

# Submission DRCD 00074-24: Approval of 2024 funding under MoU with Coillte

TO: Minister  
STATUS: Completed  
PURPOSE: Approval

AUTHOR: Leon Fox (DRCDG)  
OWNER: Leon Fox (DRCDG)  
REVIEWERS: JP Mulherin (DRCDG)  
Fintan O'Brien (DRCDG)

DIVISION: Rural Policy and Schemes  
DECISION BY: 16/08/2024

## Final comment

Approved by Minister - 03/09/24 - TF

## Action required

Approval is sought for funding for Coillte of €1m for strategic capital infrastructure works in 2024 (Appendix I) and to agree funding of €2 million towards maintenance, enhancements and community recreation supports (Appendix II).

## Executive summary

A five year Memorandum of Understanding (2022-2026) between DRCD and Coillte provides for an annual contribution of €2m for the management and maintenance of existing Coillte recreation facilities and infrastructure, and a further €1m per annum for the development of new recreation facilities e.g. trails, car parking, toilet facilities, play areas etc. The €1m is subject to application and agreement by the Minister each year. The funding is provided at a rate of up to 80% DRCD contribution and is co-funded by Coillte.

In this regard, Coillte has identified 14 projects (Appendix I) to the value of €1.24m where strategic capital infrastructure works could take place before year-end – DRCD contribution is €989,000

In addition, €2m is also proposed to be allocated for the management and maintenance of over 260 projects and as a contribution to Coillte's community recreation and other project development support costs (detailed at Appendix II).

## Detailed information

### 1. Background

Coillte are the largest provider of outdoor recreation in Ireland and provide significant outdoor recreation infrastructure across its properties. They have over 300 recreation sites and thousands of individual forest properties throughout the country. They estimate that there are over 18 million individual visits to their forests each year.

Coillte also provide opportunities for business to operate from their facilities e.g. bike hire businesses at Ballyhoura, Limerick and cafés in Ards, Donegal and Donadea, Kildare. This supports the local economy in these areas.

DRCD has a strategic partnership in place with Coillte via a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The MoU agrees to provide €15m over the 5 year period 2022-2026 to Coillte to enhance recreational facilities on Coillte-owned land for use by the general public and to support increased tourism and economic activity in rural areas. The terms of the MoU provide for the Department to have an input to the annual work programme of Coillte over the period of the Agreement.

### 2. Strategic Capital Funding

Under the MoU, DRCD provides €2m funding on an annual basis to Coillte to develop and maintain recreational infrastructure and facilities for the public good and €1m of funding for additional works that are of a clear strategic importance to both parties.

Coillte recorded a significant increase in visitor numbers to its forest parks and recreational sites in recent years with a doubling of visitor numbers at some of their most popular sites. There are considerable impacts arising from the increased visitor numbers to sites e.g. a lack of adequate car-parking, an absence or lack of toilet facilities, and a need for improved trail surfaces and facilities to cater for access to outdoor recreation for those with limited ability.

Coillte have provided a list of proposed works at 14 sites which they can deliver in 2024 under the €1m strategic capital funding. These works include upgrading of car parking facilities, upgrades to toilet facilities and resurfacing of trails, and amount to €989,000 in 2024 (Appendix 1)

In addition, €1,968,777 is being proposed for the management and maintenance of over 260 projects and as a contribution to Coillte's community recreation and other project development support costs (detailed at Appendix II).

The Department has also been engaging with Coillte with a view to improving acknowledgement/communication of this investment and enhanced reporting on outputs achieved from the investment.

It is recommended that funding of €989,000 is provided to Coillte for works at the 14 sites listed in Appendix I. This would be on the basis that all works would be completed and drawn down before mid November 2024. When taken together with the €1,968,777 allocated for maintenance works and community recreation supports etc. this would bring the total payment to Coillte in 2024 to almost €3m.

Approval is requested to now proceed on this basis.

## Related submissions

There are no related submissions.

