



Job Title	LEADER (RURAL DEVELOPMENT) PROJECT OFFICER
Employer	South Tipperary Development CLG (STDC)
Reporting Relationship	CEO
Location of Post	Based in head office in Cahir. The post holder will be required to travel within South Tipperary and to meetings beyond
Closing Date for Applications	14.00 hrs Friday January 9 th 2026 Interviews will be held in Cahir on Monday January 19 th 2026
Contract	35 hours per week Part time options may be considered Contract initially to December 31 st 2027
Benefits offered by STDC	<p>Salary: Competitive salary in line with experience.</p> <p>Travel expenses: Travel expenses are reimbursed at public service rates.</p> <p>Annual Leave: 25 days in a calendar year</p> <p>Pension: Subject to eligibility, employees will be enrolled in the <i>My Future Fund</i> workplace pension, with contributions made in accordance with auto-enrolment legislation.</p> <p>Organisation Culture: Positive working environment and proactive approach to professional development, reflective practice and supervision.</p> <p>Training & Development: Opportunities to access training relevant to the role.</p>

South Tipperary Development Company (STDC) is a Community Led Local Development Company based in Cahir, Co. Tipperary. It is a not-for-profit registered charity and is overseen by a voluntary board of directors.

STDC is dedicated to creating positive change in our communities. Our work supports rural development, social inclusion, employment, enterprise and just transition across South Tipperary. Our key priorities as set out in our Strategic Plan are to: Strengthen Communities; Empower People; Protect the Environment; Work in partnership and collaboration with

relevant stakeholders and to adopt innovative approaches to our work which will enable us to improve, grow and diversify the services we deliver. Programmes currently delivered by STDC include:

- LEADER Rural Development Programme
- Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme (SICAP)
- Local Area Employment Services
- Tús – Labour Market Activation Programme
- Rural Social Scheme
- Traveller Primary Health Care Programme
- Outdoor Recreation & Walks Scheme
- CE Drugs Rehabilitation Scheme

Role

South Tipperary Development CLG is seeking applications for the role of LEADER Project Officer. The LEADER Programme is based on community-led local development and provides funding to support projects that benefit people and communities in South Tipperary.

The successful candidate will work with local communities, individuals, and enterprises to develop projects under the Rural Development Programme (RDP) themes of

- Economic Development,
- Rural Infrastructure and Social Inclusion, and
- Sustainable Development of the Rural Environment, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation.

The role involves supporting projects from initial idea through to completion, providing guidance on the programme and grant process, and ensuring compliance with LEADER requirements.

Key Responsibilities

- Identify and support projects that align with the Tipperary Local Development Strategy (LDS) and the LEADER Programme.
- Advise individuals, communities, and enterprises on the RDP and the grant application process.
- Work with project applicants from concept to completion, including:
 - Animation and capacity building
 - Management of grant applications
 - Filing project claims

- Maintain project files in compliance with LEADER Operating Rules, including CRM management
- Prepare and present projects to the Independent Evaluation Committee
- Monitor and evaluate project outcomes
- Manage in house projects funded under LEADER
- Provide information and reports as required to management, the Local Community Development Committee or other bodies as required
- Assist with PR and communications, including organising events, presentations, and using social and traditional media.
- Work with the LEADER programme partners, local and national agencies and stakeholders to support the programme.
- Work as part of the LEADER programme team, supported by the Programme Manager, Financial Controller, and administrative staff.
- Work across the company, identifying potential synergies between the LEADER programme and others offered by the organisation

Qualifications & Experience

Essential:

- Level 7 or higher qualification in Community Development, Rural Development, or Social Science, or a related field
- Significant experience of working in community development, enterprise support, or rural development
- Knowledge of community development principles and practices
- An enthusiastic and proactive approach to community and rural development
- Ability to work independently, take initiative and manage a fast moving, multifaceted workload.
- Proven track record in developing strong positive relationships with a wide variety of stakeholders e.g. from project applicants to policy makers.
- Strong organisational, communication, and report-writing skills.
- Proficiency in Microsoft 365 and CRM systems.

Other Requirements

- Full, clean driving licence and access to a vehicle for work.
- Commitment to the mission and values of STDC.

- Understanding of Local climate action and / or social enterprise support an advantage
- Professional and ethical approach to work.
- Willingness to engage in training and occasional evening/weekend work.
- Ability to work as part of a team.

Terms of Employment

Full-time position - working 35 hours per week. Part time options may be considered. Based in our head office in Cahir, the post has a remit for all South Tipperary. The post offers a competitive salary in line with experience. Partial remote working in certain circumstances.

The contract is initially to December 31st 2027

How to Apply

The application form can be downloaded by visiting www.stdc.ie.
Completed forms should be sent to recruitment@stdc.ie

Applications should be submitted by 14.00 hours on January 9th 2026.

‘Private and Confidential – LEADER Development Officer’ should be put in the subject line.

The time shown on email received by STDC will be taken as the time of receipt of the form

Shortlisting will apply.

Dates for interviews for this post have been set for Monday January 19th 2026.

STDC will require references as part of the job offer process

STDC is an equal opportunities employer.



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an Aontas Eorpach
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