

AGREEMENT ON EU AID PACKAGE FOR FARMERS

Agreement has been reached by the EU Commission's Management Committee on proposals to give effect to the aid package for farmers. The package is designed to support market stabilisation across the EU's dairy sector. The agreement puts in place a framework for the exceptional adjustment aid to milk producers and a package for the provision of aid for milk production reduction.

Ireland has been allocated €11.1m

- Aid for Milk Production reduction: this proposal will fund aid to farmers who agree to temporarily reduce their milk output at a level of 14c/L. The budget for this scheme is €150m and there are no individual MS allocations.

The Package will include:

- Exceptional Aid to milk producers and farmers in other livestock sectors. This is a €350m package with individual MS allocations for them to undertake measures which best reflect their national circumstances.

- An extension of the intervention period for SMP to the end of January 2017 and the next period beginning immediately after.



Patrick with the President of the IFA, Joe Healy and the Limerick county officers



John Enright, General Secretary of the ICMSA, Patrick and ICMSA officers Thomas Blackburn and Robert O'Mahoney

ADARE BYPASS & FOYNES TO LIMERICK ROAD UPDATE

Limerick City and County Council in consultation with Transport Infrastructure Ireland are working to progress the Foynes to Limerick Road Improvement Scheme. The 300m wide preferred Route Corridor (Orange) was announced in December 2015 and the Route Selection Report was published in June 2016. Environmental and Surveying activities have been progressing and they plan to commence Ground Investigation works shortly.

Work has also been progressing to identify a 100m wide corridor within which the final route is likely to be developed. Provisional junction locations have also been identified and Junction layouts are yet to be decided. The next briefing on the project by the Project Team will take place in early September. This scheme is included in the Governments Spending Plan.



Great to meet with fellow Limerick man Seamus Hickey Chairman of the GPA and Dessie Farrell CEO of the GPA, following my appointment.

Clinic Schedule

I am available on **MONDAYS** in the following areas, please contact my office for an appointment. Except for Bank Holidays



CONSTITUENCY OFFICE

My new constituency office is on St Marys Road, Newcastle, County Limerick - If I can be of assistance to you please do not hesitate in contacting me.

FINE GAEL

PATRICK O'DONOVAN TD
Minister for Tourism & Sport



O'DONOVAN "MASSIVE JOBS BOOST FOR NEWCASTLE WEST"

The Minister for Tourism and Sport, and local Fine Gael TD, Patrick O'Donovan has welcomed the announcement of up to 110 new Medical Device manufacturing jobs for Newcastle West, Co. Limerick by Ortec Inc., a successful United States Medical Device specialist manufacturer who will establish its European Headquarters in Newcastle West.

"Over the last number of years I have been working closely with the IDA, Limerick City & County Council, the Shannon Group and the local promoters of the project, Stephen O'Donovan, Derry McMahon and Peter Byrne to secure this major investment for the town of Newcastle West".

"Everyone in the Newcastle West Community are really thrilled to welcome Ortec to our home town. This is a fantastic endorsement of the promoters of this project and our community, and we all look forward to working successfully with the company for many years to come.

This announcement is a great boost for Newcastle West and the surrounding areas and is evidence of what is possible for manufacturing companies in regional locations. I wish both the Ortec and promoters every success with this project."



On May 19th last I was appointed by An Taoiseach Enda Kenny as Minister of State for Tourism and Sport. I was absolutely thrilled when An Taoiseach called me with the news, particularly with the job he gave me. I spent most of the last term on the Oireachtas Committee that covers Tourism and Sport, so to be appointed as a Minister for the area was absolutely fantastic. It is a huge honour for me, my family, my supporters and the constituency. 2016 promises to be a great year both for tourism and sport in Ireland and I hope to play a very active role both at home and abroad as Minister.



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PATRICK O'DONOVAN TD

Working for Limerick

Tourism Meeting

Recently I met with Shay Riordan, West Limerick Resources, Pat Daly and Conn Murray of Limerick City & County Council and Pdraig Casey of Ballyhoura Development along with my officials and officials from Fáilte Ireland in regard to developing the tourism potential of County Limerick.



FUNDING FOR LIMERICK PROJECTS

In early August the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government, Simon Coveney TD, who I have been working with in regard to a number of projects in Limerick approved funding of over €2.3m for 16 projects in Counties Limerick, Clare and Tipperary under the Limerick Hinterland Report. The Limerick Hinterland Study was commissioned last year by Limerick City and County Council to examine the impact of Limerick Regeneration on its hinterland.



