

November

Highlights

Chief Executive Report

Peter Hynes



N5 Westport to Turlough Contract Signed



The contract for the N5 Westport to Turlough Scheme was signed with the successful tenderer Wills/Bam Joint Venture on 29th October 2019 in Aras an Chontae. This is the largest single capital project ever undertaken by Mayo County Council with a contract value of €145m and a contract period of three years. The contract signing was attended by the Cathaoirleach, C.E. and team from MCC, Minister Michael Ring, CEO of TII, and representatives from Wills/Bam Joint Venture and Roughan & O'Donovan.

€6.50m for Mayo Projects – RRD

- **Clew Bay Greenway Project (€1.92m)**
This project will deliver a 5km extension of the Great Western Greenway between Belclare and Murrisk and the development of tourist welcome area in the village and provision of safe routes from the greenway to nearby points of interest.
- **Ballintubber Visitor & Interactive Learning Centre (€6.60m)**
This grant provides for the reconstruction and restoration of the East Wing of Ballintubber Abbey to house a Cultural and Heritage Centre telling the story of the Abbey and Monastic Ireland. The funding will help transform visitor experiences at Ballintubber and reposition it a flagship attraction for the Wild Atlantic Region (projected 100,000 annual visitors).
- **Àras Scèalta an Atlantaigh - Visitor Centre (€1.87m)**
This project will develop a major tourism hub in Eachlèim on the Erris Peninsula in the north Mayo Gaeltacht with a view to generating economic and tourism development in the area. The Hub will act as an orientation point for visitors to learn about the cultural and natural heritage attractions in the area, including Blacksod Lighthouse.

Dates to Note



Founder of Argentine Navy Honoured in Foxford



On Sunday November 3rd a delegation of 200 sailors and crew from the Argentine Training Ship the ARA Libertad visited Foxford to honour the birthplace of the founder of the Argentine Navy Admiral William Brown. It was a spectacular demonstration of the reverence in which this famous Mayoman is held in his adopted Country. The visit included a reception on the beautiful tall ship on Monday night and a visit from children from the local National School on the Tuesday. It was one of the most successful diaspora linkages of recent years and will pave the way for future connections between Mayo and Argentina.



Joe Loftus R.I.P.

It was with deep regret that we learned of the passing of our friend and colleague Joe Loftus. Joe had a long and illustrious career in Mayo County Council starting in 1973 and rising through the ranks to serve As Director of Services from 2001 until his retirement in 2017. As a member of the Senior Management team his remit covered a wide range including HR, Industrial Relations, Emergency Services, Libraries and Heritage and he had responsibility for Ballina M.D. for a period. A strong advocate of shared services he was instrumental in bringing the Regional Training Centre to Mayo and in the establishment of the Regional Emergency Control Centre, CAMP West. Throughout his career he secured many National Awards for Mayo County Council including an Excellence Through People Gold Standard Award and numerous O2 Ability Awards. Joe was a valued staff member, colleague and a strong advocate for the County. Our condolences are with his wife Mary, his family and his many friends at this sad time.

November

Directorate Highlights

No of FOI's: -
Oct - 8
Nov (to-date) - 6
Total FOI's 2019 – 140

Planning Applications Received		109
Planning Decisions		77
Planning Refusals		4
Files on hand		107
Preplanning Applications Received		13
Preplanning Meetings		143

Dates to Note

Finalising 2019 County Heritage Plan Projects – preparing end of project reports and funding drawdown.

Healthy Ireland events are continuing in Castlebar Library in November and will roll out to all branches between January and March of next year.

Planning, Human Resources, Communications, Information Systems, Corporate Affairs & Architectural Services



Catherine Mc Connell

ICT

- Pilot completed for Customer Contact Centre solution. This will bring a greater level of customer service as the initial point of contact for callers, as well as full integration with Skype for Business and Teams.
- UX (user experience) design stage for new consolidated Mayo.ie completed and report issued. Workshops were held with stakeholders and existing analytics reviewed as inputs.
- First Council meeting conducted using Microsoft Teams and iPads for electronic document and agenda access.

Architects

- Part 8 Planning Application for the new Westport Library/Civic Offices on display (**€6.50m**).
- Approval received to proceed with the Mary Robinson Centre, Ballina (**€3.00m**) and the Ballina Military Barracks (**€5.00m**).
- On track to deliver housing unit targets for 2019.

