

2014 - 2022

# LEADER PROGRAMME

IN  
CO. LOUTH

JULY 2023

## CASE STUDIES

A more in-depth look at some of the funded projects across Co. Louth and their story.



## PROMOTERS

A list of all the promoters who have received funding supports under the 2014-2022 LEADER programme.

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## LOUTH LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

Supporting Communities, Families, Enterprise & the Environment

### PROMOTERS

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Created by: Derbhille Clarke

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**Joan Martin**

Chairperson  
Louth Local Community  
Development  
Committee



**Paula Butterly**

Chairperson  
Louth County Council



**Frank O'Brien**

Chairperson  
Louth Local Development





# LCDC

## Coiste um Fhorbairt Pobail Áitiúil Lú Louth Local Community Development Committee

July 2023

### About the LCDC

The Louth Community Development Committee (LCDC) was established as part of the Local Government Reform Act, 2014.

The committee is a statutory committee, and has statutory functions with regard to the preparation and adoption of the 'Community' element of the Local Economic Community Plan (LECP).

Louth Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) was selected as the Local Action Group (LAG) for County Louth and has the ultimate responsibility for the delivery, implementation and financials for the LEADER Programme in County Louth.

Along with the LEADER Programme, the Louth LCDC also has a significant oversight role with regard to the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) in Co. Louth.

### Stakeholders

The Louth LCDC has the support of an implementation partner and a financial partner.

Louth Local Development is the Implementing Partner and brings over 30 years experience in the delivery of the LEADER programme in County Louth.

Louth County Council acts as the financial partner and contributes its vast experience in the administration, oversight and management of public funds.

# Introduction

From the Chief Officer of LCDC  
& the CEO of Louth Local  
Development



**Joe McGuinness -  
Chief Officer, LCDC**

I would like to thank the LCDC members and staff of Louth County Council, for their time and commitment in delivery of the LEADER programme in County Louth.

The programme has administered over €6 million to projects across the county under the following themes:

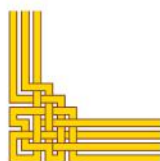
- Economic Development
- Social Inclusion and
- Rural Environment



**Ciaran Reid -  
CEO, Louth Local  
Development**

The LEADER Programme has been in existence in County Louth since the mid 90's and has played a vital role in supporting many projects across the community, tourism and enterprise sectors.

I would also like to thank all the staff and Board of Directors of Louth Local Development who contribute to the successful implementation of many programmes that benefit the people of County Louth.





# RDP TEAM



**Mary O'Neill**

Rural Development  
Programme Manager



**Tony McCready**

Rural Development  
Project Officer



**Mavis Kelly**

Clerical Officer



**Phyllis Lowth**

Administrator



**Derbhille Clarke**

Project Animator/  
PR Officer

# RURAL TOURISM



PROJECT NAME	PROMOTER NAME	LEADER GRANT AMOUNT
Annagassan Viking Virtual Reality Experience	Mr Paul O' Neill t/a the Glyde Inn	€15,620.00
Appreciation of the Hills	Louth Local Development CLG	€3,950.00
Cross Border Tourism Conference 2019	Dundalk Chamber of Commerce (Incorporated)	€4,136.25
Cross Border Tourism Conference 2020	Dundalk Chamber of Commerce (Incorporated)	€3,312.50
Cross Border Tourism Conference 2021	Dundalk Chamber of Commerce (Incorporated)	€2,617.16
Cross Border Tourism Conference 2022	Dundalk Chamber of Commerce (Incorporated)	€5,074.16
Delivery of Interpretation Signage Element of Heritage Tourism Cluster Co-operation Project	Louth LCDC	€22,214.98

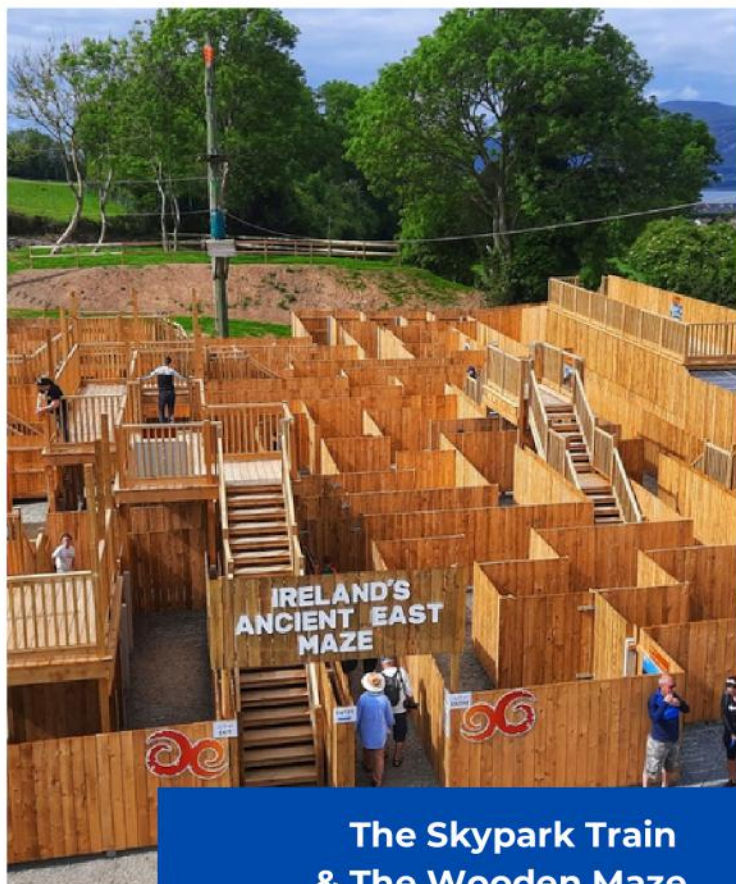
# RURAL TOURISM

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PROJECT NAME	PROMOTER NAME	LEADER GRANT AMOUNT
Design & Print of Boyne Valley Garden Trail Map 2020	Boyne Valley Garden Trail Committee	€1,344.08
Developing Heritage Tourism Sites	Louth LCDC	€5,822.00
Drogheda Town Centre Footfall Counting System	Drogheda Business Improvement District CLG	€19,057.50
EURI - Cross Border Tourism Conference 2023	Dundalk Chamber of Commerce (Incorporated)	€5,031.75
Facilitation for the Future	Carlingford Heritage Company Limited By Guarantee	€5,501.25
Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann 2018	Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Drogheda Branch	€18,496.12
Fleadh Cheoil na HÉireann 2019	Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Drogheda Branch	€85,727.19
Hearing Loop	An Táin Arts Centre	€2,496.54
Infrastructure for Show Site	Dundalk Show Society	€20,760.31
Licensed Tourist Fishing & Diving Boat	Subsea Marine Ltd.	€71,701.35
Marketing at Sommet de l'Elevage 2017	Farm Tour Ireland Limited	€2,773.35
Multi Purpose Muga Pitch Development	Gyles Quay Caravan Park Limited	€38,632.00
Regional Tour Guide Training	Louth Local Development CLG	€18,409.70
SeaFoodRocks - Boyne Valley Food Series - Sea Food Theatre	Red Fish Events Limited	€2,996.58
Skypark Upgrade	Carlingford Adventure Aerial Park Limited	€76,125.00
Tourism Town Skills	Louth Local Development CLG	€29,643.00



