



Mayo County Council
Annual Report
2010



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Mission Statement

“We work to improve the quality of life for people living in Mayo and enhance the attractiveness of the County as a place in which to live, work, invest in and enjoy.”



Message from Cathaoirleach and County Manager



Mr. Michael Burke
Cathaoirleach



Mr. Peter Hynes
County Manager
(appointed 14th May 2010)

This report contains details of the activities of Mayo County Council for the year ending 31st December 2010. The report clearly shows that despite the financial challenges facing the Council, a wide variety of activities has been maintained during the year. Furthermore, the quality of services has also been maintained and in some cases improved. This is due to efficiencies which have been achieved on an ongoing bases throughout the year. The success of these efficiencies which have helped to maintain services with reduced resources is due to teamwork by the elected members, management and all the Council employees. By dealing with the challenges as a team, the best possible outcome has been achieved for the people of this county.

Members of Mayo County Council

Electoral Areas



Ballina Electoral Area



Cllr. Gerry Ginty
(NP)



Cllr. Michelle Mulherin
(FG)



Cllr. Jarlath Munnely
(FG)



Cllr. Annie May Reape
(FF)



Cllr. Eddie Staunton
(FG)



Cllr. Seamus Weir
(FG)

Castlebar Electoral Area



**Cllr. Cyril Burke
(FG)**



**Cllr. Frank Durcan
(NP)**



**Cllr. Blackie K. Gavin
(FF)**



**Cllr. Henry Kenny
(FG)**



**Cllr. Michael Kilcoyne
(NP)**



**Cllr. Eugene McCormack
(FG)**



**Cllr. Al McDonnell
(FF)**

Claremorris Electoral Area



**Cllr. Michael Burke
(FG)**



**Cllr. Tom Connolly
(FG)**



**Cllr. John Cribbin
(FG)**



**Cllr. Richard Finn
(NP)**



**Cllr. Patsy O'Brien
(FG)**



**Cllr. Damien Ryan
(FF)**

Belmullet Electoral Area



**Cllr. Rose Conway-Walsh
(SF)**



**Cllr. Gerry Coyle
(FG)**



**Cllr. Michael Holmes
(NP)**



**Cllr. Micheál McNamara
(FF)**

Swinford Electoral Area



**Cllr. Eugene Lavin
(FG)**



**Cllr. Jimmy Maloney
(FG)**



**Cllr. Joe Mellett
(FG)**



**Cllr. Gerry Murray
(SF)**

Westport Electoral Area



**Cllr. Margaret Adams
(FF)**



**Cllr. Peter Flynn
(FG)**



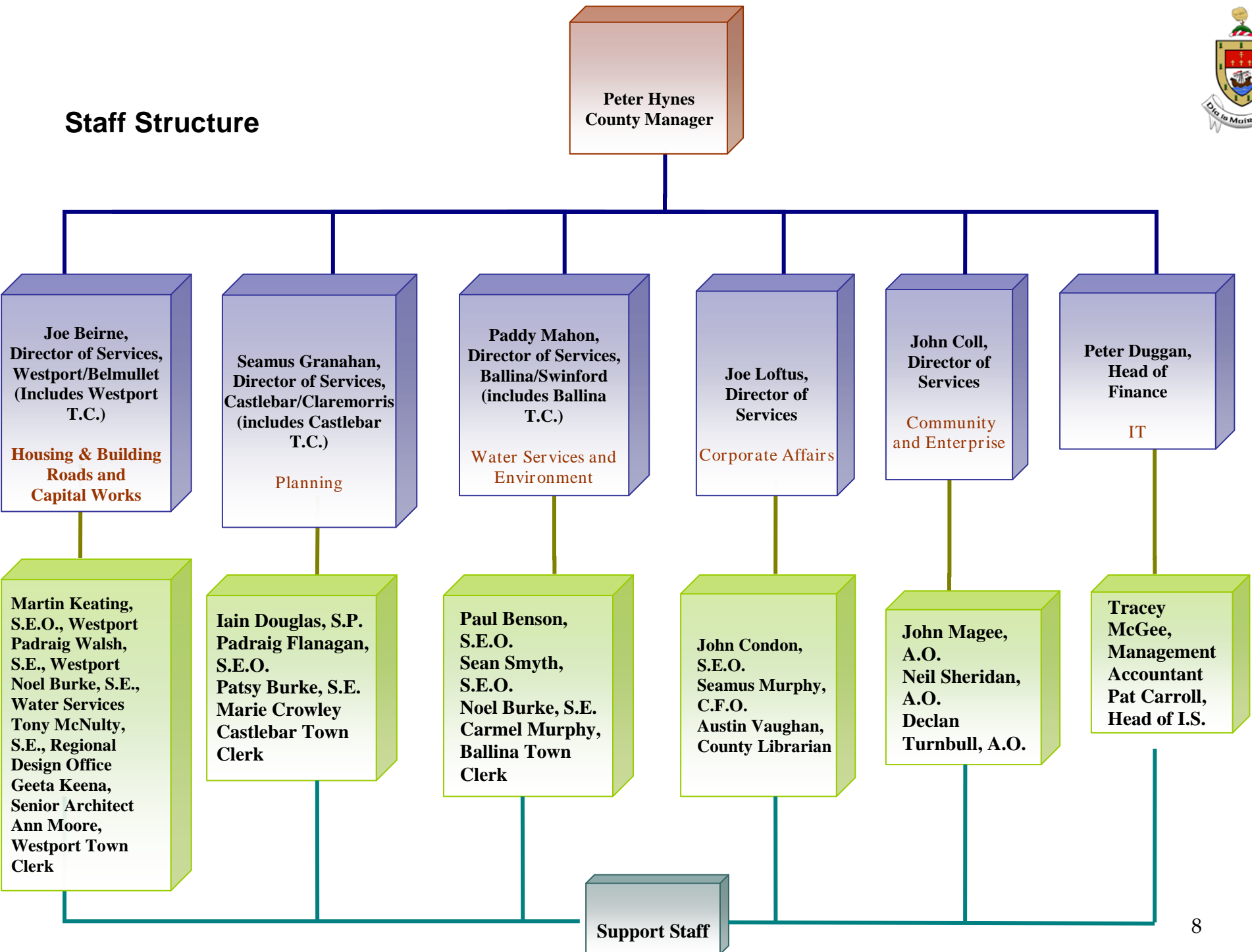
**Cllr. Austin F. O'Malley
(FG)**



