



**MONTH, YEAR**

**Highlights**

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**Chief Executive Report**

**KEVIN KELLY**



The Inaugral Cathaoirleach’s Awards were held on the Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March in Breaffy House Hotel and proved to be a very successful event.

All of the community groups and individuals appreciated the recognition of the voluntary and community efforts.

It is hoped that this will become an annual event at which Mayo County council will have a dedicated opportunity to say thank you for all of the work and dedication by our local communities.

37 individuals and groups were nominated and a total of 13 prizes were awarded across 11 categories:

- Mayo Publication Award:** Annagh Magazine
- Contribution to Local Heritage Award:** Old Irish Goat Society
- Community Partnership Project Award:** Crossmolina Community Council CLG
- Community Social Inclusion Project Award:** Dolmen Clubhouse CLG
- Community Tourism Award:** Céide Coast Community CLG
- Environmental Community Group of the Year:** Westport Tidy Towns
- Young Environmentalist of the Year Award:** Mohammed Naeem
- Contribution the Arts in Mayo Award Joint Winners:** Luisne Art Project and Foxford Comhaltas
- Contribution to the preservation and promotion of the Irish language (Gaeltacht):** Gaeilge Iorrais
- Contribution to the preservation and promotion of the Irish language (non-Gaeltacht)** Ciorcal Comhrá Chaisleán an Bharraigh
- Contribution to Diaspora Wellbeing/Engagement Joint Winners:** Professor John D. Feerick, New York and Mayo Genealogy Group



## Directorate Highlights

### Roads

Regional and Local Roads Grant funding of €36,033,917 allocated to Mayo County Council by Department of Transport. This represents an increase of €2,508,001 on the 2021 allocation.

Additional funding of €161,892 allocated by TII for maintenance improvements on N5, N60, N59 and N84.

Funding submissions made to TII under their Capital Maintenance Programme.

Belleek Gate Lodge awarded €160k under the Historic Towns Initiative 2022.

Ballina featured positively on a recent episode of RTE's Eco Eye.

Procurement Training delivered to Mayo County Council staff in the Community & Integrated Development Section

## Dates to Note

1<sup>st</sup> March 2022 – Contract was signed for the construction of 22 new homes in Lios na Circe, Castlebar.

24<sup>th</sup> March - Active Travel Monthly Progress Meeting

6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> April, - TII & MCC monthly meeting

## Housing, Roads, Architectural Services and Service Development

### TOM GILLIGAN



### Roads

- Construction works ongoing to N5 Westport – Turlough scheme with project completion due in Q1 2023.
- Construction works ongoing to N26 Cloongullane scheme with scheme completion due in July 2022.
- Design work and contract documents practically complete on N60 Heathlawn scheme and approval has been sought from TII to proceed to tender.
- Consultant about to be appointed to N60 Manulla Scheme to proceed with route selection phase.
- N26 / N59 Ballina By -Pass Phase 1 at route option stage with Consultant now appointed.
- Design work ongoing for N60 Breaffy Active Travel and Safety Scheme with Part 8 planning to follow in April 2022.
- Design work proceeding on Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project with tender publication in April 2022.

### Housing

The new Housing Programme 'Housing for All' 2022-2026 is now underway and Mayo County Council have a target of 730 Social Housing new builds. . The target for 2022 is 90 houses and projects are currently in progress to achieve same.

### HAP & RAS (Feb 2022)

- 4 No. delivered under HAP,
- 2 No. delivered under RAS

Total of 2,089 active households supported by RAS/HAP at the end of February.

### Leasing (Feb 2022)

- 3 No. house delivered under the Leasing Programme.

Total: 321 No. households currently supported under the Leasing Programme.

