**Spokesperson Information**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Spokesperson’s Name** |  | **Spokesperson’s Address, including townland, town and Eircode** |  |
|  **Telephone No.** |  | **Email Address** |  |

**I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (signature), Spokesperson, understand that it is my responsibility to ensure that all landowners/occupiers have signed this Application Form and have consented to the cutting of their roadside trees/hedges as listed on this Application Form.**

**Please confirm which Grant Scheme you are applying for -**

1. **Hedge Cutting Grant Scheme**
* Hedge Cutting Grant Scheme (Grant - €75 per km)
Please Tick Box if applying for this Grant Scheme
* No. of KM of hedges to be cut
Please enter No. of KM of Hedges to be cut **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_KM**
* Please Tick Box if this is a repeat of a previous Hedge
Cutting Grant Application

**Note: Please submit a map indicating location of Hedge Cutting Section (Map is not required if this is a repeat of a previous application)**

1. **Additional Grant for Overhanging Tree Canopies**
* Additional Grant for Overhanging Tree Canopies (Grant - €50 per km)
Please Tick Box if applying for this Grant Scheme
* No. of KM of Overhanging Tree Canopies to be cut  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_KM**
* Also include the number of overhanging Tree Canopies to be cut **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Note: To be eligible for this Additional Grant for any particular KM of Hedgerow, there must be a **minimum of 10 Overhanging Trees in that KM to be removed**. All applications received for this **Additional Grant**, will be **pre-inspected** by Leitrim County Council in advance of grant approval and before cutting or removal of the tree canopies. **Please submit Photograph(s) of Overhanging Trees with this Hedge Cutting Application Form and also submit Map with location of the Overhanging Trees.**

**Details of Public Road/Road Network**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Location/Address of Road(s)**  |  | **Road Number(s)** |  |
| **Number of Landowners/Residents** |  | **Map Included & Photos (if required)** | **Tick Box** |

**Declaration for all Participants**

We, the undersigned, hereby apply to Leitrim County Council for participation in the Hedge Cutting Grant Scheme and/or the Overhanging Tree Canopy Grant Scheme. We understand the Terms & Conditions and appoint full power to the above spokesperson to act for us in all correspondence & any other business arising out of this application and we agree to be bound by our spokesperson’s correspondence and acts.

**Please complete the table below in respect to all residents and landowners residing along the proposed road/road network which is the subject of this application. If there is not sufficient space for all names below, please provide additional names on a separate sheet**

**Note:** For repeat applications, signatures are mandatory and are required annually (this is confirmation of agreement)

**Landowner/Resident Name:** Enter the resident/landowners name in block capitals

**Address:** Full address must be provided, including the Eircode

**Signature:** Each landowner must personally sign this form (below)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Landowner/Resident Name** | **Address (Incl. Eircode)** | **Date** | **Signature** |
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**Return completed Application Form (Pages 1 & 2) to the Roads Department via Email or Post**

**Post:** Roads Department, Leitrim County Council, Aras an Chontae, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim.

**E-Mail:** **roads@leitrimcoco.ie** **Tel:** 071 9620005 Ext. 630

**CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS FOR HEDGE CUTTING GRANT SCHEME / OVERHANGING TREE CANOPY GRANT SCHEME IS FRIDAY 31st JANUARY 2025*HEDGE CUTTING & OVERHANGING TREE CANOPY GRANT SCHEME***

