



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe An Scéim Athnuachan Bailte & Sráidbhailte Léiriú Suime

Galway County Council Town and Village Renewal Scheme

Leabhrán Eolais Information Guide



Streetscape Enhancement in
Portumna, Completed 2024

Arna mhaoiniú faoi Thionscadal Éireann 2040, is príomhbheart í an Scéim Athnuachana Bailte agus Sráidbhailte (TVRS) a thacaíonn go díreach le cuspóirí Ár dTodhchaí Tuaithe agus an Bheartas Tús Áite do Lár an Bhaile (TCF).

The Town and Village Renewal Scheme (TVRS) is funded under Project Ireland 2040 as part of Ireland's Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 - Our Rural Future and Town Centre First Policy.



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Ár dTodhchaí
Tuaithe
Our Rural
Future



An Roinn Forbartha
Tuaithe agus Pobail
Department of Rural and
Community Development

What is the Town and Village Renewal Scheme (TVRS)?

Tá an Scéim (TVRS) deartha chun tacú le hathbheochan na tuaithe in Éirinn trí fhócas athnuaithe ar théarnamh eacnamaíoch agus sóisialta i lár an bhaile agus ar athghiniúint.

An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail a mhaoiníonn an Scéim Athnuachana Bailte agus Sráidbhailte agus na hÚdaráis Áitiúla a chuireann i bhfeidhm í a oibríonn go dlúth le pobail agus gnólachtaí áitiúla chun tograí bunaithe ar áit a fhorbairt a d'fhéadfadh tionchar buan a bheith acu in athbheochan bailte agus sráidbhailte tuaithe.

The Scheme (TVRS) is designed to support the re-vitalisation of rural Ireland through a renewed focus on town and village centre economic and social recovery and re-generation.

The Scheme is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development and administered through the Local Authorities who work closely with local communities and businesses to develop place-based proposals that can make an lasting impact in re-vitalising rural towns and villages in County Galway.



The Town and Village Renewal Scheme supports small to medium capital projects which enhance town or village centres. Grant funding can range from €100,000 to €500,000 for projects which align with Our Rural Future and Town Centre First Policy. Final project selection is made by the Department on the basis of proposals shortlisted by Galway County Council.

- ✦ **Investment in town centre living, addressing vacancy and dereliction:** enhancing environment and amenities in the interests of residents, businesses, and visitors;
- ✦ **Investment in remote working:** providing opportunities for people to continue living in rural communities while following their career ambitions;
- ✦ **Investment in rural towns and villages as hubs of economic and social activity:** increasing attractiveness and as a result increasing its sustainability as a place to live and work in;
- ✦ **Investment in the capital projects in rural towns and village to promote them as tourist destinations and centres for culture and local heritage:** enhancing the sense of identity in towns and villages physically and socially.



Ballinasloe Enterprise Hub for Remote Working, TVRS 2022

What type of projects are funded?

✦ Main Town and Village Scheme

The Scheme is targeted at three categories of Towns/Villages;

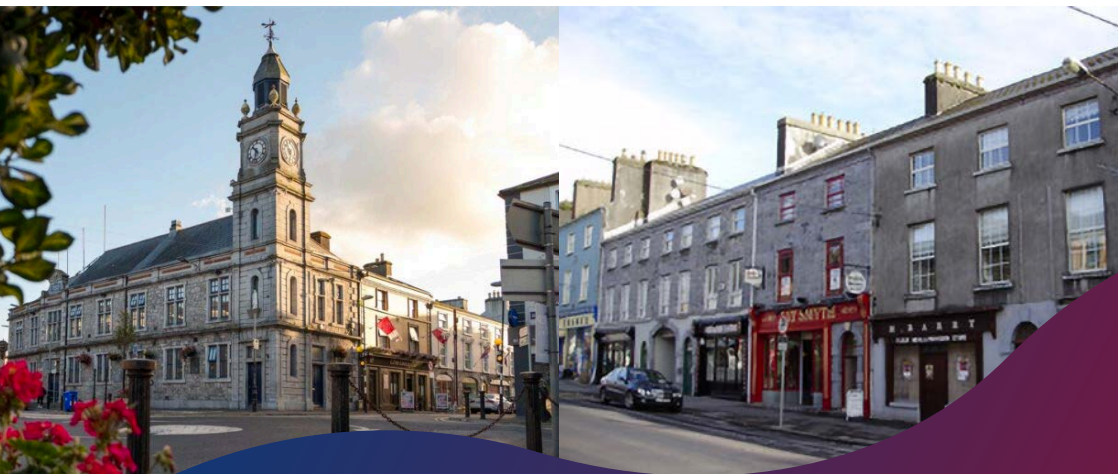
Category 1 - Population of up to 5000 people

