

Grants to support rural Night-Time Economy

SIX pubs or venues across the county received Night-Time Economy Support following successful applications to the €4 million scheme.

Rural applications account for over half of those awarded funding, and Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, Catherine Martin, estimates that thousands of performance employment days will be generated as a direct result.

The successful Cavan applicants include The Lavey Inn; The Widow's Bar in Belturbet; The Cottage Market, which is held at Lizzy Buggies in Ballyconnell; Gartlan's in Kingscourt; Clonandra Cottages, Redhills; and Lee's Public House, Ballyconnell.

The funding is to assist in providing off-peak entertainment.

A total of 433 organisations

were offered funding and applications were received from a wide range of venues including pubs, nightclubs, cafés, theatres, arts centres, galleries, museums and retail outlets.

The scheme included a specific strand of funding for unlicensed premises such as cafés, dry bars and other suitable venues to support diversification and inclusivity in our Night-Time Economy.

Elsewhere across the region, Leitrim had two successful applications, as did Longford, Meath had eight, and Monaghan five.

The five successful Monaghan applications included Brian Adamson's Bar; the Western Arms Hotel; the Creighton Hotel in Clones; Wild Thyme Restaurant; and the Four Seasons Hotel.

Reacting to the announce-

ment last week, Minister Martin said: "A vibrant, diverse and inclusive night-time economy is important for our towns and cities, it boosts the local economy, makes our towns and cities more attractive places to visit and to live in. There has been a great reaction from the night-time sector to this pilot scheme."

She said it was also "extremely important" to ensure a balance between alcohol and alcohol-free activities to cater for a wider demographic.

The Minister continued: "I am currently considering the development of further initiatives and we will continue to work with key stakeholders in the Night-Time Economy to examine other opportunities to open up existing venues to more Night-Time Economy activity."

ADVERTORIAL

Castle Leslie certified as a great place to work

Castle Leslie Estate has become the first hotel in Ulster to be certified as a 'Great Place to Work' in 2022.

The Glaslough estate achieved the accreditation after a thorough and independent analysis conducted by Great Place to Work Institute Ireland. It is based on direct feedback from employees, provided as part of an extensive and anonymous survey about the workplace experience.

Following an extremely difficult few years for the hospitality industry, Brian Baldwin, CEO of Castle Leslie Estate, is thrilled.

"Our exceptional performance and attractive, employer-orientated workplace makes our organisation one of the best places to work in Ireland. Our team works tirelessly each and every day to deliver a warm and friendly service to our guests and, in return, we are committed to providing our employees with a great workplace where they are happy working and have pride in what they do. We are determined to continuously develop our workplace, ensuring the business remains an inclusive, supportive and enjoyable space for all of our valued colleagues," he said.

Great Place to Work (www.greatplacetowork.ie) is the global authority on high-trust, high-performance workplace cultures. It recognises the best workplaces



The stunning Castle Leslie in Glaslough, Co Monaghan.

across the world in a series of national lists including those published by *The Irish Times* and *Fortune* magazine (USA).

Nestled on 1,000 acres of undulating Irish countryside, Castle Leslie Estate is still in the hands of its founding family. The Leslie family arrived in Ireland in the 16th century when they bought the estate. Today, it is led and managed by Brian Baldwin and Sammy Leslie and governed by a Family Trust. Following extensive restoration over the past two decades, the family has transformed the estate to its original glory. Today, Castle Leslie boasts a variety of accommodation, multiple dining options and a diverse range of on and off-site activities. It prides itself on being the ultimate Irish rural escape!



Mary did the shopping from her sitting room, you can too.

Learn digital skills **online** or **in-person** with **Hi Digital** and discover all the amazing ways the internet can enhance your life.

Get started today at www.hidigital.ie

In partnership with **ACTIVE RETIREMENT IRELAND** **AL•NE** YOU'RE NOT ALONE