# SKYPARK UPGRADE



**The Skypark Train  
& The Wooden Maze  
24th March , 2022**

## All about Skypark upgrade.

Skypark is an adventure centre based around an aerial adventure park as its central activity. Over the past 6 years it has added a vast array of activities on the ground as well. The promoter has commissioned an upgrade to its existing attractions with an Ireland Ancient East Maze and the Skypark Express Train. The maze can be decorated and themed to be used for seasonal events such as Halloween, Christmas, and Easter.

## The Wooden Maze

The wooden maze is a construction of pathways, bridges, tunnels and towers. The maze has an area approximately 36 metres x 30 metres which comprises of 400 posts holding up 350 wooden panels. The maze has a 3D dimension thanks to corner towers and one central tower, along with bridges and tunnels, all adding to the fun and excitement of this adventure activity.

## Ireland's Ancient East

Various parts of the maze are named after famous areas and landmarks within Ireland's Ancient East such as Boyne Valley Bridge, Newgrange, Kilkenny Castle etc. The maze includes 16 reversible gates so that the maze route can be altered to provide a myriad of different solutions which encourages the customers to come again.

## The Skypark Express Train

The Skypark Express Train is a fun kiddies train for big kids and small kids. Ideal for families and small groups, this tourist train style activity offers tours around Skypark and shows people the scale of the park and many of the activities within. The train is multi-functional so can also be used for birthday parties and larger groups of kids. It can also be used for large events and themed for seasonal occasions such as Christmas and Halloween.



**Muga Pitch Upgrade  
November, 2021**

## **Multipurpose Muga Pitch Development**

The caravan park has 21 touring caravans, glamping pods and static homes. Amenities include a toilet block, shop, bar/restaurant, games room and log cabin.

## **Upgrade of existing facilities**

The promoter wanted to upgrade the existing facilities on the site with a multipurpose Muga Pitch development, and playground. They redeveloped the existing playground, by removing the current sod level and replaced it with the stone for the Muga Pitch. The Muga Pitch contains two goal ends, provision for a football pitch and a basketball area.

## **Benefits**

In addition, the ground was prepared for the playground by leveling it, and an artificial grass inserted with a sand infill area.

This upgrade enhanced all aspects of the caravan park ensuring that children have a safe outdoor haven to play in. This was especially beneficial during the pandemic era when indoor areas were closed. The upgrade increased the profile of the caravan park, generating more interest among young couples with children and increasing their employer/employee capacity, as supervision is needed at all times in this area. Gyles Quay are the only Failte approved caravan park in Co. Louth and are ICC approved.

# ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

€1,845,487



**Ardee Traders  
December, 2022**

PROJECT NAME	PROMOTER NAME	LEADER GRANT AMOUNT
Autonomous Construction Data Collection System	ECC Design & Engineering Limited	€99,936.90
Batchelor's Lane Craft Studio	The Crafty Fox	€48,428.41
Bespoke Stone Cutting Machinery & Associated Components	Alana Creations Ltd	€99,750.00
Bespoke Training for Co. Louth BTWEA Participants	Louth Local Development CLG	€6,511.32
Bulk Storage Facilities	Philip Halpenny Ltd	€198,155.32
Chiller and Freezer Rooms Upgrade	Jeremy & Alona Humeau	€8,561.25
CNC Machining Centres with Flat Tables	Hoey's Timber Sales Limited	€98,137.50
County Louth Social Enterprise Strategy	Louth Local Development CLG	€22,458.26

# ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

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PROJECT NAME	PROMOTER NAME	LEADER GRANT AMOUNT
Creative Enterprise Development Programme	Creative Spark Company Limited By Guarantee	€7,416.50
Engraving & Machining Equipment	Petra Clarke t/a Wee County Trophies	€20,583.49
EURI - Bespoke Stone CNC Routing and Finishing Centre	Alana Creations Ltd	€99,660.00
EURI - Bespoke Waste Separation Equipment	Express Mini Mix & Skip Hire Ltd	€99,900.00
EURI - Equipment and Printer Upgrades	Glass Design Global MGH Limited	€15,093.00
EURI - Roof Mounted Solar Panels Project	B & A Catering Limited	€16,500.00
EURI - Steel Pipe and Hose Assembly Production Lines	Rock Hydraulics Limited	€42,443.79
EURI - Supply & Installation of Three Phased Electricity	NR Rubber Products Limited	€21,690.00
EURI - Upgrade of Lighting & Water Heating Controls	Dundalk Enterprise Development Board	€5,925.00
Fire System Upgrade	Dundalk Enterprise Development Company	€10,578.00
King of Kefir - Can Seaming Equipment	Herbel Crest Limited	€39,375.00
Laser Engraving Equipment	G & M Precision Limited	€12,450.00
Marketing Acorn Solution Platform	Cliffrun Media Limited	€24,614.00
Milltown Stables	EOH Milltown Stables Ltd	€42,350.08

# ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

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PROJECT NAME	PROMOTER NAME	LEADER GRANT AMOUNT
Mná na hÉireann	Mrs Carol Leavy Joyce	€29,675.02
Morgan Auto Body Repairs Expansion	Dinosca Limited	€10,323.76
New Building Kit-Out & Equipment	Dealgan Clothing Company Limited	€33,997.45
New Equipment for Garage Expansion	Mark Keenan	€89,962.50
New Printing Machinery	Dealg Design Limited	€3,215.40
Newrath Yard Renovation	GEO Trenchless Solutions Ltd	€55,269.16
Positive Parenting Skills Training Support	Allen O'Donoghue & Con O'Donoghue t/a CA Coaching	€2,568.98
Smyths Farm Wholey Cow Milk	Josephine Smyth	€20,305.05
Solar Panels	Martin & Patrick Hickey	€193,635.00
Specialised 4 Deck Oven, 12 Trays with Stem & a 4 Foot Hotplate	Caffrey's Home Bakery Limited	€15,000.00
Supply & Installation of a Meat Products Packaging Machine	Firrin Food Limited	€99,000.00
Tele-Conference & Training Supports Upgrade	Drogheda & District Chamber CLG	€8,658.37
The Juice Works Production & Storage Expansion	Fit is an Attitude Limited	€33,873.21
The Shop Local Gift Voucher Marketing Campaign 2019	Dundalk Chamber of Commerce (Incorporated)	€8,118.75
The Shop Local Gift Voucher	Dundalk Chamber of Commerce (Incorporated)	€10,650.00

# ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

PROJECT NAME	PROMOTER NAME	LEADER GRANT AMOUNT
The Shop Local Gift Voucher Scheme Marketing Campaign	Dundalk Chamber of Commerce (Inc)	€17,767.50
Vincent's Order Fulfilment Centre (EPoS System)	St Vincent de Paul North East & Midlands	€58,906.23
Virtual Workshops IT Equipment	LearnRenewables Limited	€1,254.61
ZOMA Business Development & Expansion	Marketing For Me Ltd	€66,929.51
Zoo Fitness Expansion - New Gym Equipment	Mr. Jonathan Carroll t/a Zoo Fitness	€8,243.75
Zoo Fitness Gym	Mr. Jonathan Carroll t/a Zoo Fitness	€37,615.20

## Automated Robot ECC Design & Engineering Ltd.





# ALANA CREATIONS

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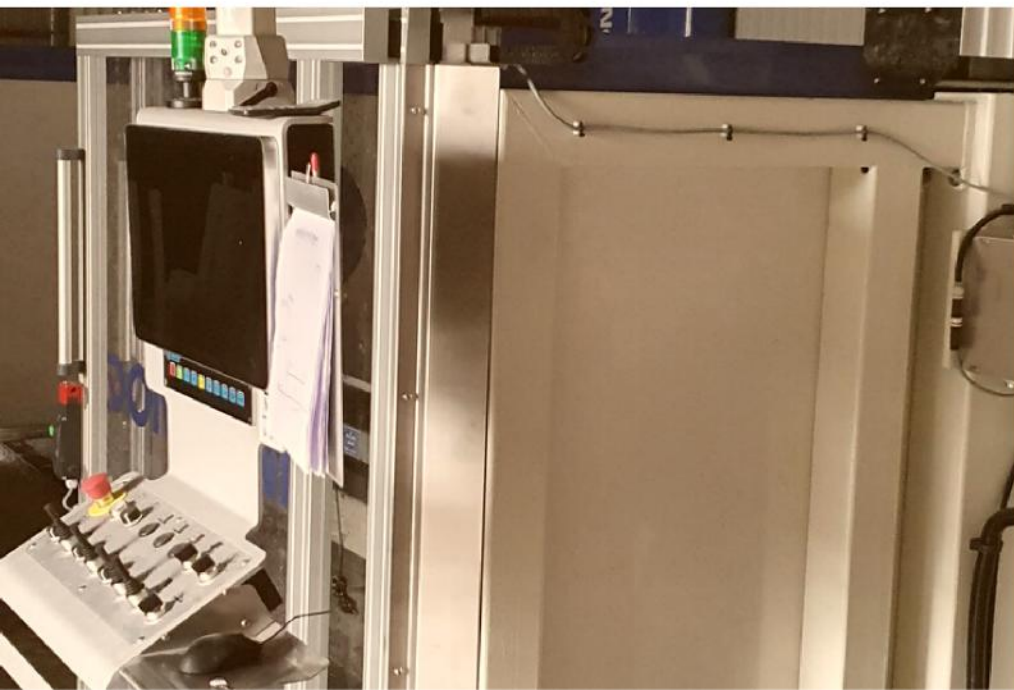
he Hynes family have been involved in the bespoke manufacturing business for over 60 years. The business has expanded from its more traditional roots and diversified into producing bespoke rooms from natural stone products led by the next generation of craftsmen in the family.

The bespoke stone side of the business has been carried out inefficiently due to slightly unsuitable machinery being used and needed upgrading to keep up with modern trends and materials. The materials used are natural and the company is committed to keeping waste to a minimum.

## Bespoke CNC Stone Working Machine - €99,750

The company sought grant funding to assist in the purchase of a bespoke new CNC Stone Machine. The machine will be more energy efficient, safer for operation, more accurate and lead to much less waste.

This machine will increase productivity and profitability thus sustaining the future of the company and it's existing 20+ employees.



The machine will create at least three new jobs including those for skilled stone carvers and stone polishers. It will allow the company address the increase in demand for stone and stone based products. There is currently a large increase in demand for these products from the hospitality, entertainment and health sector as well as more traditional outlets.

# G & M Precision Ltd.

## Laser Engraving Equipment - €12,450

G&M Precision Ltd Manufacture tooling/precision products for various industries, mainly electronics, medical, aerospace, pharma, and food and beverage. They are one of the biggest suppliers of precision tooling for Boston Scientific in Clonmel, Co Tipperary.

They saw a trend over the last few years, where the tooling they manufacture were being asked to be laser etched, with reference numbers and part numbers. They had to outsource this work to external contractors and had spent a lot of money on this.

### Funding to buy Laser Engraving Equipment

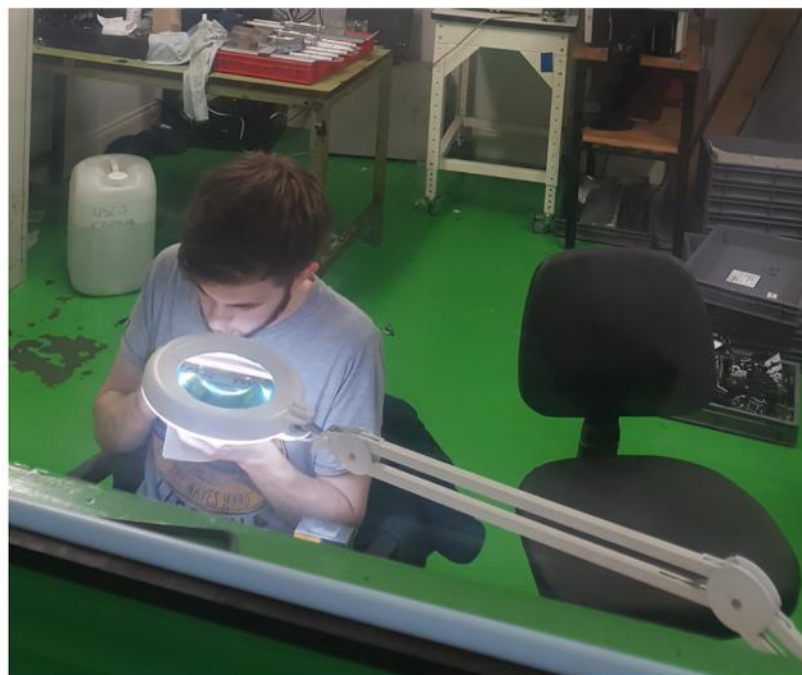
In order to complete this work in-house, G & M Precision sought funding to buy a laser engraving machine to reduce lead-times and to have better quality control. This increased the possibility of further contract marking and possible micro laser cutting in the future.

