Irish Rural Link

31st March 2017

**Irish Rural Link Urgently Calls on Minister Shane Ross to Intervene in Transport Strikes**

Irish Rural Link (IRL) – the national network representing the interest of rural communities are now urgently calling on Minister for Transport, Shane Ross, to get involved in the Transport Strikes.

The Bus Eireann Strikes which is now on its eight day, has now spilled over to Irish Rail and Dublin Bus. With no notice given by Irish Rail, people have been left totally stranded this morning.

People in rural areas are missing work, missing hospital appointments, which they were probably waiting a long time for in the first instance, and students will be stranded again this evening trying to make it home from college for the weekend.

IRL had called for the Minister to intervene last week when the Strikes began but we are now urgently asking him and his officials to intervene and get the two parties involved back into talks.

Ends

**For further information, please contact (anytime):**

Seamus Boland (Chief Executive) 0862491153 or Louise Lennon (Policy and Communications Officer) 0861069244

**About Irish Rural Link:**

Irish Rural Link represents the interests of locally based rural groups in disadvantaged and marginalised rural areas by highlighting problems, advocating appropriate policies, sharing experiences and examples of good practice. It has a membership of nearly 500 rural community groups dedicated to sustainable rural development and represents rural communities at a national and international level