

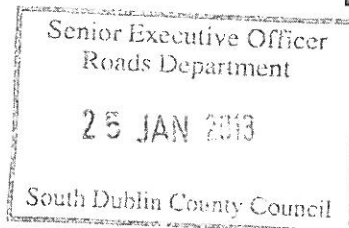


An Roinn Iompair  
Turasóireachta agus Spóirt

Department of Transport,  
Tourism and Sport

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25<sup>th</sup> January 2013.

Circular RW 2/2013

### 2013 Regional and Local Road Grant Allocations

Dear Director of Service/Town Clerk

1. I am directed by the Minister for Transport, Tourism & Sport to enclose details of the 2013 grant allocations to your authority in respect of the maintenance and improvement of regional and local roads. The total grant allocation in 2013 is €346,348,000. The amounts available nationally under the various grant headings are set out in Appendix 1 and individual local authority allocations and scheme details are set out in **Appendix 3**.
2. The conditions applying to the payment of allocations under the various grant categories are set out in the **Memorandum on Grants for Regional and Local Roads**. A revised Memorandum will issue to local authorities in due course. The Department of Public Expenditure and Reform is introducing a new Public Spending Code covering both capital and current projects/programmes. The Department will be contacting local authorities about implementation of the Code.
3. Local authorities must ensure that all works undertaken on foot of State grants are completed in accordance with the applicable conditions by the various intermediate and completion dates set out in Appendix 2.

In addition, local authorities should vigorously pursue outstanding invoices from contractors during the year to ensure the timely claiming of grants in 2013. Local authorities should claim eligible payments as soon as possible and shouldn't wait until the end of the year to do so.

Progress on all grant-aided works will be reviewed regularly and grants will be re-allocated where a shortfall in expenditure is expected. Such adjustments may entail the distribution of the sum involved to another local authority.

Full Records of all projects **must** be maintained on **MapRoad (GIS)** and be made available for inspection, if required.

#### 4. Restoration Improvement Programme

The Restoration Improvement Programme continues to be the main focus of the regional and local roads programme. This grant allocation will be based on the 4 year programmes submitted by local authorities to the NRA in 2012. In 2013, it will be a requirement that the average length of projects in these programmes should be a minimum of 0.5 km. An overall amount of €140 million will be provided under the 2013 Restoration Improvement Grant.

#### 5. Discretionary Grant

Discretionary grants totalling €77.7 million will be available to meet the cost of maintenance and improvement works selected by local authorities pursuant to relevant Departmental Circulars.

County Councils	Discretionary Grant	€55.2 m
Urban Authorities	Block Grant	€22.5 m

#### 6. Local Improvements Scheme (LIS)

The Local Improvement Scheme has been reinstated for 2013 however there is no separate allocation available towards this grant category. Instead local authorities may use up to 7% of their Discretionary Grant towards local improvement schemes should they wish to do so. The local contribution for these schemes has been increased to 20% of the total cost of the project. Apart from this amendment the same eligibility rules apply for these schemes.

7. Community Involvement Scheme

For 2013 the arrangement whereby local authorities set aside 7.5% of their Restoration Improvement or Restoration Maintenance Programmes is being suspended. It is intended for 2013 to trial a Community Involvement Scheme with some additional options. Local authorities will be given the opportunity to 'bid' for funds under this revised scheme. A separate circular dealing with the eligibility criteria and local contributions will issue shortly.

8. Own Resources Expenditure

The commitment of local authorities to contribute significantly from their own resources towards the cost of improving and maintaining the regional and local roads network is essential. In particular it is vital that local authorities at least maintain and increase, where possible, monies available for the maintenance and strengthening of road pavements. It may be necessary for local authorities to postpone major widening and realignment schemes to achieve this objective but the first priority must be the satisfactory protection of the existing road network.

9. Claims for payment of Grants

Local authorities should note that claims should continue to be made through the National Roads Authority's (NRA) project reporting system (PRS).

10. Audit Requirements

The accuracy of all figures submitted by local authorities e.g. grant claims, output data, details of own resources expenditure etc., is of the utmost importance. These figures are used in providing progress reports for Ministers and others. As part of our on-going review of the regional and local roads grant system, it may be necessary from time to time to introduce new requirements to further enhance the control systems in operation between local authorities and this Department. You are reminded that this Department can at any time carry out a full spot check on regional and local roads expenditure. It should also be noted that EU auditors can at any time carry out a comprehensive audit on previously funding

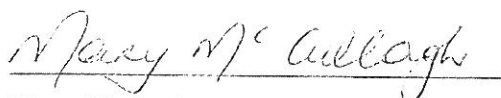
EU projects under regional and local roads expenditure (2000 – 2006 structural funds).

11. Weather Warning Arrangements

Local authorities are again reminded of the need to ensure that the necessary arrangements are in place with Met Eireann to receive weather warnings. As with last year, funding is being provided under a Winter Maintenance grant in order to assist local authorities with their Winter Maintenance Programmes albeit on a different basis and €5m is being allocated for this purpose in 2013. It should be noted that the funding provided has taken account of the salt provided to local authorities for regional and local roads for the Winter of 2011/2012. Local authorities may use these grant monies towards staff or plant costs associated with salting or for the purchase of salt, either through the central salt procurement system or through the Council's own procurement system. Local authorities may supplement this grant with funding from its Discretionary Grant Allocation. In line with established practice, a contingency provision should be reserved from the overall resources available to each authority for regional and local roads so as to deal with damage caused by severe weather conditions, including flooding. Should a local authority have unspent monies in its Winter Maintenance Grant towards the end of the year it may use the monies towards road repairs and road drainage works.