### Description of the project

The laser machine will mark parts where the customer requires part numbers to be engraved/laser etched onto the tooling for traceability.

Lead-times are reduced as they can now carry out this service inhouse. This will allow them to be more competitive.

An advantage of the machine they have selected is that it has a detachable head which gives them a greater range of part marking and possible contract marking and cutting of very fine parts.





# RURAL TOWNS

## €799,705



PROJECT NAME	PROMOTER NAME	LEADER GRANT AMOUNT
Aclint Community Hall Refurbishment	Aclint Community Hall Committee	€39,489.00
Action for Sustainable Living	Dromiskin Tidy Towns	€2,587.15
Ardee Community Running/Walking Track	St. Mary's GFC	€83,340.40
Ardee Tidy Towns 5 years Plan (2023 - 2027)	Ardee Tidy Towns	€6,254.55
Bee Positive Gardens	Dromiskin Tidy Towns	€11,401.64
Blackrock Park Upgrade 2017	Blackrock Playground Group Co Ltd by Guarantee	€10,641.00
Blackrock Promenade Public Artwork	Blackrock Tidy Towns Ltd	€24,000.00
Blackrock Tidy Towns 3 Year Plan 2019 - 2022	Blackrock Tidy Towns Ltd	€3,653.10

# RURAL TOWNS

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<b>PROJECT NAME</b>	<b>PROMOTER NAME</b>	<b>LEADER GRANT AMOUNT</b>
Blackrock Village Enhancement 2020/21	Blackrock Tidy Towns Ltd	€10,413.75
Boosting Biodiversity in Dromiskin	Dromiskin Tidy Towns	€13,270.98
Carlingford Enhancement 2017	Carlingford Community and Tidy Towns Association	€6,803.43
Clogherhead Tidy Towns 3 Year Plan	Clogherhead Development Group	€5,535.00
Community Healthy Hub	Roche Emmets GFC	€66,842.89
Community Polytunnel	Grange & District Residents Association	€2,449.96
Community Walking Track	John Mitchels GFC	€42,136.87
Conservation & Management Report for the Ruined Church in Old Haggardstown Graveyard	Blackrock Tidy Towns Ltd	€2,214.00
Construction and Planting of Integrated Constructed Tree Pits and associated Footpath Paving Works	Dromiskin Tidy Towns	€36,603.75
Decorative Public Seating in Blackrock	Blackrock Tidy Towns Ltd	€4,363.42
Drogheda Tidy Towns Strategic Plan	Drogheda Tidy Towns Committee	€6,750.00
Dromiskin Tidy Towns Three Year Plan (2020-2022)	Dromiskin Tidy Towns	€3,210.30
EURI - Ardee Illumination Project	Ardee Traders & Business Association	€97,258.56
Heritage Park Enhancement Works	Dromiskin Tidy Towns	€5,796.21
Louth Looking Good 2017	Louth Tidy Towns Together	€8,930.29

# RURAL TOWNS

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PROJECT NAME	PROMOTER NAME	LEADER GRANT AMOUNT
Louth Looking Good 2018	Louth Tidy Towns Together	€9,298.41
Louth Looking Good 2019	Louth Tidy Towns Together	€9,445.84
Louth Looking Good 2020	Louth Tidy Towns Together	€8,925.55
Louth Looking Good 2021	Louth Tidy Towns Together	€7,928.16
Louth Looking Good 2022	Louth Tidy Towns Together	€7,362.69
Louth Village Community Development Plan	Louth Village Community Centre	€26,999.73
Main Theatre Sound System Upgrade	An Táin Arts Centre	€25,675.18
Nature of Innovation Cooperation Project	Louth Local Development CLG	€5,373.65
Pollinator Project	Dundalk Tidy Towns	€7,491.00
St. Brigid's Cross Welcome Sign	Dunleer Tidy Towns	€9,156.00
Stabannon Graveyard Survey	Stabannon Tidy Towns	€2,158.20
Stabannon Village Enhancement 2020	Stabannon Tidy Towns	€7,044.09
The Glen Biodiversity Project	Drogheda Tidy Towns Committee	€41,294.61
Tidy Towns 3 Year Development Plan	Tallanstown Tidy Towns	€4,428.00
Tidy Towns Plans - 5 Locations	Louth Tidy Towns Together	€13,937.13
Tullyallen Men's Shed Workshop Upgrade	Tullyallen Men's Shed	€24,783.07
Upgrade of Glyde Rangers Community Hall	Glyde Rangers GFC	€16,575.18

# RURAL TOWNS

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PROJECT NAME	PROMOTER NAME	LEADER GRANT AMOUNT
Walking Route Upgrade and Additional Lighting	Louth County Board GAA	€72,936.88
White River Walk Feasibility Study	Dunleer Tidy Towns	€4,981.50



# Louth Tidy Towns Together



The project is the production of fully consultative, time-framed Tidy Towns Development Plan for Sandpit involving the appointment of an external consultant, with experience in national Tidy Towns adjudication, to work with the committee in each of the locations to identify a series of projects and initiatives that are capable of being implemented in each community that not alone have the potential to gain additional marks in the National Tidy Towns Competition but also, very importantly, improve the amenities and environmental sustainability of the community.

## RURAL TOWNS

LEADER funding of €2,468 was awarded to Louth Tidy Towns Together. LTTT is a network of Tidy Towns groups in County Louth whose aim is to professionalise Tidy Towns development in the county by sharing best practice and experience among member groups.





## RURAL TOWNS

# CARLINGFORD COMMUNITY & TIDY TOWNS ASSOCIATION



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### LEADER Funding: €6,764

The community group was formed in early 1970, when local residents came together to highlight what the village had to offer not only for the people who lived in Carlingford, but also to encourage tourists to visit the old style type village.

The promoter purchased items that were urgently needed to upgrade what is the only green public space situated right in the heart of the village, together with welcome signs informing visitors where the village is located.

The placing of new seats on the promenade directly across from the playground area will cater for the older age groups visitors who can relax and take in the natural beauty of the surroundings.



# BROADBAND

€68,972



Louth Local Development - Training Room, Ardee

PROJECT NAME	PROMOTER NAME	LEADER GRANT AMOUNT
Community Centre IT Upgrade	Lannleire Pavilion Limited	€3,975.50
Community Media Access Project	Philipstown Centre Company Ltd Guarantee	€17,724.74
Enterprise Remote Working Hub	Carlingford Heritage Company Ltd By Guarantee	€8,694.52
ICT Community Meeting Hub	Louth Local Development CLG	€9,329.79
IT Training Suite	Moneymore Community House CLG	€6,692.73
Meeting, Conference & Hot Desk Equipment	St. Joseph's GFC	€3,957.52
Online Presence Skills Development Training Programme	Louth Local Development CLG	€18,597.60



**LEADER Funding : €3,893**

**BROADBAND**

# ST. JOSEPH'S GFC



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LEADER funding of €3,893 was awarded to St Joseph's GFC.

