

**Donegal Co Co / Northern & Western Regional Assembly Letterkenny Town Social Enterprise Capital Grants Scheme 2021**

**Expression of Interest Form**

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**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

Date Received:

Reference Number:

LCDC recommendation:



**ALL APPLICATIONS ARE TO BE RETURNED TO:**

**Donegal LCDC**

**Community Development,**

**Donegal County Council, Station Island, Lifford, F93 X7PK, Co Donegal or by email to lcdc@donegalcoco.ie**

**By 3pm on Tuesday, 30th November 2021**

**CLOSING DATE WILL BE STRICTLY ADHERED TO.**

**Guidance for Applicants**

# Background

The Donegal Co Co/Northern & Western Regional Assembly Letterkenny Town Social Enterprise Capital Grants Scheme 2021 is an initiative being taken by Donegal County Council in conjunction with the Northern & Western Regional Assembly under the National Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland.

The Social Enterprise Grants Scheme aims to support and consolidate existing Social Enterprises in the town of Letterkenny. The grants scheme will support large scale capital projects that will materially assist with the long term sustainability of existing Social Enterprises. Projects to be supported will be of a capital nature and can include extensions to existing premises, refurbishment of existing premises & purchase and refurbishment of premises. Applicants will be required to demonstrate how the Capital Grants Scheme will contribute to their long term sustainability.

It is a funding scheme that will provide social enterprises with large capital grants ranging from €75,000 to a maximum of €200,000 at a grant support rate of 90% with a requirement that projects are fully complete by 31st December 2022.

The scheme is being administered on behalf of the Donegal Co Co/North Western Regional assembly by the Donegal Local Community Development Committees (LCDC)

The deadline for receipt of completed EOI applications is 3pm on Tuesday, 30th November, 2021

# Eligible Organisations

Only social enterprises, as defined in the National Social Enterprise Policy (see below), may apply under this scheme. All applicants will be checked and verified to ensure they meet the definition. Applicants who do not meet this definition will not be considered.

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| A Social Enterprise is an enterprise whose objective is to achieve a social, societal or environmental impact, rather than maximising profit for its owners or shareholders. It pursues its objectives by trading on an ongoing basis through the provision of goods and/or services, and by reinvesting surpluses into achieving social objectives. It is governed in a fully accountable and transparent manner and is independent of the public sector. If dissolved, it should transfer its assets to another organisation with a similar mission.  |

*National Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland 2019-2022*

# Funding Allocation

Amounts approved to social enterprises will be subject to the total number of applications approved and the overall budget available (€1.8 million).

# Eligible Costs

Under this scheme, grants will be provided to social enterprises towards large scale capital costs. Capital costs incurred by social enterprises for the purchase of equipment are eligible. Repairs and refurbishment of existing facilities can also be funded.

The scheme does not provide funding for operating costs (e.g. the employment of staff, electricity costs, heating costs, etc.) or administrative costs.

Only expenditure incurred after the date of grant approval will be eligible.

The grant may cover all, or part of, the purchase or works in question. However, the full cost of the project must be provided on the EOI Form.

# Assessment Criteria

Applicants will be required to confirm that their organisation meets the definition of a social enterprise as set out in the National Policy. Applicants will be asked to explain the purpose for which the grant is sought. Factors such as demonstratable need and the potential impact of the grant on service delivery will also be taken into account.

# Applications

All EOI applications will be reviewed by the LCDC to verify that the applicant meets the definition of a social enterprise as set out in the National Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland.

Applicants will be notified of the outcome of the EOI process by the LCDC by 17th December 2021, following which the LCDC will enage with shortlisted applicants to determine whether projects can be fully complete before 31st December 2022.

# Terms and Conditions

* Only social enterprises as defined by the National Social Enterprise policy will be eligible for funding under this scheme.
* The information supplied by the applicant must be accurate and complete. Incomplete applications will not be considered for funding.
* Misinformation may lead to disqualification and/or the repayment of any grant made.
* All applicant group/organisations must be registered for tax and be tax compliant, in line with revised tax clearance procedures, which came into effect in January 2016.
* All information provided in respect of the application for a grant will be held electronically. The Council reserves the right to publish a list of all grants awarded on its website.
* The Freedom of Information Act applies to all records held by Donegal County Council.
* The application must be signed by the Chairperson or CEO/MD of the social enterprise.
* It is the responsibility of each social enterprise to ensure that it has proper procedures and policies in place including appropriate insurance where relevant.
* Evidence of expenditure, receipts / invoices must be retained and provided to the LCDC or their representative if requested.
* The NWRA and the Donegal Co Co must be publicly acknowledged in all materials associated with the purpose of the grant.
* Generally no third party or intermediary applications will be considered.
* Late applications will not be considered.
* Applications in any form should arrive not later than the closing date.
* Claims that any application form has been lost or delayed in the post will not be considered, unless applicants have a Post Office Certificate of Posting in support of such claims.
* Breaches of the terms and conditions of the grants scheme may result in sanctions including disbarment from future grant applications.
* By completing this Application Form, you consent to the data on the form, as required, being transferred to the Department of Rural and Community Development to enable a decision to be made on your application.
* Successful applicants may be subject to audit by the LCDC or the Department of Rural and Community Development.
* Documentation relating to the purchase of equipment or the completion of works should therefore be maintained for inspection for a period of 7 years.
* The ‘de minimus’ rule (Commission Regulation (EC) 1407/2013) will apply to the operation of this funding scheme.

