1. **The generic contact points for funding enquiries from the general public in each Local Action Group: (Name, address, telephone, email, website, etc.)**

   Roscommon LEADER Partnership,
   Roscommon West Business ParK
   Golf Links Road
   Roscommon Town
   F42 TD98
   Phone: 090 663 0252
   Email: reception@ridc.ie
   Web: www.rosleaderpartnership.ie

2. **A summary of the Local Development Strategy in your area which should be no more than 2/3 pages and which should at least include:**

2.1 The LAG composition

Sector	Members	Organisation/Nominating Body
Local Authority Elected Members	Cllr. Laurence Fallon	Roscommon County Council
	Cllr. Orla Leyden	Roscommon County Council
	Cllr. Kathleen Shanagher	Roscommon County Council
Local Authority Officials	Martin Lydon, Director of Services	Roscommon County Council
	Louise Ward, Roscommon LEO	Roscommon County Council
Public Authorities (including state agencies)	Des Henry, Principal Officer	Dept. of Social Protection
	David Leahy, CEO	Galway & Roscommon Education & Training Board (GRETB)
	Michael Clogher	Teagasc
Local and community development bodies	Martina Earley, CEO	Roscommon Integrated Development Company Ltd.
Community & Voluntary	Maurice Gannon	Roscommon Public Participation Network - Community & Voluntary Sector (2)
	Mike Carty	
	Nora Fahy	Roscommon Public Participation Network - Social Inclusion Sector (2)
	Micheál Frain	
	Alan Moran	Roscommon Public Participation Network - Environment Sector (1)
Other civic society or 'local community interests'	Benny O'Connell	Employers/Business
	Donal Greene	Roscommon IFA
	John Tansey	CWU

Roscommon Local Community Development Committee is the Local Action Group, with Roscommon LEADER Partnership as Implementation Partner and Roscommon County Council as Financial Partner.

2.2 The LAG area
The geographic area covered by the Roscommon Local Development Strategy is the county of Roscommon, excluding the DED of Athlone West Urban and the east urban area of Ballinasloe, i.e. the administrative area of Roscommon County Council, comprising the Municipal Areas of Athlone, Boyle and Roscommon. It consists of 112 electoral areas and covers an area of 2,547km^2.

Co. Roscommon has large swathes of relative deprivation and disadvantage encompassing the majority of the county (Pobal HP Deprivation Index).

County Roscommon is a predominantly rural county, with a population of 64,065 (at the time of writing the LDS; since increased to 64,436 – CSO, Census 2016). The county, whilst characterised by numerous rural towns and village settlements, is the 3rd most rural county in

Ireland, with 74% of the population still living in rural areas. Roscommon has the third highest level of out-migration of its population to other counties. In recent times this has been particularly evident amongst the younger adult population, generally in search of education and work opportunities. Roscommon (at 22.9%), has one of the highest older age dependency ratios, compared to the State average of 17.4%.

Co. Roscommon has a good supply of natural resources including agri-lands, scenic areas, rivers and lakes with development potential. Extensive and high quality open spaces, parks, walks and other outdoor activities all contribute positively to good quality of life. County Roscommon has a strong history and cultural heritage.

2.3 Total available funding
The total funding available for projects under the Roscommon LDS is €6,581,212

2.4 The key local objectives
Below is a breakdown of each of the Local Objectives under the 3 Themes of the programme

Theme	Sub Theme	Local Objective	
		No.	Description
Economic Development, Enterprise Development and Job Creation	Rural Tourism	Local Objective 1 (LO1)	Strengthen and support the tourism potential of Co. Roscommon, including capitalising on important cultural, heritage and natural resources/assets
	Enterprise Development	Local Objective 2 (LO2):	Support for priority business sectors in Co. Roscommon
	Rural Towns	Local Objective 3 (LO3):	Sustain and enhance rural towns and villages in Co. Roscommon
	Broadband	Local Objective 4 (LO4):	Increase access to and up take of reliable and high speed broadband in Co. Roscommon.
Social Inclusion	Basic Services Targeted at Hard to Reach Communities	Local Objective 5 (LO5):	Build and support vibrant local communities and a strong sense of place thereby contributing to better social inclusion in Co. Roscommon.
	Rural Youth	Local Objective 6 (LO6):	Actions to foster the development of youth facilities and services in the county with a view to creating an increased quality of life and opportunities for our youth.
Rural Environment	Protection and Sustainable use of Water Resources	Local Objective 7 (LO7):	Protect and Promote Sustainable use of Water Resources
	Protection and Improvement of Local Biodiversity	Local Objective 8 (LO8):	Protecting and Promoting Bio-diversity to contribute to the sustainable development of County Roscommon.
	Development of Renewable Energy	Local Objective 9 (LO9):	Development of Renewable Energy Potential and Energy Conservation.