**Cllr. John O'Malley
(FG)**



Staff Structure



Background

Local Government in Ireland provides a forum for the democratic representation of local communities promotes community interests and provides important services such as housing, roads, water and sewerage and planning.

Mayo Local Authorities are made up of two parts - the Elected Members and the Executive (The Management and Staff). 31 Members were elected to Mayo County Council and 9 Members to each of the Town Councils, namely Ballina, Castlebar and Westport in June 2009. The Members perform the **RESERVED FUNCTIONS**, which broadly equate with the making of policy and include:

- Approval of Corporate Plan
- Adopting the Annual Budget of the Council
- Making of a Development Plan under Planning Legislation
- Adopting a Scheme of Letting Priorities for the Allocation of Local Authority Housing

The County Manager is appointed to the position following an open competition by the Local Appointments Commission. The Manager performs the **EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS** by way of Managers Order. These functions relate to day-to-day administration and include:

- Letting of Houses
- Planning Decisions
- Management of Human Resources

In practice there is much consultation in the performance of the reserved and executive functions.

The functions of Mayo Local Authorities are classified under eight programme groups:

- Housing & Building
- Road Transportation & Safety
- Water Supply & Sewerage
- Development Incentives & Control
- Environmental Protection
- Recreation & Amenity
- Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare
- Miscellaneous Services

The expenditure of Mayo Local Authorities can be classified under two headings:

1. **Revenue Expenditure** which is day to day spending on the provision of services. The main sources of funding for this expenditure are:

- Government Grants and Subsidies
- Commercial Rates
- Fees and Charges for Services

2. Capital Expenditure is expenditure on the creation of an asset, e.g. construction of houses, water and sewerage schemes and major road works. The main sources of funding for this expenditure are:

- Capital Grants from Central Government
- Borrowings
- Other Capital Receipts

The annual report is an outline of the main programmes, services and other activities undertaken by the Council in 2010.