## Comments

**Leon Fox (DRCD)** - 08/08/2024 12:25

JP, attached please find the proposed 2024 maintenance and capital infrastructure project list from Coillte for approval of the Minister

**JP Mulherin (DRCD)** - 09/08/2024 11:23

ASG O'Brien,

Submission in respect of Coillte funding in 2024 is attached as previously discussed.

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**Fintan O'Brien (DRCD)** - 14/08/2024 09:53

Minister, attached for your approval is esubmission in respect of our ongoing strategic partnership with Coillte. It proposes providing funding this year for new capital works as well as ongoing work on the development and maintenance of a wide range of existing sites. The funding proposed is in line with DRCDs objectives under the National Outdoor Rec Strategy etc. 'Available to brief as required. Fintan

**Terry Flynn (DRCD)** - 03/10/2024 15:16

Approved by Minister - 03/09/24 - TF

## User details

INVOLVED: Leon Fox (DRCDG)  
JP Mulherin (DRCDG)  
Fintan O'Brien (DRCDG)  
eSub Ministers Office  
Minister Ring (DRCD)

READ RECEIPT: Leon Fox (DRCDG)  
JP Mulherin (DRCDG)  
Fintan O'Brien (DRCDG)  
Terry Flynn (DRCDG)  
Lynda Crawford (DRCDG)  
Sinead Harrington (DRCDG)  
Ailish McGinty (DRCDG)  
Niamh Walsh (DRCDG)

## Capital Works 2024

<b>County</b>	<b>Site/trail name</b>	<b>Description of the proposed project</b>	<b>DRCD Funding</b>
Cavan	Deerpark	Design, Construction and Finishing works for new car park entrance to Forest	€ 200,000
Clare	Kilrush Recreation Forest	Trail surface improvements works, which will include the upgrade of 900m of trail to tar and chip and enhance water management and stream crossing.	€ 75,000
Dublin	Slievethoul	Solar barrier and new connecting walking trail	€ 18,000
Dublin	Tibradden	Carpark Improvement Works - Phase 1	€ 80,000
Galway	Castlegrove	1.9km trail that we propose to upgrade to tar and chip. - Site preparation works including grading of existing track, drainage improvement works, supply and installation of CL804 with two layers of tar and chip (10mm/8mm)	€ 115,000
Kerry	Dromore	New Recreation Trail	€ 15,000
Kerry	Glanteenassig	Road Resurfacing (section)	€ 85,000
Kildare	Donadea Forest Park	Phase 1 of New Trail, protect Boundary Walls 8km total	€ 50,000
Limerick	Curragh Chase Forest Park	Road & Car Park Resurfacing (section)	€ 40,000
Louth	Slieve Foye	Works accompanying the completion of recent recreation infrastructure improvement works	€ 60,000
Mayo	Belleek	Belleek Wood Pond Rejuvenation Project.	€ 150,000
Monaghan	Rossmore Forest Park	Installation of new toilets and associated works in Rossmore Forest Park.	€ 49,000
Tipperary	Glengarra	New Footbridge for walking trail users	€ 12,000
Tipperary	Marl Bog	Car Park Improvement Works	€ 40,000
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>€ 989,000</b>