The project involved installing IT equipment (with associated networking) to provide two hot-desk stations for use by local people and companies to facilitate local working. The area will be further equipped with printers and copiers along with an interactive video screen for conferencing, showing of training videos etc.





# BASIC SERVICES



Minister Joe O'Brien's visit to the Market House, Dunleer

PROJECT NAME	PROMOTER NAME	LEADER GRANT AMOUNT
Boomerang Cafe	Drogheda Youth Development CLG	€14,324.50
Cistin an Úlloird (The Orchard Kitchen)	Redeemer Boys N.S	€6,248.82
Community Astroturf Upgrade	St. Mary's GFC	€67,830.99
Community Centre Acoustics Upgrade	Mattock Rangers C.L.G.	€19,714.95
Community Floodlit Walking Track Extension	Roche Emmets GFC	€98,690.00
Community Gym Capital Equipment	Dundalk Gaels GAA Club	€7,500.00
Community Resource Room	St. Joseph's GFC	€35,689.57
Community Walking Track	Cooley Kickhams GFC	€25,872.75
Community Walkway Extension	St. Brides GFC	€14,513.80

# BASIC SERVICES

PROJECT NAME	PROMOTER NAME	LEADER GRANT AMOUNT
County Louth Volunteering Strategy	Louth Volunteer Centre CLG	€10,756.33
Dee Hub Building Refurbishment	Ardee & District Community Trust Co. Ltd by Guarantee	€36,240.50
Drogheda Alzheimer's Day Care Centre	Drogheda Alzheimer's	€199,701.70
Drumshallon Forge Heritage Centre Upgrade & Development	Drumshallon Forge Restoration Community Group	€13,409.23
Dunleer Young People 5 Year Action Plan	DCDB Limited	€7,290.00
Dynamics - Music System Ireland	The Cross Border Orchestra of Ireland Ltd	€9,002.32
Dynamics - Music System Ireland	The Cross Border Orchestra of Ireland Ltd	€17,640.00
Dynamics Ireland - Music Training Programme - Stage 2	The Cross Border Orchestra of Ireland Ltd	€18,810.00
Equipment and Improved Access to Youth Club Facilities	Abhaile Autism Support CLG	€27,915.05
Essential Upgrade to Heritage Centre	Carlingford Heritage Co. Ltd. by Guarantee	€14,479.17
Extension & Improvement of Walkway	Geraldines GFC	€26,048.25
Extension & Lighting of Geraldine's GFC Community Walking Track	Geraldines GFC	€84,095.54
Future Development of Turas Counselling - Feasibility Study	Turas Counselling Services Company Ltd by Guarantee	€10,680.75
Hunterstown Rovers Footwalk and Running Track	Hunterstown Rovers GFC	€21,500.52

# BASIC SERVICES

PROJECT NAME	PROMOTER NAME	LEADER GRANT AMOUNT
Innovating Communities - Designing Our Future - Capital	Louth Local Development CLG	€20,059.90
Innovating Communities - Designing Our Future - Training	Louth Local Development CLG	€154,162.66
Kilcurry Youth Cafe Facilities	Kilcurry Community Development Company Ltd	€20,253.56
Lannleire Pavilion 1st Floor Youth Facilities Upgrade	Lannleire Pavilion Limited	€111,843.77
Lannleire Pavilion Main Hall Upgrade	Lannleire Pavilion Limited	€73,292.62
Lift, Sound Dampening and Upstairs Kit Out	St. Fechins G F C	€82,475.92
Louth Village Community Centre - Upgrade & Improvement Works	Louth Village Community Centre	€130,292.32
Men's Shed Electrical Upgrade & Landscaping Equipment	Tulyallen Men's Shed	€5,038.54
Our Tomorrow is Today	Ardee & District Community Trust Co. Ltd By Guarantee	€24,480.00
Parenting through Trauma (Domestic Violence)	Women's Aid (Dundalk) CLG	€3,359.91
Purchase & Installation of Lift	Drogheda City FC	€16,003.50
Refurbishment of Cara Cancer Support Centre	Cara Cancer Support Centre	€197,816.96
Replacement of Doors in Scout Hall	5th Louth Buíon Setanta Scout Group	€5,890.65
Scout Hall Upgrade & Refurbishment	St Patricks 1st/2nd/5th Louth Scout Group	€14,930.01

# BASIC SERVICES

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<b>PROJECT NAME</b>	<b>PROMOTER NAME</b>	<b>LEADER GRANT AMOUNT</b>
Security, Accessibility & Exterior Paint	Haggardstown & Blackrock Community Centre Co. Ltd by Guarantee	€25,225.68
Sewage & Water Waste System Upgrade	The Gary Kelly Cancer Support Centre	€27,069.75
Shower Facilities and Lobby Area Refurbishment	Lannleire Pavilion Limited	€33,581.81
St. Fechins Community Building	St. Fechins G F C	€191,082.25
Studio Equipment Upgrade	Dundalk Media Centre CLG t/a Dundalk FM	€17,043.00
The Purchase of New Furniture, Equipment & Promotional Materials	Rape Crisis North East CLG	€5,354.74
The Purchase of New Furniture, Equipment & Promotional Materials	Rape Crisis North East CLG	€1,405.89
Therapy Room and Security	Family Addiction Support Network	€8,447.46
Transition to Community Hub	Roche Emmets GFC	€36,278.56
Twenties Community Facility (Feasibility Study)	Moneymore Community House CLG	€9,000.00
Upgrade of Cooley Parochial Hall	Cooley Parochial Hall	€12,564.85
Upgrade of Glyde Community Hall	Glyde Rangers GFC	€46,047.99
What's the Story?	An Táin Arts Centre	€26,959.50



**Children playing in the sensory garden**

LOUTH & MEATH

# AUTISM SUPPORT

LEADER FUNDING:  
€27,702

BASIC SERVICES

Autism Support Louth & Meath are primarily a support group for families affected by Autism. The first and main activity was to form and set up the Drogheda ABACAS Special School for Children with Autism.

From starting in a three bed semi-detached house the school is now fully recognised by the Department of Education with secondary school status. It is widely regarded in the area as a centre of excellence in Autism with the Inspectorate regularly requesting school visits for other schools.

This project was to enhance the promoter's youth club facilities with the provision of better access, secure fencing to be able to utilise waste ground including some fun equipment such as mud kitchen and outdoor seating, technological equipment such as a projector and sound installation, seating, and sound absorption panels to help those children with sensitivity to noise.