**Homelessness** – 8 No. homeless presentations for Feb., 2022 10 adults

**Refugee Resettlement:** - 167 persons accommodated in Mayo to date. (151 MCC & 16 accommodated by the Red Cross in pledged accommodation)

### Defective Concrete Block Grant Scheme

To date: -

221 Stage 1 Confirmation of Eligibility Applications received

96 Stage 1 Confirmation of Eligibility have been issued

Stage 2 - 20 Grant approval applications received and 14 approved to date

Stage 3 – 7 No. stage payments to date

Mayo County Council is continuing to engage with the LGMA and the Department in relation to the ongoing Ukrainian Refugees situation

### Procurement & Efficiency Review

Ongoing monitoring of metered/unmetered electricity & natural gas accounts.

Bitumen tender currently being evaluated for awarding for coming year.

Revised Procurement & Financial Procedures Manual signed by Chief Executive.

Assisted in the development & publishing of Print Management Contract with Apogee.

Co-ordinated and facilitated asset disposal auction on behalf of Mayo/Sligo/Galway City Council.

Completed RFT competitions for Westport Belmullet MD, Ballina & Claremorris MD.



## Water Services, Environment, Climate Change & Emergency Services

**JOHN CONDON**



### Directorate Highlights

Mayo County Council has been shortlisted in the Green Public Sector Organisation of the Year category of the Green Awards 2022. To view the full shortlist see: <https://www.greenawards.ie/shortlist>. The award ceremony will be held in April.

Mayo County Council has improved its energy efficiency by 36.4% surpassing the national public body target of 33% as reported in the [Public-Sector-Annual-Report-2021.pdf](#) ([seai.ie](http://seai.ie))

### Dates to Note

National Stop Food Waste Awareness Day is 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022. Social Media Awareness Campaign 'Making Use-By Dates Work for You'.

WEEE Ireland are holding several Public Collection Days in Mayo in March 2022. Householders can recycle anything with a plug or battery which is at the end of its useful life.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS:

- Street Bin Awareness Campaign - weather-proof decals for Street Bins were distributed to all Municipal Districts.
- Following the recycling of used Christmas Trees, an RFQ was issued and 900+ Christmas Trees have been shredded in February, the mulch will be re-used for horticultural purposes throughout the County.
- Renewal Visits have commenced for Green Schools, renewal deadline 1<sup>st</sup> April.
- The National Briefing for EAO's was held on 17<sup>th</sup> February for the New National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy.
- Over 80 community groups/volunteers registered for the National Spring Clean Campaign

#### WASTE TEAMS:

- RMCEI Plan for 2022 prepared and submitted to the EPA
- Historic landfill remediation grant funding received to prepare an application to An Bord Pleanala for the remediation of the Claremorris site.

#### CLIMATE ACTION:

- Kiltimagh Decarbonising Community presented to the Claremorris Swinford MD meeting
- Roll out of the WIRE app has begun with training provided to MCC GIS MD staff. [WIRE Hub \(arcgis.com\)](http://WIREHub(arcgis.com))
- The results from the public engagement bicycle parking survey have been compiled and distributed to the MDs.

#### VETERINARY - IT IS NOW SHEEP LAMBING SEASON

Advertisements were placed in local newspapers.

#### RURAL WATER:

Joe Reilly Plant Hire appointed as contractor for construction of new Raw Water intake pipe for Ballycroy GWS - Cost of €383,066.00.

SDS Consulting Engineers have been appointed as our Employers Representative for Rossport GWS - Cost of €150,000.00 & Comboy - Cost of €50,000.00 for connection to public mains and taken in charge (TIC) by Irish Water.

Construction work on new Community Water Connection for Downpatrick Head is 90% complete.

Construction work of 22km of new pipe network for Clonmoore / Cloonlavish GWS is 90% complete. We are awaiting agreement from Irish Water for connection to the public mains and scheme to be TIC.

Joe Reilly Plant Hire appointed as contractor for construction of network upgrade to Midfield GWS - Cost of €161,756.00.

#### MAINS REHAB CREW:

The Direct Labour Mains Rehab Crew are continuing to works on Dalgan Rd., Shrulue. As of 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022, a total of 1500m was installed.