## Maintenance Works 2024

County	Site/trail name	Description of the proposed project	DRCD Funding
Carlow	Clashganny	Road repair at entrance	
	Clogrennan	Trail repairs	
	Deerpark	Repairs to flood damaged entrance area	
	Co. Carlow	Community Recreation and Project Development Support	
Carlow Total			€ 33,678
Cavan	Bailieboro	New signage and picnic units and benches	
	Burren	General maintenance	
	Castle Saunderson	General maintenance	
	Deerpark	General maintenance of tracks and trails	
	Dun an Ri Forest Park	Trail upgrade & riverbank restoration work to protect trails on river bank	
	Killykeen Forest Park	General trail maintenance and removal of dangerous ash trees along trails.	
	Co. Cavan	Community Recreation and Project Development Support	
Cavan Total			€ 45,268
Clare	Ballycuggaran	Post and rail safety fencing to segregate walkers and bikers at interface beside main carpark and other trail exits onto road network.	
	Cahermurphy	Carpark maintenance, dangerous tress	
	Cratloe	Carpark maintenance, dangerous tress	
	Doon	General maintenance	
	East Clare Way (incl Cratloe)	General maintenance, Path repair, windblown trees	
	Gragans Wood	General maintenance	
	Kilrush	General maintenance, dangerous trees, blowing leaves etc.	
	Mountainpark	General maintenance, dangerous trees, blowing leaves etc.	
	Co. Clare	Community Recreation and Project Development Support	
	Clare Total		
Cork	Ballyannan	General maintenance and minor trail repair	
	Ballymartle	General maintenance, strimming, check picnic furniture.	
	Beara Way	Windblow and water damage	
	Carrigfadda	General maintenance	
	Castleblagh	General maintenance	
	Castlefreke	General maintenance, hedge cutting	
	Castlemartyr	General maintenance	
	Corrin	General maintenance	
	Curragh	General maintenance, monitor MTB	
	Curraghbinny	General maintenance, tree surgery and hedge cutting.	

Farran Forest Park	General maintenance - toilet block, playground, picnic area and trails. Grass cutting and tree surgery.
Garretstown	General maintenance, hedge cutting and signage
Glanduff/ Kilbrittain	General maintenance, hedge cutting
Glansheskin	General maintenance
Glenanair	General maintenance, windblow
Glenbower/ Killeagh	General maintenance
Guagán Barra Forest Park	General maintenance, trail repair
Highfield / Knockomagh	Monitor dangerous trees/tree surgery
Island Wood	General maintenance
Kilbarry	General maintenance
Kncokananig	General maintenance and hedge cutting
Leamlara	Footbridge Improvement Works
Marlogue	General maintenance
Moanbaun/ Main Block	General maintenance
Mount Hillary	General maintenance, update signage
Mullinhassig Waterfall	General Amenity Maintenance.
Oldcourt	General maintenance
Pooleen	General maintenance to car park and trails
Rineen	General maintenance
Rostellan	General maintenance
Sheeps Head Way	Contingency for wind blow and water damage
Shipool	General maintenance
Slí Ghaeltacht Mhuscraí	General maintenance and bog bridge to be replaced
Warrencourt	General maintenance and hedge cutting
Co. Cork	Community Recreation and Project Development Support

Cork Total

€ 237,591

Donegal	Ards Forest Park	Carpark lining and surfacing improvement works, General maintenance, grass cutting
	Bonny Glen/ Clooney Wood	Resurfacing of path along Lough Namanlagh
	Carrickbressil	Strimming, some repairs to muddy sections
	Castletown	General maintenance
	Drumboe	Path maintenance, replacement of timber railings. Cut back vegetation/ branches on path edges.
	Drumonaghan (Ballyair)	Strimming of paths; general maintenance; dangerous tree removal
	Kilrean	Strimming and cut back branches. Some drainage works
	Knader	Hedge cutting and Rhododendron cutting along the paths and roadways
	Laracus	General maintenance
	Lough Eske/ Rossylongan	Path maintenance, Remove Rhododendron from paths
	Mongorry	General maintenance