Strategic Policy Committees

SPC	COUNCILLORS	REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSING	Cllr. Eddie Staunton, Chair Cllr. John Cribbin, Cllr. Gerry Coyle, Cllr. Brendan Heneghan, Cllr. Annie May Reape, Cllr. Frank Durcan, Cllr. Gerry Ginty	Kieran Mulhern, Community Forum Francis Brennan, Community Forum Padraig Heverin, ICTU Helena McElmeel, Chambers of Commerce
CULTURAL, EDUCATION, HERITAGE AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS	Cllr. Al McDonnell, Chair Cllr. Peter Flynn, Cllr. Eugene McCormack, Cllr. Joseph Mellett, Cllr. Peter Clarke, Cllr. Margaret Adams, Cllr. Cyril Burke	Mary G. Duffy, Community Forum P.J. Lynn, Community Forum, Tony Deffely, ICTU Joe Queenan, Chambers of Commerce
ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION	Cllr. Jarlath Munnely, Chair Cllr. Gerry Coyle, Cllr. Patsy O'Brien, Cllr. Ollie Gannon, Cllr. Michael Holmes, Cllr. Jimmy Maloney, Cllr. Blackie Gavin	Stephen Meenaghan, Community Forum Eddie Lavelle, ICTU Margaret Tallot, Environmental Pillar Brian Bourke, Chambers of Commerce
WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE	Cllr. Eugene Lavin, Chair Cllr. Tom Connolly, Cllr. Austin Francis O'Malley, Cllr. Johnny O'Malley, Cllr. John O'Malley, Cllr. Blackie Gavin, Cllr. Rose Conway-Walsh	James O'Malley, Community Forum Brendan O'Mahony, IFA Lucy Weir Bingham, Environmental Pillar Ray Gilboy, Chambers of Commerce

PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND EMERGENCY SERVICES	Cllr. Michelle Mulherin, Chair Cllr. Eugene McCormack, Cllr. Michael Burke, Cllr. Ger Deere, Cllr. Al McDonnell, Cllr. Damien Ryan, Cllr. Gerry Murray	Seamus McCormack, Community Forum Mary Muldoon, Environmental Pillar John O'Donnell, IFA Patricia Calleary, Chambers of Commerce
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND AGRICULTURE	Cllr. Peter Flynn, Chair Cllr. Seamus Weir, Cllr. Myles Staunton, Cllr. Henry Kenny, Cllr. Micheál McNamara, Cllr. Richard Finn, Cllr. Michael Kilcoyne	Johnny Groden, Community Forum Michael Biggins, IFA Margaret Leahy, Environmental Pillar Billy Heffron, Chambers of Commerce

The policy making function of the Council is supported by a system of Strategic Policy Committees (SPC's) which consists of elected members and sectoral representatives, who formulate policy recommendations for consideration by the Council.

Each SPC comprises of 7 Councillors and 4 sectoral representatives, working together in a more participative form of democracy, thereby providing a more effective policy focus on the functions and activities carried out by Mayo County Council.

Each SPC is supported in it's work by a Director of Services. While each SPC formulates and develops policy, the final decisions rest ultimately with the full Council. Mayo County Council has six Strategic Policy Committees.

Housing Strategic Policy Committee

Following the Local Elections in June '09, a new Committee was elected as follows;

Cllr. Eddie Staunton, Chair, Cllr. John Cribben, Cllr. G. Coyle, Cllr. B. Heneghan, Cllr. A.M. Reape, Cllr. F. Durcan, Cllr. G. Ginty.
Mr. K. Mulhern and Mr. F. Brennan, Mayo Community Forum;
Mr. P. Heverin, Trade Union Pillar Representative;
Ms. H. McElmeel, Business Pillar Representative.

The Housing SPC held a number of meetings throughout the County, including a visit to the Glenisland Housing Development, Castlebar, St. Patrick's Estate in Ballina, and the Kilmeena development at Westport.

Topics dealt with during the year included:

- **Review of the Housing Grants Scheme**

The Housing Grants Scheme was reviewed in June. The revised scheme has resulted in all applications on hand being approved in 2010.

- **Regional Homeless Action Plan**

The Committee reviewed the Regional Homeless Action Plan prepared in conjunction with Roscommon County Council, Galway County Council, Galway City Council and the HSE and recommended its adoption to Mayo County Council.

- **Tenant Purchase Scheme / Incremental Purchase Scheme**

The Committee reviewed the proposed Incremental Purchase Scheme, made recommendations to the DOEHLG regarding the withdrawal of the Tenant Purchase Scheme and followed up with a meeting with the minister for Housing, Michael Finnegan, T.D. It is now expected that an Incremental Purchase option will be available to all tenants when the current Tenant Purchase Scheme ceases.

- **Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2009**

A presentation was made to the Housing SPC meeting on 25th November 2010 on the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2009, covering the policy and management issues arising which include:

- Functions of HAs
- Rental Accommodation Arrangements
- Management and Control Functions
- Needs Assessment
- Homelessness Action Plans
- Tenant Purchase of Apartments
- Incremental Purchase
- Affordable Dwelling Purchase Arrangements
- Anti Social Behaviour Strategy.