Category 2 - Population 5001 to 10,000

Category 3 - Population above 10,000

Inhabited off-shore Islands are also eligible. Typically, 60% of budget is targeted at Towns and Villages in Category 1, however this varies based on need and annual scheme priorities. Activities considered under the Scheme include:

- projects which bring **vacant and derelict building back into use** as **multi-purpose community spaces or remote working hubs**;
- investment in development of **parks, green space, and recreational amenities** in town and village centres, plazas, markets, or examination of suitable sites;
- **refurbishment** to existing community facilities and centres;
- projects to support vibrant and sustainable communities on Galway's **inhabited offshore islands**;
- **sustainable** projects or ones which include **nature-based solutions**;
- projects that focus on **accessibility for all** and **inclusivity**.





◆ Streetscape Enhancement Measure

Towns and Villages are shortlisted by Galway County Council for inclusion in the Streetscape Schemes and the final selection is made by the Department. Property Owners and Tenants within the designated streets in the location can apply for Grant Assistance of up to 80% for painting, upgrading and enhancement of shopfronts and street facades in town and village centres.

Activities may include signage replacement, painting, improvements to lighting and canopies, and installation of benches, picnic areas, and greenery, building on the development of outdoor dining and recreation spaces. The Council has directly supported advisory sessions from a Colour Consultant to support the Streetscape Schemes, to encourage co-ordination and vibrant colours.



Streetscape Enhancement
Scheme 2021 in
Oughterard



Streetscape Enhancement
Scheme 2023-24 in
Portumna

◆ Project Development Measure

Activities which fulfil the goals of the Town and Village Scheme but remain at the planning stage may be eligible for Project Development Measures. This is funding is awarded for initial project expenses such as **detailed design, planning, procurement, professional fees, assessments and other development costs**, aiming to contribute towards a pipeline of significant, well-developed projects which may be subsequently progressed to construction stage, subject to the availability of further funding. Up to three projects may be shortlisted annually for project development. The maximum grant amount available is €50,000 per project.



Sample Projects

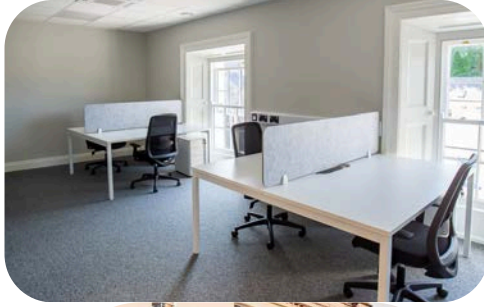
Below are some projects which have been funded under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme in recent years.



Leenane Community Park, Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2021

Funding of **€249,208** was awarded by Galway County Council under the Town and Village Scheme for the conversion of a disused, overgrown field into a green, vibrant local amenity for the community. The project was implemented and match funded by Leenane Development Association.

Photos provided by Leenane Development Association



Ballinasloe Enterprise Hub, Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2022

€250,000 was awarded by Galway County Council to Ballinasloe Area Community Development (BACD) to support the conversion of the former vacant building into a state-of-the-art, community and enterprise Hub.



Athenry Multi-Use Community Hub

Galway County Council was awarded €312,125 in 2022 to acquire a disused vacant building on Burke's Lane in Athenry under the TVRS Building Acquisition Measure.

Further funding was awarded to secure planning permission as part of the the TVRS Project Development Measure for its reuse as a multi-purpose community and enterprise Hub. In 2024, the Department confirmed investment from the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) for its renovation - breathing life into this historically important town centre.



Glenamaddy Town Square

€25,000 was awarded by Galway County Council under the 2020 TVRS Scheme to improve Glenamaddy Town Square and planters, in partnership with Glenamaddy Tidy Towns.



Headford and Ballygar Streetscape Enhancement Measure, 2021

Over €121,200 was awarded by Galway County Council under the 2021 TVRS Streetscape Enhancement Measure to help improve frontages and facades in Headford and Ballygar, in partnership with local businesses, Headford & District Association and Ballygar Tidy Towns.