Communications

- Public Information Updates: Traffic Disruption, Road Gritting announcements, weather warnings, boil water notices
- Media: Responses issued to a wide variety of media requests on Local Authority matters including contract signing for N5.
- Diaspora: Support of Annual Mayo Associations events/ preparations for Admiral Brown celebration events in Foxford/Attendance at Mayo Association Luton annual dinner
- Events: Support from Mayo.ie to a wide variety of events including, Rehab Mayo People of the year, Launch of Amphitheatre at Lough Lannagh, Hospice opening and Greener Community Campaign awards.
- Targeted Campaigns Your Council working for you/ 'Dying to send a reply 'road safety campaign/motor tax online/Dog licences/
- Publications: Annual Report 2018

Heritage

- Landscape Architect appointed to commence detailed design for Ballinrobe Library Grounds Enhancement Project under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme.
- Edited and prepared Ballina Consumer Survey Report for publication.
- Hedgerows and Winter Propagation - Community Biodiversity Workshop, 19th Oct, Ballinrobe.

Library

- More than 2,000 children attended almost 50 events during Children's Book Festival in October. Events held in all 14 Mayo library branches.
- Mayo Library participated in Social Inclusion Week and at the Embracing Diversity seminar in Began, Ballyhaunis.
- The Time to Read initiative recommenced in St. Angela's NS, Castlebar, with eight volunteers from Mayo Co. Council taking part.

November

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National Fire Safety Week - 7th – 14th October:
Greener Community Campaign & Spring Into Litter Action Awards Night – 24th October, The Castlecourt Hotel.

Climate Action:
Energy efficiency upgrades:
An 84 kw Solar PV array was installed in Aras an Chontae during October 2019.
This will provide over 11% of the electricity usage for Aras an Chontae and reduce our CO2 emissions by 30 tonnes per year. It is the biggest single local authority PV array in the country.

Dates to Note

Mayo County Fire Service launched an online fire safety competition for all national schools within County Mayo. Closing date 18th November 2019

Water Services, Environment, Climate Change & Emergency Services



John Condon

On October 14th We received notification of our allocations for the **2019 – 2021 Multi Annual Rural Water Programme**. €15,624,811 has been allocated to Mayo under six Measures. A commitment to the provision of a new Community Water Connection under Measure 6 has also been given for the Murrisk/Lecanvey area.

Measure 1 Source Protection: €460,000, Tooreen / Aghamoore, Ballycroy, Glenhest Midfield and Killaturley GWS's.

Measure 2 Public Health Compliance: €7,795,000, Killaturley, Tooreen-Aghamore, Kilmovee-Urlar, Attymass, Derryvohey, Errew/Killeen, Funshinnagh Cross, Mayo DBO 1A, Mayo DBO 2, Midfield, Robeen and Cuilleens/Drimbane GWS's.

Measure 3 Enhancement of existing Schemes: €2,961,160
Meelickmore, Knockatubber, Drum/Binghamstown, Kilaturley, Ellybay/Blacksod, Lough Cunnell, Midfield, Brackloon Westport, Glencorrib, Callow Lake, Dooyork, Killasser, Shraheens, Tooreen/Aghamore, Mayo Water Conservation Bundel – 8 GWS's.

Measure 4 New Group Water Schemes: €844,700 Kilmurray GWS.

Measure 5 Transition of Existing Group Water Scheme: €3,312,700
Cushin /Ayle, Irishtown/Woodstock, Creggduff, Drumsheen/Newtown, Cornboy, Kilgalligan, Rosspport, Johnstown/Levalley, Barnacarroll, Loughlenamon, Knocknakell, Cloonmore/Cloonlavish, Doohoma/Derrycorrib, Roy Bingham, Mayo TIC bundle 1 (32 no GWS's), Mayo TIC bundle 2 (7 no Orphan GWS's).

Measure 6 Community Connections: €251,251, Auginish, Clearagh and Enaghbeg GWS's.

SDS Consulting Engineers have been appointed as Employers Representative for the network upgrade and connection to Irish Water of the Cloonmore/Cloonlavish GWS. There is currently a **Do Not Use Notice** on this scheme due to the presence of hydrocarbons.

Joe Reilly Plant Hire have been awarded the contract and have commenced construction of the new Kilmurray GWS.