# Drogheda Youth Development

## BASIC SERVICES

**LEADER Funding : €13,896**

### Boomerang Cafe

Another local project which has been supported under the LEADER 2014-2020 programme in Co. Louth:

LEADER funding of €13,896 from the LEADER 2014-2020 programme in Co. Louth, was awarded to Drogheda Youth Development (DYD). They carried out small scale improvements to the basement and café area of the Boomerang Youth Service, including the reconstruction of the café and basement areas by installing moving wall/doorways to create additional space.

The aim was to also design the basement spaces to be more colourful, vibrant, inviting, fun and comfortable for young people to engage in range of educational, music and art programmes



## Basic Services

# Haggardstown & Blackrock Community

### **LEADER Funding : €23,284**

Blackrock Community Centre was built in 1981 and is run by a voluntary committee who are dedicated to managing a centre that accommodates all members of the community. This project phase was part of a continued refurbishment of Blackrock Community Centre which began in 2011 in recognition of the centre's deterioration and unfulfilled usage not meeting the needs of the community.

To further benefit and serve inclusive engagement in the community and users, the promoter made some further improvements including a security system, fire doors, disability/age friendly railings, wheelchair and elderly ramps, multi use secure storage, exterior building paint, bike rack and shelter and some roof repairs.



Launch of Blackrock Park  
Renewable Energy Lighting Project

# RURAL YOUTH

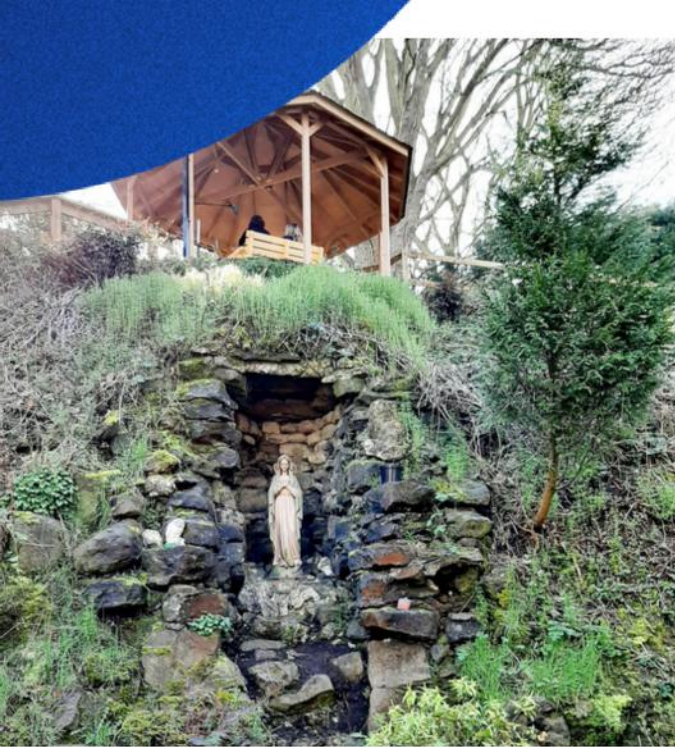


PROJECT NAME	PROMOTER NAME	LEADER GRANT AMOUNT
Ardee & Mid Louth Music Centre (Capital)	Ardee And District Community Trust Co Ltd by Guarantee	€3,972.97
Ardee & Mid Louth Musical Training	Ardee And District Community Trust Co Ltd By Guarantee	€11,137.50
Arts Engagement 2022 - 2023	Dundalk Youth Centre CLG	€48,000.00
Biodiverse Sensory Garden	Abaile Autism Support CLG	€32,381.55
Count Us In	The Cross Border Orchestra of Ireland Ltd	€30,160.80
Count Us In	The Cross Border Orchestra of Ireland Ltd	€28,699.14
Count Us In - Year 2	The Cross Border Orchestra of Ireland Ltd	€16,748.04



# RURAL YOUTH

PROJECT NAME	PROMOTER NAME	LEADER GRANT AMOUNT
Digital Capital Arts Capital Project	Dundalk Youth Centre CLG	€10,452.23
Enterprising Young Travellers Programme	Louth Local Development CLG	€54,871.00
Fitness & Wellbeing Pitch	Ionad na nDaoine an tSlanaitheora Teoranta	€56,322.03
Foy Centre Youth Café	Carlingford Community Development Co Ltd by Guarantee	€20,353.77
Redeemer Family Resource Centre - Building for the Future	Ionad na nDaoine an tSlanaitheora Teoranta	€198,822.02
Refurbishment of the Old School House	7th Coastal Scout Group	€20,878.51
Refurbishment of the Red Door Building	The Red Door Project	€138,520.80
Word Up	The Upstate Theatre Project Co. Ltd by Guarantee	€11,745.00
Youth Arts Engagement Project	Dundalk Youth Centre CLG	€38,900.00
Youth Creative Development Programme (Capital)	Ardee And District Community Trust Co. Ltd by Guarantee	€2,870.40
Youth Creative Development Training Programme	Ardee And District Community Trust Co Ltd by Guarantee	€8,967.24



## THE REFURBISHMENT OF THE

# RED DOOR

## PROJECT

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€138,520



The Red Door Project was founded in 2009 to meet the needs of a community that was struggling to cope with the burden of addiction. Their clients are overwhelmingly young men and women from Drogheda and its hinterland, many presenting as poly (multi) drug users.

Information about their services spread initially by word of mouth. Their client numbers grew rapidly and in time so did their need for a larger space. In 2015, they moved their service to the former convent school of the Sisters of Mercy on the Dublin Road.

This expansion of space allowed them to grow and expand their services to reach even the most chaotic and complex of clients. Despite the growth and development of their service, moving to this premises came with a number of issues.

The building was built in 1930 and had remained largely unchanged since then. It fell below modern standards of amenities. Therefore this promoter applied for funding support of €138,520 to enable the refurbishment of certain areas of the building.

The use of environmentally friendly building materials and advanced technology to reduce the size of their carbon footprint. Double glazing and insulation to prevent excessive heat loss. They installed a more efficient heating system with less carbon emissions.

The refurbishment transformed the working conditions for staff and clients alike. It enables success in recruiting and retaining qualified staff. This funding created a unique and innovative space.



