

LIMERICK LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

LEADER 2023 – 2027

PROPOSAL FOR CALL FOR NOMINATIONS TO THE LEADER INDEPENDENT
EVALUATION COMMITTEES (IECS)

INTRODUCTION

Limerick Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) is inviting nominations for its Independent Evaluation Committees (IEC) to assess and evaluate all project proposals for the LEADER 2023 – 2027 funding.

Limerick LCDC has been awarded the contract to deliver the LEADER Programme 2023 – 2027 in Limerick in co-operation with its Implementing Partner (IP) West Limerick Resources CLG. The LEADER Programme 2023 – 2027 Project Budget is €5.2 million and will be delivered across the three key programme themes:

LEADER Themes and Sub-Themes

Economic Development and Job Creation	Rural Infrastructure and Social Inclusion	Sustainable Development and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Green Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rural Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sustainable Development of Rural Environment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agricultural Diversification	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accessible Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Climate Change Capacity Building
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rural Tourism & Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rural Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enterprise Development		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rural Food Production		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social, Community and Cooperative Enterprises		

ROLE OF THE INDEPENDENT EVALUATION COMMITTEE (IEC)

The IEC's role is to assess and evaluate all project proposals for LEADER funding and make recommendations to Limerick LCDC who has the final decision-making capacity.

One Evaluation Committee will be established for the county. The IEC’s role is to assess and evaluate project proposals for LEADER funding to ensure that proposals are:

- compatible with the Limerick Local Development Strategy (LDS),
- are realistic / attainable, commercially viable / sustainable,
- offer value for money,
- contribute towards the community and economic development, social inclusion and environmental sustainability of Limerick.
- consistent with the Operating Rules of the LEADER Programme 2023 - 2027

To ensure transparency and accountability, Limerick LCDC is developing guidance documents which will be circulated to successful nominees.

THE EVALUATION PROCESS

West Limerick Resources (the Implementing Partner) will work in a support capacity with the IEC. Staff members from the IP will call meetings of the IEC, will record minutes, present proposals to the IEC and prompt discussion on same. Typically six meetings are held annually, however this may vary as the programme requires. Note all documentation may be issued electronically and most meetings will be held in person with the option for online attendance when required.

All members of the IEC will be circulated with project proposals in good time prior to the meeting, and there is an opportunity for any queries raised to be addressed. At the meeting, a staff member from the IP will present a background to each project proposal. IEC members will discuss the proposal. When discussions on a project proposal are completed, the project will be scored.

This score sheet, along with the meeting minutes will be submitted to the Limerick LCDC for consideration in making a final decision re project approval.

NOMINATION PROCESS & MEMBERSHIP

Limerick LCDC will seek to appoint IECs which are balanced in terms of sectors, expertise, gender and diversity to enable robust evaluation of projects across the LEADER themes.

Limerick LCDC will fill positions on the Independent Evaluation Committees by nomination (public sector / organisation official) and by open public call, seeking applications from persons interested in being appointed to the Evaluation Committee. The open calls will be publicised widely.

If places are unfilled after process above, the IPs will nominate candidates for approval by the LCDC taking into account the skill set required.

The evaluation committee will have:

- 11 IEC members listed below from nomination or open call as below

Sector	Rep
Economic Development	LEO
Economic Development	Business
Financial Analysis	Accounting/Banking
Community/Social Inclusion	Rep from East of the County
Community/Social Inclusion	Rep from West of the County
Sustainable Development	Environmental Expertise

Tourism	Tourism Expertise
Youth	Young Person/Youth Service Provider Rep
LEADER Experience	Knowledge of LEADER Programme
Local Development	WLR Board Rep
Local Development	Ballyhoura Development Board Rep

IEC MEMBER SKILL SET, BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE

Members should have the ability and the skill set to evaluate projects against the criteria as defined in the evaluation scoring sheet. While individuals may have expertise in a particular area, all IEC members are expected to contribute to the evaluation of projects across all the themes and subthemes.

Other skills / experiences which are beneficial for members of an IEC include

- An overall understanding of rural / community development issues affecting County Limerick, its businesses, communities and environment.
- experience of project and financial management in a paid or voluntary capacity
- previous experience of project evaluation and assessment

Once a committee is in place the members will be provided with appropriate guidance and training to help familiarise themselves with the role.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This is a voluntary role but there will be a travel & subsistence allowance for IEC members as applicable at civil service rates to attend the evaluation committee meetings