The rural water office conducted a **Small Private Supply (SPS)** awareness campaign to potential SPS owners to remind them of their obligation to register with Mayo County Council.

A **Boil Water Notice** was issued for the Knock Airport Public Water Scheme due to the presence of *cryptosporidium*. A UV treatment system is being installed at the treatment plant to rectify this.

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- Extra €500,000 allocated to delivery of LEADER programme due to high performance of Mayo LAG
- The LEO Evaluation & Approvals Committee took place on 7th October with 9 projects supported
- The LEO (in collaboration with Sligo and Roscommon LEOs) was awarded €210,466 for a Low Carbon Innovation initiative.
- Embracing Diversity Conference held in Began, Ballyhaunis
- Mayo Age Friendly Airport Initiative shortlisted for Chambers Ireland award.

Dates to Note

- 8th November – Commissioner Drew Harris to attend Mayo JPC
- 15th November – Mayo Business Awards, Claremorris
- 27th November – Chambers Ireland Awards.
- Launch of the National Childcare Scheme on 20th Nov 2019
- 30th November - National Pride of Place awards ceremony Kilkenny.

ENTERPRISE, COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM

John Magee



Enterprise & Investment

- Judging for the National Enterprise Towns Awards Rising Star, 7th October.
- National Women's Enterprise Day took place on 17th October.

Tourism

Work is currently progressing on the planning and development of a number of strategic tourism capital projects including the Keem Bay Signature Discovery Point, Achill Island Greenway, Extension of Bowers Path, MooreHall Masterplan, North Mayo Coastal Path, Lough Lannagh Sports Tourism Hub.

Part 8 planning applications has been advertised for the Kiltimagh Velo Rail and application being finalised for the Achill Sound to Bunnacurry Greenway.

Sports Partnership

- 10 Sports Education / Coaching Courses offered to Sports Volunteers as part of the Dormant Account funded Autumn / Winter 2019 Sports Volunteer Programme.
- Approx 50 people attend the Ballinrobe Sports Hub Active Age Sports Fest in the Lakeside Sports & Fitness Centre on Tuesday 15th October as part of Social Inclusion Week.

Arts

- Projects: Launch of Per Cent for Art Commission by writer-artist Alice Lyons at Lough Lannagh, Leisure Complex on the 30th October. Programme of events took place on the 29th and 30th.
- Arts Programme: Professional Development Programme: 9th Oct - Youth Art Policy Development, 11th Oct - WRAP Fund Info session & 29th Oct - Creative Process for Creative Professionals.

Community Engagement

- **Social Inclusion Awareness Week (SIAW)** – over 40 events promoting inclusion, diversity and equality took place throughout County Mayo from 14th to 21st October. The theme of the week was 'Belonging in Mayo'
- **Embracing Diversity - A Future Together** - Flagship Social Inclusion Conference on the topic of Migrant Integration took place in Began on 18th October supported by Mayo County Council, DRCD and DEJ.
- **PPN** – Elections took place for Community Representatives on Mayo County Council's Strategic Policy Committees on 24th October in Breaffy House Hotel. Call issued for nomination to LCDC and JPC.
- **Comhairle na n'Og** - Annual AGM and workshop took place on 15th October with 200 young people from secondary schools all over Mayo attending.

Childcare Committee

- Delivery of 3 information sessions on the Túsla registration and renewal of registration of Early Years and School Aged Childcare Services
- Delivery of Child Safeguarding training to early years educators.
- Organisation & roll out of initial Soundworlds workshop for 9 Early Year



November

Directorate Highlights

Include directorate highlights:

Dates to Note

Budget Workshop -
November 19th
Lough Lannagh at
10am

Budget Meeting
November 25th at
4pm

Financial Management & Motor Tax

Peter Duggan



APPENDIX A

FINANCIAL REVIEW NOVEMBER 2019

1. Major Expenditure and Income by Division with 2019 Adopted Budget Nine months ended 30th September 2019

Service Division	Description	EXPENDITURE			INCOME				
		Exp. To Date Sep-19	Budget 2019	Remaining 2019	% Spent '2019	Inc. To Date Sep-19	Budget 2019	Not Rec'd 2019	% Rec'd 2019
A	Housing and Building	12,943,605	16,068,814	3,125,209	81%	12,792,074	16,160,230	3,368,156	79%
B	Roads Transport and Safety	31,476,342	36,611,373	5,135,031	86%	24,881,910	30,816,047	5,934,137	81%
C	Water Services	12,829,777	16,334,125	3,504,348	79%	13,308,658	19,289,445	5,990,787	69%
D	Development Management	10,553,226	11,524,913	971,687	92%	3,912,446	3,569,855	-322,591	109%
E	Environmental Services	12,561,450	16,267,166	3,705,716	77%	3,774,078	5,592,600	1,818,522	67%
F	Recreation and Amenity	7,986,084	9,192,944	1,206,860	87%	2,307,258	2,567,590	260,332	90%
G	Agriculture, Education Health and Welfare	1,479,142	1,865,791	386,649	79%	473,059	569,650	96,591	83%
H	Miscellaneous Services	10,943,590	13,107,200	2,163,609	83%	4,549,108	5,734,631	1,185,523	79%
J	Central Management Charges	4,496,941	17,117,695	12,680,954	26%	424,955	1,500,000	1,075,345	28%
	Rates	-	-	-	-	24,023,724	32,507,838	8,484,114	74%
	Local Government Fund	-	-	-	-	14,859,258	19,812,344	4,953,086	75%
	GRAND TOTAL	105,270,158	138,150,220	32,880,062	76%	105,306,227	138,150,220	32,843,993	76%

2. Performance of Local Authority Revenue Collection Levels

	Total for collection	Collected Sep-19	Arrears Sep-19	% Collected
Rents	6,477,939	5,366,842	1,091,096	83%
Rates	50,169,832	22,567,397	27,602,435	45%
Housing Loans	3,493,708	2,468,491	1,025,217	71%

3. Recourse to Overdraft Facility

Number of days in overdraft	29
Estimated interest incurred	3,368

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Contract signed on 29th October for the N5 Westport to Turlough scheme, which will be the single largest infrastructural project ever undertaken by Mayo County Council.

Housing, Roads & Service Development

Tom Gilligan



Housing

Housing Construction/Acquisition Programme 2016-2021.

Rebuilding Ireland target for Social Housing in Mayo is 708 however County Council will endeavour to exceed this figure.

Progress on 2016-2021 programme is as follows:

- 323 units have been completed with another 341 in different stages of progress. There were 399 Housing Solutions delivered in 2019.
- Private Rented Sector and Leasing – Mayo County Council is currently supporting 2,274 households

Refugee Resettlement – 157 persons accommodated in Mayo to date (141 Mayo County Council and 16 persons accommodated by the Red Cross in pledged accommodation)

Homelessness – There were 9 presentations during October comprising of 12 adults and 9 children.

Roads:

- Suitability Assessment phase of the N26 Cloongullane Re-alignment Scheme has been completed with the tender documents to be issued to the successful contractors by mid- December.
- Pavement overlay contracts ongoing on N5 Castlebar and Ballyvarry, N17 north of Kilkelly, N26 Swinford and N26 Ballina Road Foxford.
- Works on going to the N60 Lagnamuck and N59 Kilmeena schemes. Approximately 50% of the N60 Lagnamuck scheme is now open to traffic.
- Contract documents for N60 Heathlawn at final review with a request to proceed to tender to be made to TII by end of Nov.
- Part 8 planning published for the N17 Lisduff Junction Upgrade Scheme.
- Design works ongoing for the N60 Manulla scheme with submission to A.B.P for approval to take place in Q1 2020.
- Part 8 planning published for traffic management works on N84 in Ballinrobe and revised junction layout / street enhancement on N17 in Charlestown.

Procurement & Efficiency

- Continuing to monitor spend categories on MS4, prepared competitions for large pumps, excavators – Ballina MD
- Assisted with Tender for Broadband section – Fitout ICT Hubs in Mayo, Donegal, Roscommon & Sligo
- Assisted Climate change prep/publish – RFT for waste campaign
- Monitoring energy accounts –accounts transferred to new energy supplier
- Rollout of Park by text to other towns – Giant Leap software is now rolled out to wardens. Bye laws need update
- Review of Vehicle hire/purchase – Plan to purchase a suite of 3.5T pickups early 2020 when OGP contract becomes available.

Dates to Note

18th November,
Delegation to meet TII in
Dublin

18th November, DS
Housing Plenary Meeting
in Dublin

Housing & Roads /
Transportation SPC
meetings to be arranged
shortly

