



MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT UPDATE



Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo
Mayo County Council



NOVEMBER 2024 MEETING



**Housing, Roads, Architectural
Services & Services Development**
TOM GILLIGAN



Directorate Highlights

Housing

Minister Alan Dillon, T.D., officially opened the 21 housing units at Carn Tulach, Kiltimagh

Roads

CPO N60 Breaffy Active Travel & Safety Measures Scheme advertised. The Order may be inspected from 6th Nov. 2024 to 15th January 2025

Architects

Abbeyquarter, Ballyhaunis 28 units (Stage 2 approval received)
Kilbride, Swinford – 27 units
Consultants appointed.
Ard Cathair, Louisburgh 13 units – tendered
Atlantic View Belmullet – 4 units Completed.

Heritage

Community Monument Fund – works on Talach Blast, Furnace completed and vegetation management and survey of Ardnaree Abbey commenced.
Mayo Wetland Project completed

Conservation

Works completed under Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2024 in Ballina and Westport
MCC participation in the Architecture at the edge Festival 2024 – 15 events across Mayo.

Dates to Note

Social Housing Fundamentals Training Course held on 7th November.

Awaiting confirmation date in relation to the official opening of 8 units at Chestnut Grove, Castlebar.

SPCs

Roads SPC – 21st November
Housing SPC – 26th November

N26 Ballina Bypass Phase 1 Public consultation held on 24/10/2024, over 100 people attended.

Roads

- N59 Newport – Derrada: Assessment ongoing & approval to award the tender will be requested from TII on completion of assessment.
- Local Transport Plans for Ballina & Westport being progressed and finalised by mid Q4 2024.
- Active Travel Scheme Ballinrobe, Killala and Ballina progressing.
- Active Travel Scheme footpaths Ballycroy & Achill Sound in construction.
- Active Travel Scheme Castlebar – traffic surveys & report near completion.
- Consultants appointed and design work ongoing in relation to Active Travel projects in Castlebar, Deerpark, Westport and a number of safe routes to school's scheme.
- Great Western Greenway Newport Town – Option selection process concluded - preparing for planning consent during Q4 2024
- Design works on – going for National Road safety projects with scheme on N59 Georges Street Newport on site and nearing completion.
- Proceeding with land acquisition and detailed design for R332 Kilmaine to Foxhall scheme.
- R313 Glencastle scheme currently at land acquisition stage with construction due to commence in Q4 2024.
- N17 Lisduff, Claremorris – concrete post & rail fencing retrofit – Contractor appointed Q4 2024

Housing

HAP & RAS (October 2024)

22 No. properties delivered under HAP in October 2024.

7 No. property delivered under RAS in October 2024

Total of 1,852 active households supported by RAS/HAP in Mayo at the end Oct. 2024.

Leasing (October 2024)

4 no. properties delivered under the Leasing Programme.

Homelessness

9 homeless presentations in October

Defective Concrete Blocks Grant Scheme

406 Stage 1 Confirmation of Eligibility Applications received.

343 Stage 1 Approved

225 Stage 2 Grant approval applications received.

219 Stage 2 Approved

35 Properties completed.

Vacant Homes

Croi Conaithe Grant – 432 approved (65 grants issued); 122 in progress.

Repair and Leasing – 27 active leases, 23 applications for 85 units;

Buy & Renew – 88 active applications;

URDF – 58 properties in the approved programme.



Water Services, Environment, Climate Change & Emergency Services

JOHN CONDON



Directorate Highlights

Fire Services - Fire Safety Week:

National Fire Safety Week (30 September - 06 October) focused on enhancing fire safety particularly in the home and this year it's main focus was on urging people to think about the potential fire risks in their homes and how to "Stop Fire Starting".

We had open days in all our stations during the month and huge public interest was evident in the large attendances at our Fire Stations.



14 November 2024 - The Long Service Awards for Fire Service Personnel at the Knightsbrook Hotel Spa and Golf Resort, Trim, Co. Meath.

