

Sent via email

4th of November 2025

Re: Administration charges for road opening licenses

Dear Utility Member,

I am writing to inform you of forthcoming increases to road opening application fees, which will take effect from 1 January 2026.

Background to Current Fee Structure

The current road opening application fee structure was established following discussions between CCMA LUTS, LGMA and IBEC (including utility representatives) on 24 January 2018. The agreed fees, which were implemented from 1 March 2018, were:

- T2 applications (including those associated with a T1): €250
- T3/T4 applications: €150

Rationale for Fee Increases

The current fee structure has remained unchanged since March 2018, during which time local authorities have absorbed substantial cost increases without any corresponding fee adjustments. Based on Consumer Price Index data from the Central Statistics Office, cumulative inflation from March 2018 to January 2026 represents approximately 20%.

Local authorities have maintained consistent service standards throughout this period while absorbing increased operational costs. The proposed fee adjustments are necessary to restore the purchasing power of these fees to their original 2018 levels and to ensure the sustainability of road opening licensing services.

It is important to emphasise that these increases represent an inflation adjustment only and do not constitute any real increase in charges when adjusted for the cost of living over this seven-year period.

New Fee Structure

Following Consideration by the CCMA Transport, Infrastructure and Networks Committee and the CCMA in September 2025, the following inflation-adjusted fees will be implemented from 1 January 2026:

Current Fees (March 2018):

- T2 applications (including those associated with a T1): €250
- T3/T4 applications: €150

New Fees (from 1 January 2026):

- T2 applications (including those associated with a T1): €300 (20% increase)
- T3/T4 applications: €180 (20% increase)

National Implementation

These fee adjustments will be implemented uniformly across all 31 local authorities to maintain consistency and the integrity of the National Charging Framework that was collaboratively developed in 2018.

Implementation Timeline

The new fees will take effect from 1 January 2026. This notice period is being provided to allow utility companies and their members adequate time to update internal systems, budgets, and processes in advance of implementation.

Yours sincerely,



Barry Kehoe
Chief Executive of Westmeath County Council
Chair of the CCMA Transport Infrastructure and Networks Committee