2.5 Summary of strategic actions and anticipated outputs/targets
Local Objective 1 – Strategic Action 1: Tourism Product & Infrastructure Development
Roscommon is a land of lakes and rivers, gently rolling hills, bogland and mountains, with good road, rail and air transport links. This SA is focused on capitalising on these assets to develop and deliver multi-activity attractions and events to the tourism market. These will include water-based activities, walking, cycling and heritage tourism.

Anticipated outcomes:
12 new projects funded;
20 existing projects funded;

20 new (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs created
26 existing (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs sustained
82,500 visitors to Roscommon

Local Objective 1 (LO1), Strategic Action 2: Tourism Marketing and Promotion

Within Co. Roscommon there is a recognised need to sell the county as a tourism destination. This SA aims to support branding and marketing of new and existing tourism products in the county, including packaging and bundling tourism offers and developing the craft and food tourism sectors. Regional promotion as well as training and networking events will also be considered.

Anticipated outcomes:
    8 new projects funded;
    25 existing projects funded;
    5 new (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs created
    16 existing (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs sustained
    82,500 visitors to Roscommon

Local Objective 2 (LO2), Strategic Action 1: Development of the added-value food and agri sectors in Co. Roscommon

This SA aims to build on the strong traditions of agriculture and the primary processing industry in Co. Roscommon. Development of value added food production, including the artisan food sector, is a key priority and will be focused at both new and existing food businesses. New technology and branding will be important features.

Anticipated outcomes:
    3 start-up enterprises funded;
    5 existing enterprises funded;
    10 new (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs created
    10 existing (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs sustained

Local Objective 2 (LO2), Strategic Action 2: Support for traditional business sectors with growth potential (including creative/craft, traditional manufacturing, traded services and social enterprises)

The objective of this SA is to develop and assist the 'traditional' sectors within Co. Roscommon. These include creative and craft industries and enterprises, traditional manufacturing and traded service. Social Enterprise will also be assisted under this SA.

Anticipated outcomes:
    7 start-up enterprises funded;
    18 existing enterprises funded;
    18 new (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs created
    40 existing (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs sustained

Local Objective 2 (LO2), Strategic Action 3: Support for new business sectors with growth potential in Co. Roscommon

The smart economy is the target of this SA, including ICT, software/app development, medical technologies and green business/renewables sectors. The development of specialised infrastructure (e.g. incubator units) is also included as is the 'greening' of existing businesses.

Anticipated outcomes:
    8 start-up enterprises funded;
    10 existing enterprises funded;
    10 new (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs created
    25 existing (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs sustained

<u>Local Objective 3 (LO3), Strategic Action 1: Enhancement/regeneration programmes for rural towns, villages and their hinterlands including unused buildings – development programmes</u>
Initiatives such as A&D and capital enhancement projects and regeneration projects are the intention under this SA. Areas covered will include towns, villages and their respective hinterlands. It is anticipated that the entire county of Roscommon will benefit from this SA.

Anticipated outcomes:
    15 projects funded
    4 new (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs created
    10 existing (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs sustained

<u>Local Objective 3 (LO3), Strategic Action 2: Development and promotion of social and cultural aspects of rural towns</u>
This SA will encompass the development and promotion of social and cultural aspects and activities, thus enriching the lives of those living within Co. Roscommon. Capital and soft supports will be available.