Dates to Note

- Environment Climate Change & Agri. SPC Meeting – Thursday, 7th November.
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event in Knock on Saturday 16th November.
- Clean Air Week 25th-29th November.
- Staff Energy Awareness events to be held in November.
- Deadline for SEAI Public Sector Monitoring and Reporting – November 15th

Environment - Environmental Awareness:

- Annual Green Schools Teacher Seminars.
- School and Youthreach waste workshops.
- Staff waste management training Mount St. Michaels, Claremorris.
- Jobs of the Future Event ATU. (photo attached)
- Stop Food Waste Event for ATU Green campus climate action week. (photo attached)
- Promotion of Re-love Fashion and Young Environment Awards.
- Waste Management Supplement Connaught Telegraph.

Derelict Site Team:

- Number of sites currently on the Derelict Sites Register = 257.
- Number of sites added to the Register in October 2024 = 3.
- Number of sites removed from the Register in October 2024 = 6
- 4 CPO's have commenced.

Climate Action:

- ISO 50001 National training took place in Mayo. As part of the training an internal audit was undertaken for Aras an Chontae, Castlebar Fire Station, Lough Lannagh Leisure Centre. (Image attached).
- "We're walking to school. Please Drive Slowly" signs were given to a number of Mayo schools for Walk to School Week.
- Following on from the cross-border learning exchange which took place in Crossmolina, Cllr. Michael Loftus and Laura Dixon, Climate Action Co-ordinator attended the launch of Blueprint in Derry, a Creative Climate Ireland funded project.
- The Climate Action Co-ordinator travelled to Iceland as part of the Northern Periphery and Arctic Interreg Project "Glow 2.0", focused on implementing and promoting Dark Skies.
- A number of Mayo projects were represented at the Creative Climate Ireland National Gathering in the Aviva on October 21st.





Directorate Highlights

Planning Data for October 2024

Applications Received:	111
E Planning Applications:	59
Hardcopy Applications:	52
Decisions to Grant:	93
Decisions to Refuse:	7
Forthcoming Decisions:	147
Formal Preplanning App:	22
Appointments at five Planning Clinics on the 9 th October and 23 rd October 2024:	51
Files appealed to An Bord Pleanála:	2

Governance & Customer Service

FOI Requests:	13
Insurance PL Claims:	13
Ombudsman Cases:	1 new case, 3 closed cases
Total Calls Answered:	4450

Social Media/Publicity Campaigns:

- Heritage Funding
- Power Up Grant
- Castlebar Christmas market call out
- Fire safety week.
- Check the Register
- Storm Ashley cover
- Online consultations – Have your say!
- Be winter Ready.
- Local Enterprise Office – Start your own Business boot camp.
- Historic towns initiative – Funding call out.

Dates to Note



Planning, Human Resources, Communications, and Corporate Affairs



CATHERINE McCONNELL

Human Resources

New Appointments in October 2024 - 2 Clerical Officers, 1 Executive Technician, 1 Ganger

Promotions -5 x Ganger, 4 x Foreman, 1 x General Services Supervisor, 1 x Traveller Accom Liaison Officer, 1 x Administrative Officer, 1 x Senior Engineer

Competitions Advertised –Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Clerical Officer, Senior Staff Officer

Shortlisted/Screened – Assistant Scientist, Assistant Engineer

Interviews held - Senior Executive Librarian G7, Executive Librarian G6, Executive Architect, Architectural Technician G1, Executive Architectural Technician, IS Technical Support Officer, Assistant Fire Officer, Librarian (G5), Senior Library Assistant G4

Retirements – 1 Caretaker Grade V, 1 Clerical Officer, 2 ASO's, 1 GSS (Uisce Eireann), 1 LEO, 1 Emergency Control Operator

Training Data for October 2024

19 Indoor staff participated in: Competency Based Interview Training, Planning Admin Fundamentals, Aggressive Behaviour Training-Environmental, Train the Trainer.

40 Outdoor staff participated in the following training courses: Inspection of Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems, CSCS Mini Digger Assessment, CSCS 360 Excavator, Preparing & Responding to a Serious Incident, Road Opening and Reinstatement Basis, Winter Service Operator, Small Stream Risk Scoring

284 outdoor staff participated in Dignity at Work

17 staff members participated in Designated Contact Person Training

Training Centre Update: A total of 3,941 attendees have participated in Castlebar Regional Training Centre courses for the months from January 2024 with 5,168 training days.