Cultural, Education, Heritage & Corporate Affairs Strategic Policy Committee.

Under the Chairmanship of Cllr Al McDonnell and the Directorship of Mr. Joe Loftus, the Cultural, Education, Heritage and Corporate Affairs Strategic Policy Committee held 4 meetings during 2010.

During 2010, the following issues were considered by the SPC members, including:-

- Presentation on The Jackie Clarke Museum.
- Review of Library Development Plan.
- Review of Strategic Arts Plan.
- Heritage Work Plan for 2010.
- Presentation on Cultural Tour / Ring of Mayo.
- Cultural, Education, Heritage and Corporate Affairs Strategic Policy Committee Work Plan 2010.
- Presentation on Health & Safety.

- ‘Turas Mhaigh Eo’ initiative – Finalise Policy Recommendation.
- Presentation from representatives of Linenhall Arts Centre, Castlebar.
- Presentation from Deputation on behalf of Lahardane Titanic Commemoration Committee.
- Approval of Draft County Mayo Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2015.
- Presentation to exploit the economic potential of Mayo’s 3 Gaeltacht areas by establishing links with the 30 Universities outside of Ireland who teach the Irish language, with a view to developing a package of ‘language breaks’ showcasing the unique linguistic and cultural heritage of the Mayo Gaeltacht.

Roads and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee

This Strategic Policy Committee met on three occasions in 2010. The Committee considered and dealt with the following issues amongst others:

- National Roads Programme for the County
- Non National Roads Programme
- Road Safety
- Public lighting
- Sustainable Transport initiatives
- Smarter Travel
- Road making Technologies
- Plan for winter maintenance
- Dept of Transport Memorandum on Grants for Regional and Local Roads

The Committee went on a delegation to the National Roads Authority in April 2010 to advance the National Road Projects in the County including the N5 in Counties Roscommon and Longford.

Water Supply & Sewerage Strategic Policy Committee

Three meetings of the Water Supply & Sewerage SPC were held during 2010 under the directorship of Mr. Paddy Mahon.

The goal of this SPC is to provide access to the people of Mayo to the best possible water services throughout a process of continued improvement in service delivery.

The committee considered and dealt with the following items amongst others:

- Water Services Investment Programme 2010-2012
- Drinking Water Regulations
- County Mayo Strategic Rural Water Plan
- Waste Water Discharge Licenses

Planning, Economic Development & Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee

Five meetings of the Planning & Economic Development & Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee Meeting took place in 2010.

- **E-Planning:** Mr. Pat Carroll and Rick Love gave a joint presentation on progress on E-Planning which was nominated for an E. Government Award.

Presentations were also given on the following:

- Draft Regional Planning Guidelines
- Mayo Energy Strategy.
- The importance of preserving rural communities and supporting the retail trade in smaller towns.
- Progress achieved in securing objectives of Mayo County Development Plan 2008 – 2014.

Presentations were given by:

- (A) Ms. Teresa O'Reilly, Planner, West Regional Authority, on the Draft Regional Planning Guidelines for the West Region 2010-2022. Mr. J. Loftus, Director of Services, informed the meeting that the views of the Planning SPC and the full Council would be submitted to the West Regional Authority.
- (B) Mr. Aiden Corcoran, Manager, Area 25, Eirgrid, in relation to setting out a scheme for Mayo.
- (C) Ms. Deirdre Cunningham, Heritage Officer, on the Draft Bio-Diversity Plan which was later adopted by the Council in November, 2010.
- (D) Mr. Iain Brannigan, Development Manager, Western Development Commission, on how the Commission are assisting businesses with technical advice and information in relation to sourcing products.
- (E) Ms. Tanya Stanaway, E.P. gave an update on the Renewable Energy Strategy. The closing date for submissions on the Public Consultation Paper was 8th October 2010 and the Renewable Energy Strategy will be ready for presentation to the SPC by November, 2010. The Renewable Energy Strategy will be incorporated into the current Mayo County Development Plan.
- (F) Mr. Iain Douglas, Senior Planner, updated the meeting on the Planning and Development (Amendment Act 2010) and the Planning & Development Regulations 2010.

The last meeting for 2010 took place on 26th November, 2010. Members of the Environmental SPC were invited to discuss the proposed Renewable Energy Strategy.