Anticipated outcomes:
    15 projects funded
    4 new (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs created
    10 existing (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs sustained

<u>Local Objective 4 (LO4), Strategic Action 1: Promote and facilitate Internet usage and Broadband uptake in C. Roscommon (Training & Capacity Building)</u>
Funding under the LEADER Programme will be utilised to increase broadband usage and uptake within Co. Roscommon, complimentary to the National Broadband Plan. Digital exclusion will be tackled, allowing individuals and communities in remote areas to stay in touch.

Anticipated outcomes:
    8 projects funded
    30 individuals trained
    2 existing (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs sustained

<u>Local Objective 4 (LO4), Strategic Action 2: Promote and facilitate Broadband uptake in Co. Roscommon - Small scale infrastructure</u>
Small scale projects, aimed at improving broadband infrastructure in Co. Roscommon, will be the target of this SA. Innovation solutions to poor broadband access will be included, especially broadband for business. Again, all actions funded will be complimentary to the National Broadband Plan.

Anticipated outcomes:
    8 projects funded
    30 individuals trained

<u>Local Objective 5 (LO5), Strategic Action 1: Develop Community Facilities and actions to improve the quality of life and wellbeing of the communities of Co. Roscommon</u>
Creating and sustaining thriving rural communities through the provision of support for community infrastructure and facilities to meet the needs of local communities is the aim of this SA.

Anticipated outcomes:
    8 new services funded
    5 existing services funded
    2 new (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs created

10 existing (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs sustained

<u>Local Objective 5 (LO5), Strategic Action 2: Develop Social, Cultural, Recreational actions and programmes to improve the quality of life and wellbeing of the communities of Co. Roscommon</u>
Supporting the provision of general community and recreational amenities and facilities, including cultural, arts and heritage facilities will be achieved under this SA.

Anticipated outcomes:
    8 new services funded
    5 existing services funded
    2 new (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs created
    5 existing (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs sustained

<u>Local Objective 5 (LO5), Strategic Action 3: Community Services - Develop actions and programmes to improve the quality of life and wellbeing of the communities of Co. Roscommon</u>
The provision of capacity building and training for rural dwellers was well as networking opportunities will allow communities to develop sufficient capacity to develop skills sets to deliver services within their own areas.

Anticipated outcomes:
    8 new services funded
    10 existing services funded
    2 new (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs created
    5 existing (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs sustained

<u>Local Objective 6 (LO6), Strategic Action 1: Support for rural youth in Co. Roscommon – Social infrastructure & Skills Development</u>
Support for youth facilities, include youth clubs, cafés, etc. as well as recreation, arts, culture, heritage and ICT access with be prioritised under this SA.

Anticipated outcomes:
    4 projects funded
    1,200 young people directly participating

<u>Local Objective 6 (LO6), Strategic Action 2: Support for youth entrepreneurship and employment in Co. Roscommon</u>
Support for young entrepreneurs, training, networking, animation and marketing supports will be provided to young people and youth service providers under this SA.

Anticipated outcomes:
    2 projects funded
    1,200 young people directly participating

<u>Local Objective 7 (LO7), Strategic Action 1: Actions to Support the Protection and Sustainable Use of Water Resources</u>
Water conservation as well as projects protecting and enhancing natural water features will be delivered under this SA.

Anticipated outcomes:
    2 new projects funded
    2 existing projects funded
    1 new (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs created
    2 existing (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs sustained

<u>Local Objective 8 (LO8), Strategic Action 1: Promotion, Protection and Enhancement of Bio-diversity in Co. Roscommon</u>
Promoting, protecting and enhancing local biodiversity in the county is the aim of this SA, through awareness building and targeted actions.

Anticipated outcomes:
- 4 new projects funded
- 6 existing projects funded
- 1 new (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs created
- 10 existing (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs sustained

<u>Local Objective 9 (LO9), Strategic Action 1: Development of Renewable Energy Potential and Energy Conservation</u>
Support will be provided to promoters to establish renewable energy initiatives by harnessing the county's existing natural resources will be funded under this SA.

Anticipated outcomes:
- 2 new projects funded
- 2 existing projects funded
- 1 new (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs created
- 4 existing (Full-time, Part-time and Seasonal) jobs sustained