In addition, in times of above average rainfall, local authorities should ensure that gullies and drains in high risk areas are kept clear, to reduce the risk of flooding.

Yours sincerely,



Mary McCullagh  
Assistant Principal Officer  
Roads Division

*To: Each County and City Manager & each Director of Service for Roads and Town Clerk*

## APPENDIX 1

### Grants available in 2013 under various grant headings

The total 2013 State provision of **€346,348,000** for Regional and Local Roads will be distributed to local authorities as follows:

- **Restoration Improvement Grant**, totalling **€140 million** will be paid to County Councils.
- **Restoration Maintenance Grant** totalling **€51 million** will be paid to County Councils for surface dressing.
- **Discretionary Grants** totalling **€77.7 million** will be available broken down as follows:

<b>County Councils</b>	<b>Discretionary Grant</b>	<b>€55.2 m</b>
<b>Urban Authorities</b>	<b>Block Grant</b>	<b>€22.5 m</b>
- **Specific Improvement Grants** for road improvement projects. These grants will total **€32 million**.
- **€22.5 million** has been allocated for **Strategic Regional and Local Road** projects.
- A total of **€1.0 million** has been allocated under the **Regional Road Signposting Scheme**.
- **€6 million** has been allocated for **Low Cost Safety Improvement** works.
- **Winter Maintenance Grants** of **€5 million** allocated to County & City Councils
- Funding of **€5.0 million** towards a **Pilot Community Involvement Scheme**
- **Training Grants** of **€1.7 million** have been allocated to County, City and Borough Councils.
- **€1.6 million** has been allocated to 21 local authorities for **Bridge Inspections**
- **Miscellaneous Grants** in the amount of **€3.5** are also being provided.

## Appendix 2

### Intermediate and Final Completion Dates for Regional and Local Road Works County Councils

<i>Operation</i>	<i>Intermediate Completion Dates</i>	<i>Final Completion Date</i>
Surface Dressing (SD)	1/3 by end June 2013 2/3 by end July 2013 3/3 by end August 2013	31 August 2013
Road Reconstruction (RR) and Surface Restoration (SR)	1/3 by end May 2013 2/3 by end July 2013 3/3 by end September 2013	30 September 2013
All works other than SD, RR and SR (except schemes which of their nature must continue into 2010)	1/3 by end June 2013 2/3 by end August 2013 3/3 by end of October 2013	31 October 2013

**Notes:**

1. Road Reconstruction involves the regulation or reconstruction of the existing road pavement and overlaying with bound or unbound materials with or without surface dressing and the provision of drainage, where necessary.
2. Where work is completed by the various dates, the cost incurred should be reflected in the following months expenditure return. For example, the cost of surface dressing work completed by the end of June should be reflected in the June return which must be with the NRA by the 16th of July.

### Urban Authorities

<i>Operation</i>	<i>Completion Date</i>
Pavement works	30 September 2013
All other works	30 October 2013

## APPENDIX 3

### Individual Grant Allocations and Scheme Details for 2013



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Department of Transport,  
Tourism and Sport

## 2013 Regional and Local Roads Allocations

South Dublin County Council

Total of all Allocations: €4,683,352

### Improvement

#### Specific Improvement

Grant Code: Project Name	Allocation
SG: Corrig Lane Bridge	120,000
SG: R120 Lucan to Newcastle Road	680,000

Total Specific Improvement: 800,000

#### Other Improvement

Grant Code: Project Name	Allocation
BS: Low Cost Safety Improvement 2013 - SD	241,000
DG: Discretionary Grant 2013 - SD	736,775
IMIS: Bridge Inspections 2013 - SD	10,000
RI: Restoration Improvement 2013 - SD	1,855,470
SIGN: Regional Road Signposting Programme 2013 - SD	225,000
TG: Training 2013 - SD	24,000

Total Other Improvement: 3,092,245

**Total Improvement Allocations: 3,892,245**

### Maintenance

#### Maintenance

Grant Code: Project Name	Allocation
RM: Restoration Maintenance 2013 - SD	680,850
WM: Winter Maintenance 2013 - SD	110,257

Total Maintenance: 791,107

**Total Maintenance Allocations: 791,107**

**Total (all allocations) for South Dublin County Council €4,683,352**

# 2013 Low Cost Safety Improvement Works on Regional and Local Roads

Local Authority	Road Number	Location	Scheme Allocation	LA Allocation
South Dublin County Council	R114	Ballinascorney Road	172,000	
South Dublin County Council	R113	Fonthill Road at St Kevin's School	30,000	
South Dublin County Council	R134	New Nangor Road, Clondalkin	14,000	
South Dublin County Council	L3008	Fortunestown Way	10,000	
South Dublin County Council	L1025	Neilstown Road	15,000	241,000