It was on this meeting's Agenda to discuss the adopted Regional Planning Guidelines but as the Renewable Energy Strategy took up a considerable amount of time it was decided to defer this item to the next meeting.

A representative from Gno Mhaigh Eo, Ms. Mairead Ni Mhailchiarain, gave a presentation in relation to their work with businesses in Co. Mayo and promoting the cultural and economic benefit of the County.

Environmental Strategic Policy Committee

This Committee comprises of elected members and members of the business and farming communities. The Committee met on 3 occasions in 2010 and discussed inter alia

- Briefing from Brendan Killion of the Mayo Energy Agency on Climate Change
- Briefing from Orla Bourke on the Recommended Minimum Criteria for 2010
- Environmental Inspection Plan
- Presentation from Tony Clarke, Coillte (arising from previous discussions on the Western River Basin Management Plan)
- Discussion on turf cutting restrictions
- Presentation from Pat Warner, National Parks & Wildlife on turf cutting and protection of habitat on blanket and raised bogs
- Anti-Litter Awareness Scheme for Takeaways/Fast Food Outlets

A meeting was held in committee on the 14th April 2010 to agree policy proposals for the SPC and the committee was also invited to the Planning SPC for presentation on Energy Renewal Strategy.

**Payment to Members of Mayo County Council and
Non-members of Mayo County Council in 2010**

Please see Addendum

<http://www.mayococo.ie/en/PublicationsandForms/AnnualReports/>

**Donation Statements by Members of Local Authority
1st January 2010 – 31st December 2010**

Please see Addendum

<http://www.mayococo.ie/en/PublicationsandForms/AnnualReports/>

List of External Bodies on which Mayo County Council are formally represented by Councillors in 2010

Lough Corrib Navigation Trustees	<i>Cllr. P. O'Brien</i>
West Regional Authority	<i>Cllrs. S. Weir, E. McCormack, E. Lavin, C. Burke, D. Ryan, M. Adams, G. Murray (3 yrs) and M. Kilcoyne (2 years)</i>
EU Monitoring Committee	<i>Cllr. E. Lavin</i>
Border, Midland and Western Regional Assembly	<i>Cllrs. C. Burke, E. Lavin, and D. Ryan</i>
Mayo County Enterprise Board	<i>Cllr. T. Connolly, J. Mellett, C. Burke and M. McNamara</i>
Board of the South West Mayo Development Company Ltd.	<i>Cllrs. A.F. O'Malley, P. O'Brien and M. Adams</i>
Board of Comhar Iorrais (LEADER) Teoranta	<i>Cllrs. G. Coyle and M. McNamara</i>
Board of Ballinrobe Racecourse Committee	<i>Cllrs. M. Burke and D. Ryan</i>
Board of the Linenhall Arts Centre, Castlebar	<i>Cllr. E. McCormack</i>
Board of the Fr. Patrick Peyton CSC Memorial Company Ltd.	<i>Cllrs. M. Mulherin and A.M. Reape</i>
Board of Ballina Arts Events Ltd.	<i>Cllr. M. Mulherin and A. M. Reape</i>
Board of the Custom House Studios Ltd., Westport	<i>Cllr. John O'Malley and M. Adams</i>
GMIT Castlebar Liaison Committee	<i>Cllr. H. Kenny</i>
Board of Belderrig Research and Study Centre	<i>Cllrs. J. Munnelly and A. McDonnell</i>
Consultative Committee of Knock International Airport	<i>Cllrs. J. Mellett and J. Maloney</i>
Board of Directors of Clare Lake Development Committee	<i>Cllr. T. Connolly</i>
Board of Maghu's Castle / Kiltimagh Indoor Fun Park	<i>Cllrs. E. Lavin and J. Maloney</i>
Board of Foxford Railway Station Restoration Society	<i>Cllrs. J. Mellett, E. Lavin, J. Maloney and A. McDonnell</i>
Board of Lacken Sports and Recreation Centre	<i>Cllrs. J. Munnelly and M. McNamara</i>
Board of Knockmore / Rathduff Recreation and Resource Centre	<i>Cllrs. S. Weir and A. M. Reape</i>
County Tourism Committee	<i>Cllr. John O'Malley</i>
County Councils' General Council now known as Association of County and City Councils	<i>Cllrs. P. Flynn, John O'Malley and J. Maloney</i>
Board of the Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurance Company Limited, Dublin	<i>Cllr. J. Mellett</i>
Local Authority Members Association	<i>Cllr. C. Burke</i>
Western Inter-County Railway Committee	<i>Cllrs. A.F. O'Malley, P. O'Brien, T. Connolly, P. Flynn and D. Ryan</i>