#### FIND & FIX PROJECT:

MA02504 - BA\_RUR\_Wherrew\_Knockanillaun DMA (**Ballina**)

MA02638 - LM\_Cmorris\_Castlebar\_Road DMA (**Claremorris**).

MA02508 - BA\_RUR\_Wherrew\_Knockmore & Ballina town into Ardnaree DMA (MA02553 - BA\_TOWN\_Ardnaree).

Monitoring is continuing in MA02639LM\_Cmorris\_Ballinrobe road

MA02642 - LM\_Cmorris\_Mount\_Street DMA possible amendments to DMA's Boundary.

These two DMA's were difficult to bring down nightlines but crew made good progress and saving are being maintained, DMA boundary valves to be monitored.

MA02638 - LM\_Cmorris\_Chapel\_Lane DMA a large amount of work was carried out to locate extents of unmapped watermains in the DMA.

#### DIRECT LABOUR CREW:

Direct Labour crew due to start work in April on Bunree rd. with the Transfer of connections from the existing Asbestos main onto an existing 250mm Ductile Iron Watermain, which should help eliminate a section of troublesome Asbestos main.



## Directorate Highlights

### Planning Data for February 2022

- Applications Received :103
- Decisions to Grant: 83
- Decisions to Refuse: 13
- Forthcoming Decisions: 111
- Formal Pre-planning applications: 9
- Appointments at planning Clinics (9/03/22 & 23/02/22) :24

### Training

#### Indoor

- 136 indoor staff received Manual Handling training.
- 1 indoor staff member signed up for Further Education.
- 29 indoor staff completed Climate Awareness Training.

#### Outdoor

- 33 outdoor staff received training

### Freedom of information

10 FOI Requests.

### Insurance

6 PL claims.

### Ombudsman

3 requests.

## Dates to Note

The Corporate, Culture, Heritage and Library Services SPC held a meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> February in Belmullet Area offices and followed with a visit to Blacksod Lighthouse.

## Planning, Human Resources, Communications & Corporate Affairs

CATHERINE McCONNELL



### HR

#### New Appointments

- 4 Retained Fire Fighter

#### Promotions

- 1 WWC G111 ■ 2 Senior Library Assistant ■ Assistant Staff Officer.

#### Interviews held in February 2022

- Sláintecare Healthy Communities – Local Development Officer ■ Assistant Engineer.

#### Competitions Advertised in February

- Senior Executive Technician.

#### Competitions Screened / Shortlisted

- Executive Civil Technician – Water Services.

#### Retirements

- 2 ASO ■ 1 Assistant Librarian.

#### Communications

- Public information updates on Road Gritting, weather alerts, traffic disruption, Water repairs, recruitment
- Media Responses to local and national Media queries. Co-ordination of corporate Advertising
- Planning & Co-ordination of Cathaoirleach Awards event
- Key promotional Campaigns
- Home to Mayo – Working with partners at home and away to increase promotion of home to Mayo Festival for May 2022
- Funding calls – GMA's, various Arts funding opportunities, Regional Festival funding
- Public notices – Grazing Licences, Croagh Patrick Visitor Centre, Road Closure notices
- Ireland Reads campaign
- Close of hedge cutting season
- TikTok Mic Drop Road Safety campaign launch and continued push
- Library promotions - Various Mayo History features on the website, Information sessions
- Photos of the Day
- Month in numbers
- 57 queries through general contact form on website
- Page views on website up 4.36% vs comparable time in previous month.
- Increase in engagement across all social media platforms compared to previous month

#### Digital Transformation

- Customer Relationship Management - Discovery Phase Complete.
- CE Orders Project - Joint collaboration with South Dublin Co Council.
- Planning Digitisation Project - Procurement Phase.