	Mullaghagarry	Hedge cutting and strimming along path edges	
	Murvagh	Tree surgery works along paths required	
	Rossylongan	Path maintenance, Remove Rhododendron from paths	
	Co. Donegal	Community Recreation and Project Development Support	
Donegal Total			€ 118,894
Dublin	Ballinascorney	General maintenance	
	Barnaslingan Car Park	General maintenance	
	Carrickgollogan	General maintenance	
	Commons	General maintenance	
	Cruagh	General maintenance	
	Dublin Mountains Way	General maintenance	
	Featherbed	General maintenance	
	Hellfire car park and trails	General maintenance	
	Kilmashogue	General site maintenance.	
	Masseys estate	general maintenance & tree surgery	
	Seahan	General maintenance	
	Slievethoul and Lugg	General maintenance	
	Ticknock	Fairy Castle loop repairs and bridge stream	
	Co. Dublin	Community Recreation and Project Development Support	
Dublin Total			€ 58,655
Galway	Aghrane	General maintenance, Path repair, windblown trees	
	Ardnageeha	General maintenance, dangerous trees, blowing leaves etc.	
	Cappaghoosh	General maintenance	
	Castlegrove	General maintenance	
	Chevychase	General maintenance	
	Clonbur	General maintenance, Path repair, windblown trees	
	Cong	General maintenance, dangerous trees, blowing leaves etc.	
	Derroura MTB Trails	General maintenance	
	Derrygill	General maintenance, Path repair, windblown trees. Maintain trails near operations	
	Dunsandle	Tree surgery, repair trails	
	Inchagoill Island	Works associated with the significant repairs to walking trails on Inchagoill Islands.	
	Kilchreest	General maintenance	
	Kilcornan	Signage, repair paths, tree surgery	
	Kylebrack	General maintenance, directional signage	
	Lackavrea	General maintenance, directional signage	
	Monivea	Signage, repair paths, tree surgery	
	Mountbellew	Signage, cut back vegetation, repair paths, tree surgery	

	Portumna Forest Park	General maintenance, Path repair, windblown trees. car park repair, wall repair,	
	Roscahill	General maintenance	
	Rosturra	General maintenance, Path repair, windblown trees	
	Sonnock/ Gortnamannagh	General maintenance	
	Tullyconor/ Lettershanbally	General maintenance, Path repair, windblown trees.	
	Woodlawn Co. Galway	Maintenance, Tree surgery Community Recreation and Project Development Support	
Galway Total			€ 197,933
Kerry	Ballygamboon	General maintenance, strimming, check picnic furniture.	
	Caragh Lake	Trail maintenance, wind blown trees, car park maintenance, water damage/repair.	
	Dromore	General maintenance, trail upgrade	
	Glannageenty	General maintenance. Wind blown trees from trail.	
	Glanteenassig	General maintenance. Board walk maintenance (post and rails esp), forest road repairs.	
	Gleensk	Monitoring, strimming, maintain steps.	
	Glenbeigh	General maintenance	
	Kerry Way	Contingency for windblow and water damage	
	Kilderry	General maintenance.	
	Killaclohane	General maintenance, hedge cutting.	
	Kimego	General maintenance on trails and car park. Signage	
	Lickeen	General maintenance, water damage	
	Lyracrumpane	General maintenance, trail repair	
	Pike Wood	General maintenance, remove windblow trees, benches, grass cutting.	
	Rossacroo	General maintenance of trail, bridge maintenance (wire for grip).	
	Co. Kerry	Community Recreation and Project Development Support	
Kerry Total			€ 55,536
Kildare	Donadea Forest Park	Forest Park general maintenance.	
	Killinthomas	Car Park Upgrade	
	Moore Abbey	General site maintenance.	
	Mullaghreelan	Upgrade walking trails	
	Rahin	Upgrade Recreation Infrastructure and maintenance	
	Co. Kildare	Community Recreation and Project Development Support	
Kildare Total			€ 44,775
Kilkenny	Castlemorris	Up-grade trails and install 2 new Trail head signs	