# LOCAL BIODIVERSITY

# €158,472



**Appreciation of the Hills Training**

PROJECT NAME	PROMOTER NAME	LEADER GRANT AMOUNT
Appreciation of the Hills Training Programme 2022	Louth Local Development	€7,900.00
Bees and Trees	Carlingford Community And Tidy Towns Association	€4,311.75
Biodiversity and Climate Change Awareness Initiative	Louth Local Development CLG	€6,844.30
Biodiversity in Monasterboice	Monasterboice Tourism and Tidy Towns	€7,484.16
Biodiversity in Rockmarshall	Mr Donal Rice	€2,295.00
Biodiversity Training in County Louth (Phase Two)	Louth Local Development CLG	€9,788.44
Blackrock Biodiversity Enhancement Plan 2019	Blackrock Tidy Town	€8,145.74
Ecological Study of the Sruth an Bhabaigh Stream	Dromiskin Tidy Towns	€11,496.60

# LOCAL BIODIVERSITY

PROJECT NAME	PROMOTER NAME	LEADER GRANT AMOUNT
Hamilton Marsh Biodiversity Enhancement	Blackrock Tidy Towns Ltd	€1,276.87
Heritage Tree Arboriculture Consultancy	Cooley Connect Well	€1,350.00
Introduction to Biodiversity in County Louth	Louth Local Development CLG	€19,445.00
Introduction to Community Composting	Louth Local Development CLG	€19,899.82
Links Hilltop Hub Biodiversity Project	St John of God Community Services CLG	€10,614.13
Louth Village Biodiversity Plan	Louth Village Tidy Towns	€3,265.65
Pollinator Friendly Public Areas	Kilcurry Tidy Towns	€6,035.25
Protection of Natural Habitats Training Programme	Louth Local Development CLG	€28,400.00
Recycling Plastics in County Louth	Louth Local Development CLG	€9,920.00



**Plastics Recycling Training in Co. Louth**



## KILCURRY TIDY TOWNS

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Pollinator Friendly Public  
Areas

### **LEADER FUNDING: €6,033**

Kilcurry Tidy Towns received LEADER funding of **€6,033** for a project to develop shrub beds which will be designed to create a haven of biodiversity, and which will in turn educate both children and adults in the Community. Some of the items included are pollinator plants to encourage insects and birds, bug hotel, an hibernation unit incorporating a stone wall which is adapted to accommodate bats and also bird baths etc.

# RENEWABLE ENERGY



PROJECT NAME	PROMOTER NAME	LEADER GRANT AMOUNT
Community Energy Audits	Louth Local Development CLG	€7,527.60
Energy Efficient Heritage	Carlingford /Heritage Company Limited By Guarantee	€9,023.25
Renewable Community Amenity Lighting	Blackrock Park Committee	€46,124.98
Renewable Energy Technology Training Initiative	Louth Local Development CLG	€22,714.41
Replacement Gallery Lighting	Highlanes Gallery	€17,724.28
Training for Basic Introduction to Energy	Eugene Conlon HR Consultancy Limited	€11,250.00

# Renewable Community Amenity Lighting

# Blackrock



# Park

Blackrock Park Committee sought funding of €46,124 for the project **to install renewable community amenity lighting** in Blackrock Park.

The work included construction of an 'Island Renewable Energy Hybrid System' that provides power via a 23kwh battery pack to 5 street lights., each with a power rating lamp of 35W and controlled by an astronomical clock. This hybrid microgeneration system includes a small 1-2 KW Wind turbine and a 3 KW array of photo voltaic panels, which also supply power to a Street Charging Unit, which provides power to smart telephone and tablet devices.

## Benefits:

The 'Sustainable Energy Garden Project' provides much needed public amenity lighting during the hours of darkness in the public park and it also demonstrates the benefits of renewable energies and how they can be applied (with the aid of the information board that is displayed).



# WATER RESOURCES

€144,469



Appreciation of our Estuaries & Seashores - Carlingford

PROJECT NAME	PROMOTER NAME	LEADER GRANT AMOUNT
Appreciation of our Estuaries and Sea Shore Training	Louth Local Development CLG	€24,880.00
Appreciation of the Estuaries and Sea Shore Training	Louth Local Development CLG	€19,980.00
Introduction to Rainwater Harvesting	Louth Local Development CLG	€19,510.28
ORCCA Citizen Science Mobile Application	Oriel River Catchments and Coastal Association	€27,225.00
River Fane Survey & Advisory Report	Dundalk Salmon Anglers Association	€5,027.02
Rivers Invasive Species Training	Louth Local Development CLG	€8,000.17
Salmonid Monitoring System	Oriel River Catchments and Coastal Association	€5,592.34



# WATER RESOURCES

PROJECT NAME	PROMOTER NAME	LEADER GRANT AMOUNT
Small Streams Characterisation Training	Louth Local Development CLG	€10,000.00
Water Resources Management Training	Louth Local Development CLG	€24,255.00

## CASE STUDY 1

### River Invasive Species Training - River Boyne

**The River Invasive Species training took place** in May and June 2022 with 14 participants.

The training was delivered via online training sessions and two field sessions.

**The course was aimed at** recreational river users, Tús, RSS and CE schemes in the local area. Community groups, volunteers, farmers and other individuals with an interest in water quality and conservation in Co. Louth.

**The participants were taught about** the various invasive species along the river bank and how to mitigate those ones that they were allowed to handle plus good footwear hygiene before and after going to local river banks with these types of invasive species.



# WATER RESOURCES

## CASE STUDY 2

### Appreciation of our Seashores & Estuaries Training - Carlingford

The Estuaries and Seashore Training Programme was aimed at engaging upskilling individuals, communities and business to enable them to fulfil their important role in the protection and sustainable use of their local water resources.



The Programme focused on education and awareness activities at community level and was designed to help facilitate knowledge transfer in environmental thinking.

The training programme included the following elements:

- Rural community awareness of the local biodiversity of the estuaries and its connection to the seashore & ocean.
- The protection and sustainable use of water resources of estuaries leading to the seashore.
- Increasing awareness and engagement of the value, opportunities and social benefits of connecting a knowledge of rivers, with their estuaries and the local seashore.



# WATER RESOURCES

## Appreciation of our Seashores & Estuaries Training - Annagassan



**The course was delivered in** Carlingford - North Louth and Clogherhead – South Louth, by Ken Whelan and Cushla Dromgool Regan and colleagues in April 2022.

The highlights were the successful classroom sessions, fieldtrips and the support from specialists, that assisted with the practical learning that was a central part of the course.

The Appreciation of our Estuaries and Sea Shore Training Programme **involved two courses** that were delivered in County Louth, in April 2022.

The training for each course included three days which were delivered in both North Louth and South Louth.

Mentoring was carried out with the participants with group discussions and one-to-one sessions with various tutors, before and after each course, as well as by email and phone.

A follow-up overview of the course was held, online, in June 2022.