Local County Rural Water Monitoring Committee	<i>Cllrs. A.F.O'Malley, P. O'Brien and A. McDonnell</i>
County Mayo Heritage Forum	<i>Cllrs. E. Staunton, J. Munnely, E. McCormack, M. Burke, M. Adams and M. Holmes</i>
Ballycastle (Mayo) Enterprises Limited	<i>Cllrs. G. Coyle, J. Munnely, M. McNamara and R. Conway-Walsh</i>
Louisburgh Holidays Pcl.	<i>Cllrs. A.F. O'Malley, John O'Malley and M. Adams</i>
Belcarra Community Centre	<i>Cllrs. C. Burke, E. McCormack and A. McDonnell</i>
Claremorris Swimming Pool Committee	<i>Cllrs. T. Connolly, P. O'Brien, D. Ryan and R. Finn</i>
Castlebar Sports Complex Limited	<i>Cllrs. E. McCormack and B.K. Gavin</i>
Claremorris Sports Complex Limited	<i>Cllrs. T. Connolly, P. O'Brien and D. Ryan</i>
Swinford Sports Complex Limited	<i>Cllr. J. Mellett and J. Maloney</i>
Crossmolina Community Centre Limited	<i>Cllrs. E. Staunton, S. Weir and A.M. Reape</i>
Charlestown Swimming Pool and Recreational Company Limited	<i>Cllrs. E. Lavin and J. Maloney</i>
Kiltimagh Community Centre Limited	<i>Cllrs. J. Mellett, E. Lavin, J. Maloney and R. Finn</i>
Ballintubber Community Centre Limited	<i>Cllrs. C. Burke, H. Kenny and A. McDonnell</i>
Cushlough Community Centre Limited	<i>Cllrs. A.F. O'Malley and M. Adams</i>
Castlebar Swimming Pool Advisory Committee	<i>Cllrs. E. McCormack, C. Burke, H. Kenny, B.K. Gavin and A. McDonnell</i>
Ballina Swimming Pool Advisory Committee	<i>Cllrs. S. Weir and A. M. Reape</i>
Lecanvey Community Centre Limited	<i>Cllrs. A.F. O'Malley and M. Adams</i>
Barnacarroll and Cuiltebo Enterprises Limited	<i>Cllrs. T. Connolly, E. Lavin and D. Ryan</i>
Killasser Community Centre Limited	<i>Cllrs. J. Mellett and J. Maloney</i>
Westport Sports Complex	<i>Cllrs. John O'Malley and M. Adams</i>
Michael Davitt Museum	<i>Cllrs. H. Kenny and A. McDonnell</i>
Manulla Community Centre Limited	<i>Cllrs. C. Burke and B.K. Gavin</i>
Sportlann, Ballinrobe	<i>Cllrs. M. Burke and D. Ryan</i>
Killala Community Centre Limited	<i>Cllrs. J. Munnely and A.M. Reape</i>
Aughagower Community Centre Limited	<i>Cllrs. John O'Malley and M. Adams</i>
Comhlucht Forbartha Bheal An Mhuirthis Teo	<i>Cllrs. G. Coyle and M. McNamara</i>
Louisburgh Community Centre Limited	<i>Cllrs. A.F. O'Malley and M. Adams</i>
Bonniconlon Community Centre Limited	<i>Cllrs. S. Weir and A.M. Reape</i>
Ballinrobe Enterprise Limited	<i>Cllrs. M. Burke and D. Ryan</i>
Co. Mayo Vocational Education Committee	<i>Cllrs. J. Munnely, E. Staunton, A.F. O'Malley, P. O'Brien, G. Coyle, T. Connolly, M. McNamara, B.K. Gavin and R. Finn</i>
Governing Authority, National	<i>Cllr. H. Kenny</i>

University of Galway, Ireland	
Regional Health Forum, West	<i>Cllrs. T. Connolly, S. Weir, A.F. O'Malley and A.M. Reape</i>
Mayo Local Sports Partnership	<i>Cllrs. H. Kenny and B.K. Gavin</i>
Mayo Energy Agency Limited	<i>Cllr. M. Mulherin</i>
Board of Fionntar Comhraic Teoranta	<i>Cllrs. G. Coyle, E. Staunton, M.McNamara and M. Holmes</i>
Western River Basin District Advisory Council	<i>Cllrs. John O'Malley and J. Maloney</i>
Shannon River Basin District Advisory Council	<i>Cllrs. T. Connolly and B.K. Gavin</i>
Board of Comhar na nOileán Teo	<i>Cllr. H. Kenny</i>
Board of Mayo North East Leader Partnership Company Teoranta	<i>Cllrs. S. Weir, M. Mulherin and J. Maloney</i>
Abbey Trust, Ballyhaunis	<i>Cllrs. J. Cribbin and D. Ryan</i>