Corporate Communications / Diaspora / Social Media/Publicity Campaigns

- Public information updates on severe weather, traffic disruption, Water repairs, recruitment
- Media Responses to local and national Media queries. Co-ordination of all Advertising
- Website

Oifig na Gaeilge

- Communications campaign completed for Oonagh Bean Uí Shúilleabháin (Ní Chéilleachair) memorial scholarship including interviews on MidWest Radio, Claremorris Community Radio, and Raidió na Gaeltachta.
- Procurement for future Annual Report translation requirements completed.

Road Safety

- Road Safety Week – 7th to 13th October 2024
- Road Safety Talks in Castlebar National School, Senior Campus/Breaffy National School/Atlantic Technological University Castlebar Campus/St. Gerald's Secondary School Castlebar/St Joseph's Secondary School Castlebar/Davitt College Castlebar.
- Road Safety Talk to EPS Group (Electrical Pump Services Group) in Mc William Hotel, Claremorris.

Press Releases October 2024:

- Opening of Housing Development at Carn Tulach Kiltimagh
- Cathaoirleach's Awards 2024
- Mayo County Council and Age Friendly Ireland Partner to Enhance Home Safety for Older Residents
- Castlebar Christmas Market to Bring the Festive Cheer to Collectors Lane
- Road Safety Week 2024



Enterprise, Community, Economic Development & Tourism

JOANNE GREHAN



Directorate Highlights

- **Network Day:** A networking day with Mayo County Library & MSLETB took place in Kiltimagh.
- **The Europarc Federation Conference** took place from 29-31 October in Westport attracting 120 delegates from National Parks across Europe.
- Over 80 events held for **Children's Book Festival**, with 7300 visitors to Castlebar Library.
- **Digital Literacy Sessions** in association with MSLETB commenced in Castlebar Library.
- **Numeracy workshops** for toddlers with MSLETB commenced in a number of libraries.
- 1000 TTRS licences were allocated to schools and individuals with neurodiverse needs or with English as a second language.
- Autumn Calendar of Events available through this link [MSP Autumn Calendar](#).
- MSP Events / Courses Available to Book see here <https://www.eventbrite.ie/d/ireland-mayo/mayo-sports-partnership/>
- Levelling Access Artists Practice Bursary – open for applications until November 19th <https://www.mayo.ie/arts/programmng-access>

Dates to Note

- **Mayo Tourism Network Event:** Fáilte Ireland hosting a Mayo Tourism Networking event on Thurs 5 Dec 2024 in Breaffy House. Guest speaker will be radio, television presenter and author - Éanna Ní Lamhna.
- **Lough Lannagh Climbing Wall Project** tender published for Architect / Engineer led Integrated Design Team. Closing date for receipt of submissions is 22 Nov.
- Mayo LCDC in partnership with ATU Mayo are hosting seminar 'The Big House in the West; Past, Present & Future' on Sat 23 November at ATU, Castlebar.

Enterprise & Economic Development Unit

- The 2024 Blas na hÉireann awards took place on Fri 4 Oct in Dingle with 12 winners from Mayo: Western Brand Chicken, Jack & Eddie's, Gleann Bui Farm, Carr & Sons Seafood, O'Hara's Bakery, The Food Store Claremorris, Van Velze's Chocolates Ltd, Moylurg Honey, Foxford Cafe, CPAC Foods, Mescan Brewery and Krem Delights Limited with O'Hara's awarded Best in County.
- LEO Mayo supported a regional event to celebrate National Women's Enterprise Day on 17 Oct. The event highlighted female entrepreneurs in the region, provided networking opportunities, and featured keynote speaker Síle Seoige.
- Mayo Ideas Month ran for the month of October with LEO Mayo delivering the 'Jobs of the Future' event in ATU Castlebar and hosting the flagship 'Meet Mayo' initiative – a business-to-business networking event at Ballinrobe Racecourse.

Ireland West Strategic Development Zone

- Analysis of strategic development options for SDZ delivery commenced including comparative analysis of national projects of similar scale and complexity.
- Project Manager engagement with SDZ Stakeholders underway to continue to year end.

Community, Arts, Sports and Childcare

- MSP allocated €85k for Outdoor Sport Infrastructure & Biodiversity through the New Participation National Outdoor Fund.
- The Partnership of MSP with Healthy Mayo and Ballina Community Sports Hub launched Ballina Sports Inclusion Small Grants Scheme with closing date 31 Oct.
- Mayo Local Area Integration team provides integration supports to the 1,611 residents currently based across 13 IPAS accommodation centres in Mayo.
- Louisburgh won the overall award in the population category 2,000 to 5,000 and Inishturk the Runner-Up in Community Tourism Award at Pride of Place awards 2024.