	Jenkinstown & Ballyrafton	Toilet Maintenance, Cut Grass, Maintain Walkways, Upgrade of 400m of trails not included in KKCC ORIS project		
	South Leinster Way	Upgrade Path in Kilcross		
	Woodstock	Repair section of River walk eroded by storms		
	Co. Kilkenny	Community Recreation and Project Development Support		
	Kilkenny Total		€	50,033
Laois	Cathole	Minor drainage work required and trail maintenance.		
	Cullahill	General maintenance		
	Dysart Forest	Tidy up car parking area and resurface section of road trails		
	Emo Court	General maintenance of tracks and trails.		
	Garryhinch	general maintenance of track, trails and car park.		
	Glenbarrow	Replace handrails sections, trail repair of badly eroded section and maintenance		
	Lacca	General maintenance		
	Monicknew	Re-fence of amenity area, car park and trail maintenance.		
	The Derries (Rathadaire Lake walk)	General maintenance and cleaning of site ongoing.		
	Togher	Tree Surgery		
	Co. Laois	Community Recreation and Project Development Support		
	Laois Total		€	43,421
Leitrim	Derrycarne	General maintenance of trails		
	Derrynahimmirk/ Fowleys Falls	Strimming of paths; general maintenance		
	Glencar Waterfall	Windblown trees		
	Glenfarne	General Amenity Maintenance.		
	Milltown/Ballyglass	Strimming, path repairs		
	Scardan waterfall	General Amenity Maintenance.		
	The Leitrim Way	General Amenity Maintenance.		
	Co. Leitrim	Community Recreation and Project Development Support		
	Leitrim Total		€	30,170
Limerick	Ballinruan	General maintenance and hedge cutting		
	Ballyhoura (incl MTB)	General maintenance. Replace/ supplement signage		
	Curragh Chase Forest Park	General maintenance - toilet block, playground, picnic area and trails. Grass cutting and tree surgery		
	Foynes	General maintenance, car park, trail maintenance.		
	Galty Castle	General maintenance, tree surgery and contingency for windblow.		
	Glenstal	General maintenance		
	Liskennett	General maintenance		

	Mountain Meitheal Multeen Way Co. Limerick	Support for ongoing projects Clear windblow Community Recreation and Project Development Support	
Limerick Total			€ 122,899
Longford	Derrycassan Gowna/ Mulrick Rathcline Co. Longford	Trail Upgrade, Tree Maintenance General maintenance repairing trails General maintenance repairing trails Community Recreation and Project Development Support	
Longford Total			€ 11,903
Louth	Carlingford/Sliabh Foye Feede Ravensdale  Townley Hall  Co. Louth	General maintenance of trails and picnic areas General maintenance of trails and picnic areas New signage and trail repair, Bridge Repair and support works  General maintenance, fence repair, trail upkeep, car park surface  Community Recreation and Project Development Support	
Louth Total			€ 60,111
Mayo	Ballinamore Barraglanna Belleek wood  Brackloon wood Breaffy Carrowntleva Castlemagarrett (Claremorris) Drummin Knockranny (Westport) Moore Hall / Towerhill Nephin more (Lahardane) Raheens Sheskin Teevenish Tourmakeady Co. Mayo	General maintenance. General maintenance. General maintenance, dangerous trees, blowing leaves etc.  No parking signage and directional signage. No parking signage and directional signage. General maintenance Rhododendron control; general maintenance Strimming of paths; general maintenance Dangerous trees to be removed General maintenance Wet section of walking trail to be resurfacing Resurfacing paths Signage, Markers, trailheads replacement General maintenance Rhododendron control and path upgrade works Community Recreation and Project Development Support	
Mayo Total			€ 74,441
Meath	Girley Bog  Littlewood Summerhill Co. Meath	General maintenance. Repair/ resurface roadway  General Maintenance. Maintain trails General upkeep of car park and picnic areas Community Recreation and Project Development Support	
Meath Total			€ 13,464
Monaghan	Black Island  Dartry	General maintenance and tree surgery along trails  General maintenance	