Service Indicators

Fire Service

F1: Fire Service Mobilisation

A. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of fire	N/A
B. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of fire	5.39
C. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of all other emergency incidents	N/A
D. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of all other emergency incidents	5.29

F2: Percentage of attendances at scenes

A. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	31.2
B. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	44.61
C. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	24.19
D. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	36.41
E. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	51.06
F. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	12.53

- Total number of incidents in respect of fire	955
- Number of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	298
- Number of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	426
- Number of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	231
- Total number of incidents in respect of all other emergency incidents (i.e. not including fire)	423
- Number of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	154
- Number of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	216
- Number of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	53

F3: Fire Prevention

A. Total number of fire safety certificate applications received	131
B. Total number of fire safety certificate applications processed (including cases deemed invalid)	159
C. Total number of applications deemed invalid	0

Community Participation**CP1: Participation in local Youth Council/Comhairle na n-Og scheme**

- Percentage of local schools and youth groups involved in the local Youth Council/ Comhairle na n-Og scheme	86.84%
- Total number of local schools and youth groups	38
- Number of local schools and youth groups involved in the local Youth Council/ Comhairle na n-Og scheme	33

CP2: Groups registered with the Community and Voluntary Forum

- Number of groups registered with the Community and Voluntary Forum	650
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Corporate Issues**C1: Working Days lost to Sickness**

A. Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through certified leave	4.46
B. Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through uncertified leave	0.42

- Number of working days lost to sickness absence through certified leave	11173.5
- Number of working days lost to sickness absence through uncertified leave	1047
Total number of or staff (whole time equivalent) at the end of December 2010 (as per DEHLG staffing return for the end of 2010) N14	1103.65

C2: Staff Training and Development

- Expenditure on Training and Development as a percentage of total payroll	5.43
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E: Environmental Services

WATER

E.1 Unaccounted For Water

- Unaccounted for water (UFW) as a percentage of total volume of water supplied under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for	48.88
- Total volume of water supplied (m3/per day) under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for	58937
- Volume of unaccounted for water (m3/per day) under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for	28806

E.2 Drinking Water Analysis

A. Percentage of drinking water analysis results in compliance with statutory requirements with regard to public schemes	EPA
B. Percentage of drinking water analysis results in compliance with statutory requirements with regard to private schemes (where appropriate)	EPA

WASTE MANAGEMENT

E.3 Waste Segregation

A. Percentage of households who receive a waste collection service and are provided with segregated waste collection for dry recyclables	90.14
B. Percentage of households who receive a waste collection service and are provided with segregated waste collection for organics	15.78
- Total number of households provided with a waste collection service	28206
- Number of households provided with a segregated waste collection service for recyclables	25426
- Number of households provided with a segregated waste collection service for organics	4451

E4: Housing Waste Sent for Recycling

A. Percentage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling	23.23
B. Tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling	7771
C. Tonnage of household waste recycled, which arises from waste collected from recycling facilities (i.e. bring banks, civic amenity centres, transfer stations and other recycling facilities)	6248
- Total tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside	33406
- Tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling	7771
- Tonnage of household waste recycled, which arises from waste collected from recycling facilities (i.e. bring banks, civic amenity centres, transfer stations and other recycling facilities)	25635

E5: Household Waste Sent for Landfill

A. The percentage of household waste collected which is sent to landfill	76.74
B. The tonnage of household waste collected which is sent to landfill	25635

- Total tonnage of household waste collected	33406
- Tonnage of household waste which is sent to landfill	25635

E6: Recycling Facilities

- The total number of Bring Sites in the local authority area	100
- The total number of Civic Amenity Centres in the local authority area	2

Glass

A. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	100
B. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	2
C. The total number of facilities for recycling	102
D. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	4.12

- The number of Bring Sites for recycling	100
- The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	2

Cans

E. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	100
F. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	2
G. The total number of facilities for recycling	102
H. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	4.12

- The number of Bring Sites for recycling	100
- The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	2

