- purchase of equipment for local clubs, festivals, community events and organisations e.g. music, arts or sports equipment;
- transport infrastructure such as the purchase of community vehicles, bus shelters and attendant information boards; (any vehicle funded must be in good condition and not more than 5 years old)
- projects that help address dereliction and/or wider local economic and community development objectives;
- purchase and refurbishment of vacant or derelict buildings for community use where a clear need is identified.
- Purchase of land and associated works for the development of community facilities such as play areas/ MUGAs or town parks/ community gardens, recreational areas etc. **(purchases must only be administered by the local authority).**

Window 3 is currently open for applications under this Fund. Further details on this Fund with Scheme outline & online application form are available on the Council's website, [www.corkcoco.ie](http://www.corkcoco.ie) or [www.yourcouncil.ie](http://www.yourcouncil.ie) .

The **closing date for receipt of applications has been extended to Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025** (28<sup>th</sup> February 2025 is Council's deadline for submissions to DRCD). Any application submitted after 17<sup>th</sup> February cannot be considered under this Fund.

We are currently awaiting an announcement from the Dept on the Window 2 submission, expected in the coming weeks.

#### **4. 2025 Community Fund**

Cork County Council has announced support of over €1.8 million to enhance community engagement and facilities in 2025. The Community Fund Scheme supports a range of projects and initiatives by local voluntary groups and organisations each year.

The Community Fund Scheme is administered locally by the eight Municipal Districts across the county under three distinct fund types: The Capital Fund, Community Contract and The Amenity Fund.

This year marks the 11th year of the Council's commitment to support communities and organisations across the county. Sustainability, growth, and engagement within

communities is vital to the local economy. Cork County Council is delighted to continue to provide this significant funding of €1.8 million for 2025.

Guidelines for the scheme and details for online applications are available on the Council’s website at [www.corkcoco.ie](http://www.corkcoco.ie) or [www.yourcouncil.ie](http://www.yourcouncil.ie) . Applications will close at **4.00pm on Friday the 14th of February 2025.**

For 2025 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.

## 5. 2025 Town Development Fund (TDF)

Again, CCC’s 2025 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 2025 Community Fund.

## 6. 2025 Village Enhancement Scheme (VES)

€68,750 has again been allocated to the 2025 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
2024	Ballinora + Cill na Martra + Speed Safety Measures

Members will decide on the village to be allocated the 2025 funding through this Scheme, together with the locations for the speed safety measures. Proposals for 2025 will be brought before the Members at a future Municipal District Meeting for consideration.

## 7. 2022 Village Enhancement Fund Update

### Aherla Village Enhancements Update

As part of the 2022 Village Enhancement Fund for Aherla Village, the community group had big projects as their priority to achieve under this Fund. This first completed project is the new village centre seating area with information Board, bike stand, seating and stand for Christmas tree.

The second big project recently completed was the enhancement and revamp of Creed's Cross as you come into the village. The addition of a footpath from the village to this Cross has also made a significant difference to this area. This area has a new public realm piece, with biodiversity low maintenance planting, new village stone sign and new attractive stone wall to complete this area. Below are some images of the recently completed project which has enhanced the entry to the village enormously with locals very appreciative of this much used addition to the village.







## 8. 2025 Funding Streams currently open

### (a) Local Enhancement Programme 2025

Cork County Council is inviting applications from community and voluntary groups for funding under the new Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) Fund 2025. The scheme follows on from the very successful 2024 programme which supported over 160 groups in Cork County.

Funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD), the LEP allocation of €277,633 for County Cork will support groups, particularly in disadvantaged areas, to carry out necessary repairs and improvements to their facilities and to purchase equipment such as furniture, tools, signage, IT equipment, lawnmowers, canopies, and training equipment. The fund can also support non-pay running costs, for example, energy costs, rental/lease costs, or insurance bills.

The closing date for applications is **Monday the 17th of February 2025 at 3:00pm.** Applications can be made online through the Council's website [www.corkcoco.ie](http://www.corkcoco.ie).

### (b) 2025 Community Monuments Fund

This fund is currently open for applications and has closing date **of 4.00 pm on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025.** Applications can be made by emailing [corkheritage@corkcoco.ie](mailto:corkheritage@corkcoco.ie) or a hard copy application may be sought from Heritage & Conservation Office, Floor 3, Planning Department, County Hall.

The Community Monuments Fund will enable conservation works to be carried out on archaeological monuments, which are deemed to be significant and in need of support. It aims to build resilience in monuments enabling them to withstand the effects of climate change. The fund also aims to encourage access to monuments and improve their presentation. The Scheme has three streams of funding, all of which offer up to 100% of eligible costs.

Further information on any of the above funding schemes can be found on [www.corkcoco.ie](http://www.corkcoco.ie) or [www.yourcouncil.ie](http://www.yourcouncil.ie)

*Marie O'Leary*

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Macroom Municipal District Officer



Comhairle Contae Chorcaí  
Cork County Council