## Enterprise, Community, Economic Development & Tourism

JOANNE GREHAN



### Directorate Highlights

- Almost €5m allocated to 63 Mayo projects in Gov Sports Capital funding, the majority of which were assisted in their applications by MSP.
- Funding of €230,000 announced under this Programme for the development of a climbing wall at the Outdoor Pursuits Centre at Lough Lannagh.
- The MSP's Older Adult Activator Poles Walking Programme launched in Feb with 350 participants in 19 programmes countywide.
- Jane Cassidy, Breda Burns & Rajinder Singh announced as the Artists in Residence for the Faoin Spéir/In the Open Project.
- Noah Rose announced as the artist to deliver the Irishtown Public Art Commission.
- Follow up programme to Neven's Irish Seafood Trails aired on 09-02-22 featuring County Mayo.
- Authors Kate Kerrigan & Faith Hogan plus Mayo Footballers Pdraig O'Hora & David Clarke visited Mayo libraries to 'Squeeze in a Read' on Ireland Reads Day on 25-02-22

### Dates to Note

- Tourism, Recreation, Food & Community SPC 25-03-2022
- For a list of Community & Integrated Development funding opportunities and their deadlines e.g. Arts Act Grants, Mayo Artist Bursary etc. see [www.mayo.ie](http://www.mayo.ie)
- Women in Sport Week will take place from the 7th – 13th March with a combination of webinars and physical events taking place across the county.
- County final of the Student Enterprise Programme will take place on 10-03-2022

### Enterprise & Economic Development Unit

- Local Enterprise Week is taking place from the 7-11 March. This year's Theme is "Making It Happen" with a series of events, including online workshops, focusing on helping businesses to look forward and future proof themselves for the years ahead.
- The 4th networking event as part of the Mayo Food & Drink Network initiative will take place in Ballina on 22-03-22.
- Liaison is continuing with NBI on the rollout of the National Broadband Plan.
- Construction works continue on site in Bangor Erris for the Airborne Wind Energy Test Site.

### Marine Unit

- MCC is currently finalising the Island Accessibility Strategy.

### Strategic Capital Projects

- **RRDF:** Assessment of projects for Round 3 category 1 applications.
- **URDF:** Submission of Castlebar Military Barracks Preliminary Business Case.
- **IWAK SDZ:** Communication with Dept of Housing Local Gov & Heritage to progress.

### Community, Arts, Sports, Childcare

- Healthy Ireland Round 3 programme delivered by MCC extended to May.
- Mayo LCDC has approved the SICAP performance review for 2021 and the Annual plan for delivery in 2022.
- Spring Calendar of Events / Volunteer Training Workshops - [www.mayo.ie](http://www.mayo.ie)
- Launch of Mayo.ie West of Ireland Women's Mini Marathon on 08-03-22. Returns to a physical event as part of Mayo Day celebrations on 01-05-22.

### Tourism, Recreation & Amenity

- Construction works are advancing on a new 1.4km extension to the MOM Trail, north of Belleek Woods, Ballina.
- The Greenway link between Turlough Village and the National Museum is progressing. Completed works include new pedestrian bridge. Remaining works to complete include an access path to the village and construction of boundary wall.
- The closing date under the Regional Festival & Participative Events Programme 2022 was 25-02-22. A total of 19 applications were received.

### Clew Bay Greenway:

- Construction works are ongoing on a new section of Greenway located between Achill Sound and Bunacurry. Substantial progress has been advanced at Achill Sound and Saula West.
- A new Trailhead Car Park is very near completion at Achill Sound
- The Greenway route between Murrisk and Bertra will be progressed and will incorporate a section of the route along the public road to complete this project.

### Library Services

- Libraries are now opened throughout lunchtime - Live Story-times have returned to library branches - MCC's volunteer readers have started their 'Time to Read' sessions in-person with the 2nd class boys in St. Patrick's NS .
- Extensive range of books dealing with dementia now available in every library branch through the healthy Ireland programme.