***TERMS AND CONDITIONS***

* Leitrim County Council will provide a grant of **€75 per km** of roadside hedge/overhanging trees approved to be attended to along the Public Road Network, subject to available resources
* Limited funding is available for this Scheme and all the terms and conditions should be strictly adhered to
* In the event of a large influx of applications, priority will be given to those roads that facilitate school bus and other public and special needs transportation routes
* All offending hedges and overhanging trees along the proposed network must be adequately cut back.
* The minimum length of road network to be incorporated in any application is **1 km**. However, each application will be assessed on its own merits and in certain exceptional circumstances an application may be accepted incorporating a road network of less than 1km in length. If hedges are set back from the road edge and safety considerations allow, it may not be necessary to cut these sections of hedges but such sections can count towards the 1km minimum continuous length.
* Grants will be calculated based on the actual estimated length of hedging/trees which need attention rather than on the length of road which is incorporated in the road network submitted in an application.
* All hedges to be cut should be inspected for Japanese Knotweed and Ash Die-Back. Japanese Knotweed should **not** be cut. Ash Die-Back can be cut
* It is the spokespersons responsibility to ensure that all landowners/occupiers have signed this Application Form and have consented to the cutting of their roadside trees/hedges as listed on this Application Form
* All landowners/occupiers on the road network are in agreement to appoint full power to the Spokesperson who will liaise with Leitrim County Council with regard to this Hedge Cutting Grant Application and any other business arising out of this application. All landowners/occupiers agree to be bound by the nominated spokesperson’s correspondence and actions.
* The road network to which an application refers must be continuous – If there is a break in the network to be proposed, a separate application will be required. Termination points should aim to be at junctions rather than at an arbitrary location along the length of a road or roads (this may not apply in some exceptional circumstances).
* All hedge cutting must be carried out between September 1st, this year and the last day of February, next year
* **No grant applications will be accepted after the below deadline**
* The area proposed for Hedge Cutting must be agreed in advance with the District Engineer, Leitrim County Council
* Works for which grant approval is confirmed must be completed in the same season
* **No grant will be paid out until the Council is satisfied that all hedge/tree cutting required along the network proposed in the application is completed to the required standard**.
* Each Applicant/Community/Group will have to nominate a Spokesperson through whom all correspondence will be channelled.
* **The Hedge Cutting Grant will be paid by Leitrim County Council into the Applicant/Spokesperson nominated Bank Account by means of EFT Payment. No Payments will issue by Cheque.**
* Applicants/Communities/Groups will undertake works & organise the hedge cutting contract and pay for same
* It is a matter for applicants to ensure that the contractor to be engaged is appropriately insured and is compliant with present day Health and Safety regulations. The contractor appointed will be responsible for Traffic Management while the Hedge Cutting works are in progress.
* **Leitrim County Council will not consider any works for funding which have been carried out in advance of the grant application being considered and provisional approval issued**
* **Works should be completed following receipt of Provisional Approval and Applicants must notify the Roads Department within 7 days of when the Hedge Cutting Works have been completed.**
* Hedges should be cut to the appropriate height, width and shape consistent with both road safety objectives and best practice hedge row management. Where there is direct conflict between the two, road safety requirements will take precedence.
**- Hedges should be cut to full height in all cases and 1 metre back from road edge.
- Overhanging tree canopies in the hedgerow must be cut back to full height and 1 metre back from road edge.**
* Each Application must have an accompanying map identifying the roads to which the application refers. Note, there is no need to submit a map with repeat applications.

***HEDGE CUTTING & OVERHANGING TREE CANOPY GRANT SCHEME***

***TERMS AND CONDITIONS***

**Additional Specific Terms & Conditions for the Overhanging Tree Canopy
element of the Grant Scheme are as follows:-**

* Leitrim County Council will provide an additional Grant of **€50 per KM (Total of €125 per KM)** where roadside trees with dangerous overhanging canopies/branches are to be removed along the **Public Road Network**
* The grant for overhanging tree canopies will be paid on top of the Hedge Cutting Grant as this an additional grant, rather than a stand-alone grant payment. This would increase your grant from €75 per km to €125 per km where these specifications have been met
* In order to qualify for the higher grant of **€125 per KM** for removal of overhanging canopies/branches, there must be at least **10 Trees per KM** that require overhanging canopies to be removed **and** the Hedges must also be cut
* **Tree Canopies/Branches overhanging the public roadway and/or public footpath must be cleared to the full height in all cases and to 1 metre back from road edge where applicable.**
* Applicants must ensure that the Contractor engaged to undertake the overhanging canopy/branch removal works is appropriately insured and is compliant with Health & Safety requirements and confirm same to Leitrim County Council.
* The contractor appointed will have responsibility for traffic management during the works.
* **All Applications received for this higher Grant, will be pre-inspected by Leitrim County Council in advance of Grant Approval and before cutting or removal of the Tree Canopies. The overhanging tree canopies proposed for removal must be agreed in advance with the District Engineer, Leitrim County Council**
* **Photograph(s) of Overhanging Trees & Map with location of the Overhanging Trees must be submitted with the Hedge Cutting Grant Application Form**
* **Leitrim County Council will not consider any works for funding which have been carried out in advance of the grant application being considered and provisional approval issued**
* **Works should be completed following receipt of Provisional Approval and Applicants must notify the Roads Department within 7 days of when the removal of the overhanging canopies/branches works have been completed.**

**CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS FOR HEDGE CUTTING/OVERHANGING TREE CANOPY GRANT SCHEME IS FRIDAY 31st JANUARY 2025**