# Enquiries

Applicants will be advised that all enquiries in relation to the Social Enterprise Capital Grants Scheme 2021 should be directed to lcdc@donegalcoco.ie or Tel 087 2371219

#  Social Enterprise Declaration

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| --- |
| A Social Enterprise is an enterprise whose objective is to achieve a social, societal or environmental impact, rather than maximising profit for its owners or shareholders. It pursues its objectives by trading on an ongoing basis through the provision of goods and/or services, and by reinvesting surpluses into achieving social objectives. It is governed in a fully accountable and transparent manner and is independent of the public sector. If dissolved, it should transfer its assets to another organisation with a similar mission.  |

*National Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland 2019-2022*

 I confirm that the organisation which I represent-

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Is an enterprise whose objective is to achieve a social, societal or environmental impact, rather than maximising profit for its owners or shareholders. | Yes/No: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Pursues its objectives by trading on an ongoing basis through the provision of goods and/or services.  | Yes/No: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Reinvests any surpluses into achieving social objectives. | Yes/No: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Is governed in a fully accountable and transparent manner and is independent of the public sector.  | Yes/No: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| If dissolved, it will transfer its assets to another organisation with a similar mission.  | Yes/No: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

# **Please submit a copy of your Groups Articles of Association with your application.**

# Organisation Details

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name of Social Enterprise:**  |  |
| **Contact Person**  |  |
| **Role of Contact Person** |  |
| **Contact Correspondence Address:** |  |
| **Eircode** |  |
| **Contact Email Address:** |  |
| **Contact Telephone No.:** |  |
| **Organisation Website** |  |
| **Tax Reference Number (if applicable):** |  |
| **Tax Clearance Access Number (if applicable)** |  |
| **Charity Number (if applicable)** |  |
| **Main Objectives/Purpose of the Social Enterprise** |  |

**Failure to provide Charitable Status No or Tax Reference No or Tax Clearance Access No relevant to your group will deem application invalid**

# Details of Proposed Project

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **What will the funding be used for?** |  |
| **Why is this funding needed and what impact would this grant have on your organisation’s service delivery and long term sustainability.** |  |
| **Total Estimated Costs of Project –Evidence and breakdown of costs to be provided** | € |
| **Amount being applied for** | € |
| **Other Funding- details of match funding to be provided** | € |
| **Confirm legal interest in your premises, Owner/Lease/Renting** |  |
| **Is planning permission in place (include copy of planning permission where relevant)** |  |
| **Proposed timeframe associated with Project** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Please state how your social enterprise proposes to acknowledge the NWRA Donegal Co Co and LCDC** |  |

*Note: Depending on the amount being applied for, this could be as simple as including an acknowledgement on equipment labels, or on notices/signs, or in any newsletters that are being produced locally.*

In order to process your application it may be necessary for Donegal LCDC to collect personal data from you. Such information will be processed in line with the Local Authority’s privacy statement which is available to view on <http://www.donegalcoco.ie/footer/dataprotectionstatement/>.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| I confirm I have read and fully understand the Terms and Conditions of this Programme (see page 4 of this form). | Yes/No: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| I confirm that I have read and fully understand the ‘Statement on Public Finances’ contained in Appendix A (see page 9 of this Form) | Yes/No: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

**I declare that the information provided by me on this application form is truthful and complete.**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Date**:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Print Name:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Position in Organisation:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Must be Chairperson or CEO/MD)

**For Official Use only:**

I verify that the application has been completed fully and that the applicant organisation meets the definition of a Social Enterprise under the National Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland 2019-2022.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

LCDC: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**APPENDIX A**

**Statement on Public Finances**

***This Statement should be brought to the attention of every grant receiving body***

**If you are in receipt of public funding you should**

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| --- | --- |
| **Clarity**Understand the purpose and conditions of the funding and the outputs requiredApply funding only for the business purposes for which they were providedApply for funding drawdown only when required for business purposesSeek clarification from the grantor where necessary – on use of funds, governance and accountability arrangements | **Governance***Ensure appropriate governance* *arrangements are in place for:*Oversight and administration of fundingControl and safeguarding of funds from misuse, misappropriation and fraudAccounting records which can provide, at any time, reliable financial information on the purpose, application and balance remaining of the public fundingAccounting for the amount and source of the funding, its application and outputs/outcomes |
| **Value for Money***Be in a position to provide evidence on:*Effective use of fundsValue achieved in the application of fundsAvoidance of waste and extravagance | **Fairness**Manage public funds with the highest degree of honesty and integrityAct in a manner which complies with relevant laws and obligations (e.g. tax, minimum wages)Procure goods and services in a fair and transparent mannerAct fairly, responsibly, and openly in your dealings with your Grantor |

**CHECKLIST:**

**Signed and completed Application Form □**

**Details of Charitable Status or Tax Reference or Tax Clearance Access No □**

**1 Quotation or Estimate □**

**Copy of Articles of Association □**