Tourism, Recreation & Amenity

- **Achill Island Greenway** shortlisted @ **Ireland's Climate Change Leadership Awards** for two awards "Sustainable Transport Award" & "Urban Greening Project of the Year Award". Also shortlisted under "Supporting Tourism" @ the **Chambers Ireland Awards**
- **ORIS Funding:** On Fri 18 Oct the DRCD announced ORIS 2024/25. EOIs will be advertised on Mayo.ie and details will be circulated through the PPN.
- **Large-Scale Sports Infrastructural Fund** On 4 Nov, the Dept of Tourism, announced funding of €7.5million for "Mayo Community Sports Campus" under LSSIF for the development of a state-of-the-art Community Sports Campus.

Town Regeneration

- Town Team Supports 2024: Continued engagement with Town Teams in Balla, Crossmolina and Swinford to deliver agreed objectives.
- Procurement for Ballyhaunis TCF plan and collaboration with augmented Town Team.
- Continuing support for Killala to deliver TCF plan and Creative Ireland Residency.

Library Services

- An Exhibition of **Liam Lyons Photographs of old Castlebar** on display in October
- In collaboration with Healthy Mayo, free sanitary products will be available at Mayo libraries to assist in combatting period poverty.
- As part of the Healthy Ireland programme, Dr Mary O'Kane spoke at Castlebar library on **Supporting children and teens with anxiety**, 75 parents and guardians attended.
- Library staff partook in a **Connect Café** on Fri 18 October to shape a new strategic plan for Mental Health Ireland.
- The manager of the Jackie Clarke Collection interviewed on **The Today Show RTE 1**.



Financial Management, Information Systems & Motor Taxation

PETER DUGGAN

Directorate Highlights



Dates to Note



Mayo County Council

1. Major Expenditure and Income by Division with 2024 Adopted Budget
Nine months ended 30th September 2024

APPENDIX A
FINANCIAL REVIEW NOVEMBER 2024

Division	Description	EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
		€1p To Date	Budget	Remaining	€1p To Date	Budget	Not Rec'd
A	Development and Building	25,152,726	28,225,122	3,596,496	24,187,310	27,450,543	3,263,233
B	Roads Transport and Safety	54,308,416	54,125,012	10,859,698	27,830,618	45,628,186	17,697,508
C	Water Services	12,607,843	19,437,281	6,829,438	2,316,235	7,538,124	5,221,889
D	Development Management	22,078,568	18,505,758	3,572,810	14,321,143	8,050,650	2,122,540
E	Environmental Services	16,243,143	21,803,717	5,560,573	5,968,110	8,050,650	2,122,540
F	Recreation and Amenity	11,184,275	14,675,534	3,491,259	4,892,177	5,501,500	609,323
G	Agriculture, Education Health and Welfare	1,486,881	2,053,389	576,508	498,700	741,721	245,021
H	Central Management Charges	15,019,691	16,592,136	3,772,444	10,728,206	13,946,898	3,220,693
J	Rates	19,301,310	26,392,536	6,481,526	1,348,613	1,940,000	294,387
	Local Government Fund	-	-	-	33,319,639	44,860,815	11,342,126
		-	-	-	19,072,640	22,530,185	3,557,546
GRAND TOTAL		154,980,051	201,537,376	46,577,325	155,311,399	201,537,376	46,225,977
				77%			77%

2. Performance of Local Authority Revenue Collection Levers

Revenue	Total for collection	Collected	Average	Collection %
Rents	7,630,439	6,034,194	1,056,246	88%
Rates	42,641,430	34,973,975	7,667,455	82%
Housing Loans	3,019,489	2,410,788	608,701	80%

3. Resource to Overdraft Facility

Resource	Number of days in overdraft	Estimated interest incurred
	5	1,752

4. Significant Variance against Budget

Category	€'000
Housing Benefit arising	190
Emergency Accommodation	150
Swimming Pools	200
Leisure Facilities (Lough Linnagh)	575
Payroll	1,970
Other	-34