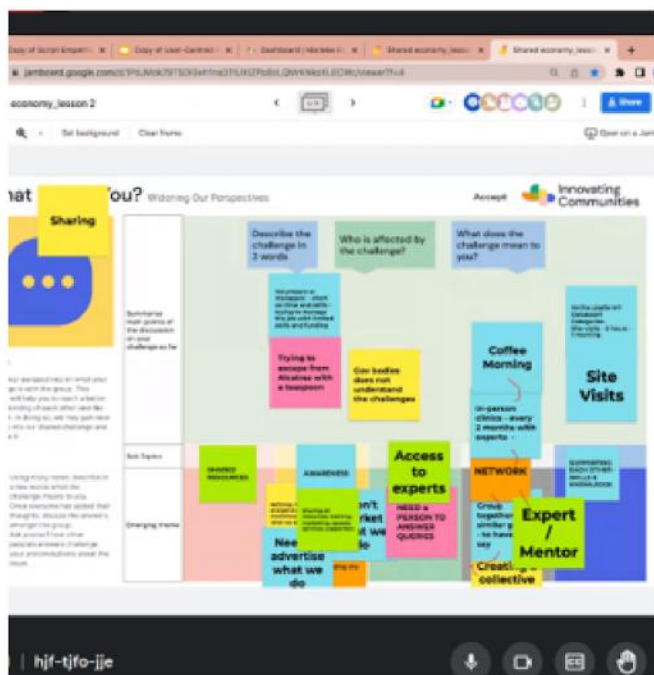


# Innovating Communities Programme 2021-2023

## What is Innovating Communities?

Innovating Communities is a free capacity building project that delivers workshops and offers mentoring in creative problem solving (also known as Design Thinking) to enact ideas and tackle problems.

The project can be used as a tool to develop solutions to challenges, for example: to activate ideas within a groups biodiversity plan or to create a plan for funding and more.



There are 5 stages to this Creative Problem Solving / Design Thinking process and the facilitator will follow these stages to guide the group toward an outcome. An outcome could be anything from a funding application, to an artwork, or an event, and much more.

## Metrics for Louth.

For the period of the programme, we had 416 registered users, 13 courses lasting between 6 and 42 hours, and 58 challenges registered on the website. Out of those we had 13 groups working on 16 diverse challenges.

### These were:

1. Establishing an Independent Artists studio - Borrowed Ground Collective
2. An Answer to the Digital Divide - mixed group
3. Breaking Down Barriers - Community Integration for All - Hands4Unity
4. Be a Welcoming Community - mixed group
5. Climate Change - Dee Hub Youth Group
6. Tackling a Community Challenge - Scoil Uí Mhuiri
7. Upgrading Energy Efficiencies for Homeless Building - DKIT 4th year Engineer Students
8. Ecological Survey of Ardee Bog - Friends of Ardee Bog
9. Dundalk Community Garden - DIG
10. Strengthen the Reach and Interaction with Ukrainians
11. Creating a Toolkit for the RDP Teams Across the 6 Counties
12. to 15 - Tackling 4 local issues - 4 x groups of Drogheda Grammar School Transition Year Students
16. Shared Economy Concept - Social Enterprises Louth



## KPI's Louth

<b>#Active Challengers - 195</b>	<b>% of Overall Target - 127%</b>
<b>#Training Hours (Group Sessions) 511.50</b>	<b>% of Overall Target - 101%</b>
<b># Training Hours (Individual sessions) - 825.25</b>	<b>% of Overall Target - 164%</b>

# SHOWCASE

The culmination of the **Innovating Communities Programme** was the **LEADER Learning Showcase** which was held in the Íontas Centre in Castleblaney with Minister Humphreys speaking at the event. The event was held in front of a live audience of 120 people and live-streamed to Ireland and the EU.

## LEADER

21st April 2023

## CEO'S OF 6 BORDER COUNTIES

Minister Humphreys was impressed and, in her speech, said that Innovating Communities “is exactly the kind of initiative that we want to see replicated right across rural Ireland. It will not alone enhance the social and cultural capital of rural communities but also improve the quality of life of families living in Border areas.”



CEO's of Border Counties with Minister Heather Humphreys



The RDP Team & some of the participants from Louth with Minister Heather Humphreys



Ciaran Mully, MC



Fireside Chat

# SHOWCASE 2



**LOUTH LOCAL DEVELOPMENT**

Supporting Communities, Families, Enterprise & the Environment

**LEADER**

21st April 2023



Mary O'Neill, RDP Manager with Minister Heather Humphreys



Desmond Bernie  
CEO, icecream architecture



Dr. Karen Keaveny, UCD  
Dr. Brendan O'Keefe, Independent Consultant



Lara Schmit,  
Dundalk Inclusive Garden

# INNOVATING COMMUNITIES SHOWCASE 3



Dr. Maura Farrell,  
National Rural Network



*Fireside chats!*

**21.04.23**

The event hosted two fire side chats with Minister Heather Humphreys, participant speakers and guests who held various roles throughout the programme.



# INNOVATING COMMUNITIES GROUPS

SOME OF THE GROUPS WHO TOOK PART  
2021 - 2023



## LOUTH INNOVATION *Design Thinking*



**Business Skills Course  
Ardee - May 2023**



**Tour Guide Skills  
Course - May 2022**





**Plastics Recycling  
Drumshallon - 2023**



**Appreciation of the  
Hills - 2022**



Climate Change  
Conference- May 2022



Éanna Ní Lamhna  
Biologist, Environmental  
Consultant, Author



John Gibbons  
Environmental Journalist  
& Commentator

Ecological Survey of  
Ardee Bog - 2022





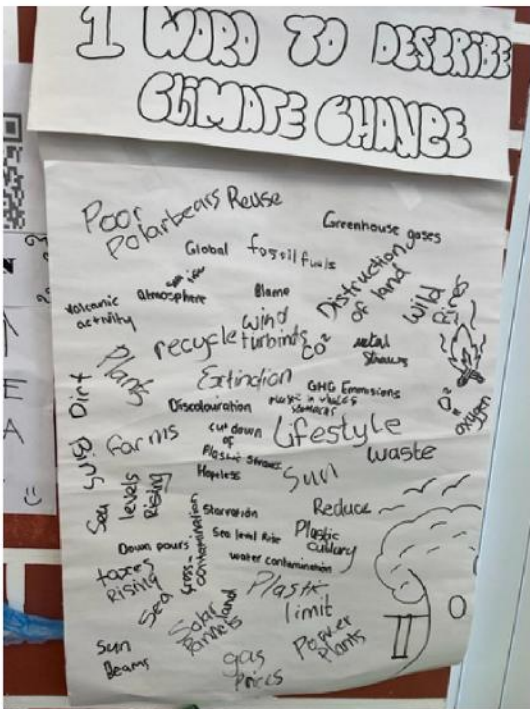
**River Invasive Species Training - - 2021**

**Scoil Ui Mhuiri - Design Thinking - 2021**



**Appreciation of our Estuaries & Seashores - 2020**





Dee Hub - Design Thinking - 2020



River Invasive Species - 2021



Appreciation of the Hills- 2020

## Composting Skills - May & June 2021



## Protection of the Natural Habitat - June & July 2023



*Thanks!*

To all the promoters who availed of the funding, and the participants who took part in the training.