	Derrygorry Millenium Woodlands	Painting of seats/ marker posts and clean/paint bridge		
	Rossmore Forest Park	General maintenance programme and remove dangerous trees along trails		
	Senator Billy Fox Co. Monaghan	Tree Surgery - Ash Trees Community Recreation and Project Development Support		
Monaghan				
Total			€	27,443
Offaly	Castletown (Kinnitty)	Tree surgery along trails		
	Slieve Bloom MTB Trail	General maintenance		
	Slieve Bloom Way	Upgrade of 200m badly eroded section of Slieve Bloom Way as highlighted by Trails Committee		
	Co. Offaly	Community Recreation and Project Development Support		
Offaly Total			€	12,450
Roscommon	Clonfad	General maintenance		
	Correen	Grass cutting , tree surgery , General Maintenance		
	Derryvunny	Grass cutting , tree surgery , General Maintenance		
	Dunamon	Grass cutting , tree surgery , General Maintenance		
	Harristown	Grass cutting , tree surgery , General Maintenance , provision of new foot bridge, amenity seating and car park improvements		
	Knockranny	Grass cutting , tree surgery , General Maintenance , provision of new foot bridge, amenity seating and car park improvements		
	Lough Key Forest Park	Internal trail improvements, hedge cutting, tree surgery . Repair of Drummans and Fairy Bridges		
	Miners way/Historical trail	General maintenance and tree surgery		
	Mote Park	General maintenance and tree surgery. Roadside verge trimming. Repair of existing main walking trails , new seating		
	Oakport	General Repairs in the area Bracklin to Dunamon		
	Slieve Bawn Wind Farm	General Repairs in the area Bracklin to Dunamon		
	Co. Roscommon	Community Recreation and Project Development Support		
Roscommon				
Total			€	59,720
Sligo	Carney	Dangerous roadside trees; general maintenance		
	Carns	Grass cutting, dangerous roadside trees		
	Cartron (Troll wood )	Clearing trees and rockslides		
	Coolaney MTB	General maintenance		
	Cullentra (Killerry)	Grass cutting, dangerous roadside trees		
	Deerpark Sligo	Path and road repairs		
	Dooney	Path and road repairs and grass strimming		

	Glen Wood	Path repairs and carpark maintenance and grass strimming		
	Gleniff	Path repairs		
	Gortarowey	Clear windblown trees		
	Hazelwood	Path repairs, windblown trees, seats to be replaced.		
	Lissadell	Grass strimming		
	Lough Talt	General maintenance		
	Rathcarrick	Path repairs, step repairs, windblown trees		
	Rathscanlon	Strimming of paths		
	Red earls road	Remove windblown trees		
	Sligo Way	Trail drainage works and replace surface		
	Slishwood	Path and road repairs and grass strimming		
	Union wood	Grass strimming and road repair, step repair.		
	Co. Sligo	Community Recreation and Project Development Support		
Sligo Total			€	98,166
Tipperary	Bansha Woods	General maintenance to trails and carpark		
	Bishops Wood/ Gortarush	General maintenance		
	Cahir Park	General maintenance		
	Doonane/Ballyhourigan	General maintenance		
	Glengarra	General maintenance		
	Gortavoher/ Ardloman	Maintenance of car park surface		
	Grangecrag	General maintenance.		
	Greenfield	General maintenance		
	Kildanoge	Contingency for windblow		
	Killballyboy	General maintenance		
	Knockanacree	General maintenance, contingency for windblow.		
	Knockanroe/Step	General maintenance and trail repair		
	Co. Tipperary	Community Recreation and Project Development Support		
Tipperary Total			€	41,691
Waterford	Carey's Castle	General maintenance and trail upgrade		
	Colligan	General maintenance, check hedge cutting, strimming		
	Dromana	General maintenance		
	East Munster Way	Contingency for windblow		
	Faithlegg	General maintenance and monitoring anti-social behaviour		
	Glenshelane	General maintenance		
	Kilclooney	General maintenance		
	Mahon Bridge	General maintenance		
	Marfield	General maintenance, trail repair		
	St. Declan's Way	General maintenance, route improvements		
	Co. Waterford	Community Recreation and Project Development Support		
Waterford Total			€	53,201