Matching funding will also be provided by the three local authorities concerned. The local authorities identified a number of projects on the basis that they serve to progress the recommendations of the Hinterland Report and Minister Coveney has confirmed funding of over €2.3m for these initiatives.

Limerick Projects that will benefit from this funding:

- €452,000 – proposed Athletics track in Newcastle West
- €1,000,000 – The Great Southern Trail to upgrade and promote the trail
- €500,000 – towards CCTV investment and maintenance
- €51,000 – Rathkeale social cohesion project
- €250,000 – Patrickswell village renewal
- €247,000 – Kilmallock Pedestrian Bridge
- €500,000 – Murroe Sports Facility

The **Great Southern Trail** is also to benefit from **€291,000** through the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and the Gaeltacht Affairs.

LIMERICK WILL BENEFIT FROM TOWN & VILLAGE RENEWAL SCHEME FOR RURAL IRELAND

My colleague, the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, Heather Humphreys recently launched a €10 million Town and Village Renewal Scheme for Rural Ireland, which aims to revitalise up to 200 towns and villages across the country.

This fund is available to Local Authorities to support the revitalisation of rural towns and villages across Ireland. In total €380,000 will be available to Limerick and I will be urging Limerick City & County Council to apply for the full allocation of funds available, in order to ensure that communities and businesses in Limerick can benefit fully from this initiative. Limerick City & County Council can apply for grants under this scheme for up to 8 separate town/village projects. They will need to submit outline plans to the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs in September for approval.



Seamus Murphy, Patrick and Sean O'Gorman at the official launch and opening of "The Phoenix Project" at the former Garda Station, Kilmeeley



In July I launched the TG4 Ladies Football Championship in Croke Park

€9.2 MILLION IN LEADER FUNDING WILL SUPPORT JOBS AND INVESTMENT IN LIMERICK

Recently an allocation of €9,276,593.96 in Leader Funding for Limerick was made which will support jobs and investment in County. This funding for Limerick comes in the first batch of funding agreements under the LEADER Programme 2020. It is great that this funding agreement with the Limerick local action group, who manage the fund, has been signed so quickly. It means that community groups and organisations across Limerick can now apply to them for funds for their local projects.

The LEADER programme funds projects under a diverse range of themes that include enterprise development, rural tourism, social inclusion and the environment. The programme is co-financed by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development. The previous LEADER programme delivered almost 10,000 projects throughout rural Ireland. In addition to supporting community-based projects, last year, LEADER funding supported over 800 enterprises and 400 jobs.



In June I was delighted to be able to allocate €1m for the development of Women's Gaelic Games.



A great honour for me to represent the Government at the Opening Ceremony of the Olympic Games in Rio.



Delighted to meet with Micheál Ó Muircheartaigh in Abbeyfeale recently



Patrick with Olympic Silver Medallist Annalise Murphy



In July I announced an investment package of €7.4 million through Sport Ireland, to support grass roots development in Rugby, Football and Gaelic games, which will support coach development, club support, under-age programmes, volunteer support programmes, community schemes, referee development and targeting at-risk communities.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR CO. LIMERICK ENTERPRISE CENTRES

In June the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, Mary Mitchell O'Connor made a decision to support the further development of Enterprise Units in Kantoher, Broadford, Newcastle West and Rathkeale. The Minister announced funding for the projects through Enterprise Ireland to support locally based enterprise centres to develop.

of a development officer to promote the centres at the Red Door, Newcastle West, the Kantoher Enterprise Centre and the Broadford Enterprise Centre. Separately a second allocation has been approved to provide additional incubation and small business space in the old Andersen Ireland Plant in Rathkeale.

and it is fantastic to see jobs now back in the plant. I am delighted that the Department of Jobs and Enterprise Ireland have both recognised the role of the Rathkeale Centre by allocating these additional resources."

I am glad to be able to support the Innovate Limerick application for funding for the projects concerned. Two applications had been made by Innovate Limerick for the appointment

I worked very closely with Limerick City and County Council and the Rathkeale Community Council to secure the old Andersen Plant for job creation in Rathkeale. We succeeded in getting the building bought for the Community



Patrick with the President Michael D. Higgins at the Republic of Ireland v Sweden, Euro 2016 game in Paris