How much funding is available under TVRS?

Typically **€100,000 - €250,000** may be awarded to successful applicants, with one application receiving **€500,000**, at a rate of 95% funding. Typically a maximum of 6 projects will be shortlisted, one of which must not have previously been funded in the last 3 years. Counties in the EU North-West Region (Classified as Region of Transition) are eligible for a grant rate of 95% under TVRS.

How to apply?

Galway County Council will advertise for Expressions of Interest (EOI) from towns and villages through Galway County Council's **GalwayCoCo.Submit.com** platform.

Proposals will be shortlisted and selected for development into detailed applications to be submitted to the Department. Expressions of Interest may be submitted by **community or voluntary organisations** or **local development companies**.

Further terms and conditions of each scheme year will be outlined on Galway County Council's social media and Grant Schemes webpage on the County Council website and shared via the Public Participation Network (PPN).

What are some general conditions?

- Landowner consent and planning permission (if applicable) must be confirmed and in place at the time of application;
- Applications must be shovel ready and all other assessments/feasibility studies in place prior to submission, if required;
- The applicant must own or have a valid 15-year lease for the property or project site;
- Evidence that match funding or loan proposal is in place at time of application.

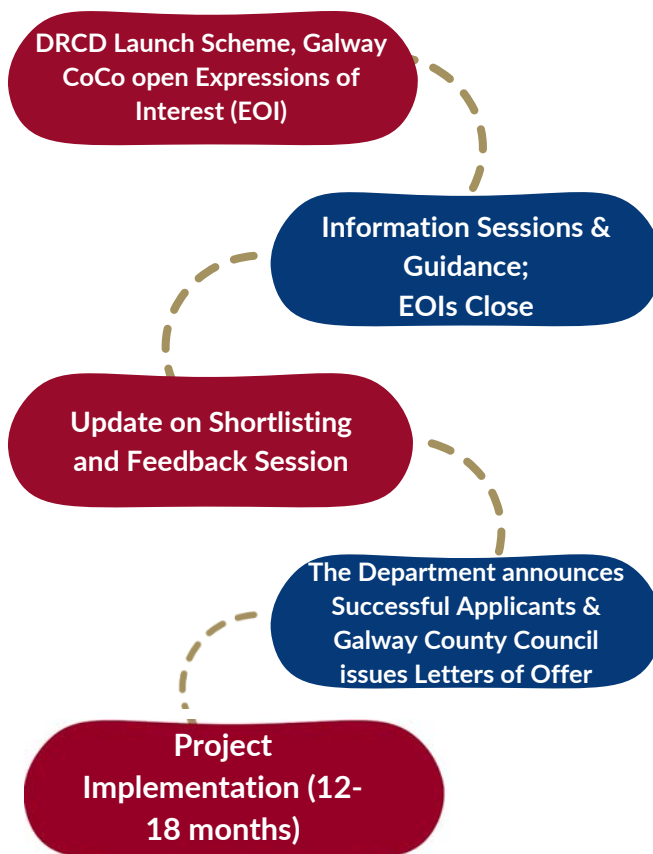


What is the assessment criteria?

The Department of Rural and Community Development will consider a number of factors when assessing applications, including alignment with government priorities such as “Our Rural Future” policy, Town Centre First, UN Sustainable Development Goals, and the Climate Action Plan. In terms of each project, various elements will be evaluated:

- range, mix, quality and impact of the project;
- previous funding provided;
- meeting the scheme objectives and requirements;
- demonstration of need;
- value for money;
- quality and achievability.

What is the application process?





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Please be aware that all Applications and Expressions of Interest (EOI) must be submitted online, not in paper copy, on Galway County Council's **Submit.com** platform.



The TVRS webpage is updated when dates are finalised for opening and closure of applications:

www.galway.ie/en/services/communityenterpriseeconomicdevelopment/grantschemes



Expression of Interest (EOI) forms for the next phase of TVRS will go live further to Scheme Launch on our Submit platform, which is the same platform used for Application Submissions:

www.galwaycoco.submit.com



The Rural Development Unit at Galway County Council can be contacted for general queries or to set up a time to discuss your proposal at the following email address:

tandv@galwaycoco.ie

Eimear Dolan - Administrative Officer
Majella Moylan - Senior Staff Officer
Carmel Egan - Assistant Staff Officer



Public
Participation
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Galway County

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