

Once Off Grant Scheme – Guidelines

The Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme aims to reduce health inequalities by delivering targeted, evidence-based supports in communities experiencing higher levels of deprivation and social isolation. In Mayo, areas of Erris, Achill and West Mayo are designated zones requiring enhanced access to health and wellbeing programmes.

Transport barriers have been repeatedly highlighted by partners and service users, particularly for rural and isolated communities. Sláintecare Healthy Communities has partnered with TFI Local Link Mayo to support access to people's wellbeing within the community, providing better access to a range of services needed to help improve and promote healthier lifestyle behaviours by providing once-off or time-limited transport services for individuals and groups participating in:

- Physical activity programmes (e.g., Better Balance, Prime Time of Life)
- Social prescribing and mental wellbeing initiatives
- Community health events and outreach fairs
- Healthy food made easy and nutrition programmes
- Initiatives to address social inclusion

Objectives

The funding will support the following objectives:

1. Enhance mobility and accessibility
2. Reduce social exclusion
3. Support early intervention and prevention
4. Strengthen local partnerships

Target Population

- Older adults at risk of falls or isolation
- Individuals with chronic conditions needing community health supports
- Low-income households
- Residents of remote rural areas (Erris, Achill) without alternative transport
- Individuals referred through social prescribing, HSE services, or local agencies

Privacy Policy

At TFI Local Link Mayo, we understand that privacy is an important issue for our passengers. For information on how the data for our rural transport service passengers is handled visit

<https://locallinkmayo.ie/privacy-policy/>

Applications for transport funding will be considered for once off trips that contribute to the goal of the Sláintecare Health Communities Programme as outlined in the objectives above. Transport funding will be approved to eligible groups to provide communities with access to well-being initiatives to improve and promote healthier lifestyles behaviors.

Please read the following carefully before applying: -

1. Healthy Communities transport support scheme 2026 is a once off fund. All travel must take place before **October 31st, 2026.**
2. Services are to cover individuals or groups in need of support and to facilitate health promotion and social inclusion.
3. Funding will only be provided where a transport service is needed by a group or individual and cannot be provided in any other way or there is no public transport service available.
4. When trips are approved, transport will be arranged with a TFI Local Link Mayo registered transport operator.
5. The services provided through the once off fund are not to substitute for other transport services of any nature. This includes Community Car, Hackneys etc.
6. The fund does not replace transport services that would expect to be independently funded (e.g. school trips, sports club outings, private parties etc.)
7. Transport to attend hospital appointments is not eligible.
8. Once off trip requests must demonstrate how they will contribute to increasing quality of life and health benefits for those availing of the services.
9. Funding must be publicly acknowledged in any promotional materials or publicity.
10. A contribution of 10% of the costs of the service(s) may be required from the group or individual.
11. The application form must be completed fully, typed using the official form, otherwise it will be considered ineligible for consideration.
12. Completed applications must include a letter from the organisation outlining how the transport support will contribute to improving and promoting healthier lifestyle behaviours.
13. Application must be submitted by email only to mail@locallinkmayo.ie and include “Sláintecare Health Communities Once off Transport” in the subject line.
14. Application received via post or hand delivered will not be considered.

Geographical Area

The geographical remit of the once of scheme in Mayo is the Sláintecare Health Communities Programme designated region targeting Northwest of the county. The areas covered include the following towns and villages: -

- Ballycastle
- Glenamoy
- Bangor Erris
- Belmullet
- Ballycroy
- Mulranny
- Achill Sound and Island

Area Map



Please note: The trip destination can be outside of the designated area.

If you require clarification regarding the guidelines email mail@locallinkmayo.ie or telephone 094 9005150.