Westmeath	Ballinafid	Maintenance works and trail repair
	Ballingall	General trail and track maintenance
	Carn Park	General maintenance of site
	Kilpatrick	Maintenance works and trail repair
	Moydrum	Trail maintenance and treatment of furniture and railings.
	Mullaghmeen	Roads/trails upgrade. Resurface trails
	Westmeath Way	General maintenance of site
	Co. Westmeath	Community Recreation and Project Development Support
Westmeath Total		€ 27,453
Wexford	Blackwater	Scrape walking trail and cover with hardcore
	Carrickbyrne	Upgrade all of the walking trails and install seating
	Coolmelagh	Upgrade of Walking Trails
	Courtown	Replacement works on existing Spike bridge
	Oaklands	Upgrade the walking trail from the Ice house to Fishing lake.
	Ramsfort Park	Upgrade walking trails and remove blown trees on walkway
	Tintern	Establishment of a new Bridge across the River and a new section of walking trail
	Co. Wexford	Community Recreation and Project Development Support
Wexford Total		€ 72,955
Wicklow	Avondale Forest Park	Trail upgrades Railway & River walks and tree surgery
	Avonmore Way/ Trooperstown	General site maintenance.
	Ballinastoe MTB	MTB trail maintenance and fencing to stop sheep getting on trail
	Ballygannon	vegetation control and tree surgery
	Devils Glen	River walk maintenance
	Djouce (Deerpark)	Picnic area improvement works
	Glenart	Trail Upgrade and repair
	Mount Kennedy	General trail and site maintenance.
	The Meetings Wood	General maintenance
	Wicklow Way	General maintenance
Co. Wicklow	Community Recreation and Project Development Support	
Wicklow Total		€ 75,759
All Ireland	Maintain recreation facilities; repairs to visitor buildings, etc..	Visitor building maintenance, equipment inspections and certification
	Playground inspections and works	Repairs to play facilities
	Signage design and supply	Signage design and upgrades to various sites

Trail design/ construction  
specifications  
Visitor counters  
Website/ Mapping

Trail design support services  
Annual hire, data collection & reports  
New maps

All Ireland

Total

€ 236,640

**Grand Total**


**€ 1,968,777**

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TO: Minister OWNER: eSub Ministers Office  
STATUS: Review REVIEWERS: JP Mulherin (DRCD), Fintan O'Brien (DRCD)  
PURPOSE: Approval DECISION BY: 16/08/2024  
DIVISION/OFFICE: Rural Policy and Schemes

SEEN AND APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

  
3/9/2024

## Action required

Approval is sought for funding for Coillte of €1m for strategic capital infrastructure works in 2024 (Appendix I) and to agree funding of €2 million towards maintenance, enhancements and community recreation supports (Appendix II).

## Executive summary

A five year Memorandum of Understanding (2022-2026) between DRCD and Coillte provides for an annual contribution of €2m for the management and maintenance of existing Coillte recreation facilities and infrastructure, and a further €1m per annum for the development of new recreation facilities e.g. trails, car parking, toilet facilities, play areas etc. The €1m is subject to application and agreement by the Minister each year. The funding is provided at a rate of up to 80% DRCD contribution and is co-funded by Coillte.

In this regard, Coillte has identified 14 projects (Appendix I) to the value of €1.24m where strategic capital infrastructure works could take place before year-end – DRCD contribution is €989,000

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## Comments

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## Detailed information

### 1. Background

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Coillte also provide opportunities for business to operate from their facilities e.g. bike hire businesses at Ballyhoura, Limerick and cafés in Ards, Donegal and Donadea, Kildare. This supports the local economy in these areas.

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Approval is requested to now proceed on this basis.

#### Related submissions

There are no related submissions.

#### User details

INVOLVED: Leon Fox (DRCD)  
JP Mulherin (DRCD)  
Fintan O'Brien (DRCD)  
eSub Ministers Office  
Minister Ring (DRCD)

READ RECEIPT: Leon Fox (DRCD)  
JP Mulherin (DRCD)  
Fintan O'Brien (DRCD)  
Terry Flynn (DRCD)

#### Attachments

NAME	MODIFIED DATE	EDITOR
Appendix i Capital Works 2024.pdf	08/08/2024	Leon Fox (DRCD)
Appendix II Maintenance Works 2024.pdf	08/08/2024	Leon Fox (DRCD)