Textiles

I. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	41
J. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	2
K. The total number of facilities for recycling	43
L. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	1.74

- The number of Bring Sites for recycling	41
- The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	2

Batteries

M. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	0
N. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	2
O. The total number of facilities for recycling	2
P. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	0.08

- The number of Bring Sites for recycling	0
- The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	2

Oils

Q. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	0
R. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	2
S. The total number of facilities for recycling	2
T. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	0.08

- The number of Bring Sites for recycling	0
- The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	2

Other materials

U. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	0
V. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	2
W. The total number of facilities for recycling	2
X. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	0.08

- The number of Bring Sites for recycling	0
- The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	2

LITTER**E7: Litter Prevention and Enforcement**

A. Number of full-time litter wardens	1
B. Number of part-time litter wardens	12
C. Number of litter wardens (both full- and part-time) per 5,000 population	0.52
D. Number of on-the-spot fines issued	182
E. Number of on-the-spot fines paid	81
F. Number of prosecution cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	11
G. Number of prosecutions secured in cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	4
H. Number of notices issued (under sections 9, 15, 16, 17 and 20 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997)	0

I. Total number of prosecutions taken (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	23
J. Total number of prosecutions secured (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	11
K. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are unpolluted (i.e. litter-free)	
L. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are slightly polluted with litter	
M. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are moderately polluted with litter	
N. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are significantly polluted with litter	
O. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are grossly polluted with litter	

- Number of full-time litter wardens	1
- Number of part-time litter wardens	12
- Number of on-the-spot fines issued	182
- Number of on-the-spot fines paid	81
- Number of prosecution cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	11
- Number of prosecutions secured in cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	4
- Number of notices issued (under sections 9, 15, 16, 17 and 20 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997)	0
- Number of prosecutions taken (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	23
- Number of prosecutions secured (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	11

E8: Environmental Complaints and Enforcement

A. Total number of cases subject to complaints concerning environmental pollution (relating to waste, litter, water pollution, noise pollution, air pollution)	1397
B. Number of complaints investigated	1424
C. Number of complaints resolved where no further action was necessary	1340
D. Number of enforcement procedures taken	594

E9: Percentage of schools participating in environmental campaigns

A. Percentage of primary schools participating in environmental campaigns	81.25
B. Percentage of secondary schools participating in environmental campaigns	86.21

- Total number of primary schools	176
- Number of primary schools participating in environmental campaigns	143
- Total number of secondary schools	29
- Number of secondary schools participating in environmental campaigns	25

H: Housing

H1: Housing Vacancies

A. The total number of dwellings in local authority stock	2181
B. The total number of dwellings, excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects	2113
C. The overall percentage of dwellings that are empty (excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects)	6.01
D. The percentage of empty dwellings unavailable for letting	47.24
E. The percentage of empty dwellings available for letting	52.76

- The average number of dwellings in local authority stock	2181
- The average number of dwellings excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects	2113
- The average number of dwellings that are empty (excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects)	127
- The average number of empty dwellings unavailable for letting	60
- The average number of empty dwellings available for letting	67

H2: Average Time Taken to Re-let Available dwellings

- The average time taken (in weeks) from the date of vacation of dwelling to the date when all necessary repairs are carried out which are deemed necessary to re-let the dwelling	22
- The average time taken (in weeks) from the works (above) being completed to the date of the first rent debit	5

H3: Housing Repairs

- Number of repairs completed as a percentage of the number of valid repair requests received	89.1
- The number of repairs completed	1549
- The number of valid repair requests received	1575

H4: Traveller Accommodation

- Total number of traveller families accommodated as a percentage of the targets set in the local traveller accommodation programme	Not available
- Number of Traveller families accommodated	
- Target number of Traveller families to be accommodated in the year, as set out in the local Traveller accommodation programme	

H5: Enforcement of standards in the private rented sector

A. Total number of registered tenancies	Not available
B. Number of dwelling units inspected	614
C. Number of inspections carried out	691
D. Number of dwellings inspected as a percentage of registered tenancies i.e. B as percentage of A)	Not available

- Total number of registered tenancies	Not available
- Number of dwelling units inspected	614
- Number of inspections carried out	691

H6: Grants to adapt housing for the needs of people with a disability

A. Average time taken (in weeks) to process applications under the Mobility Aids Grant Scheme, including any necessary inspection(s), from the date of receipt of a valid application to the date of decision on the application	40
B. Average time taken (in weeks) to process applications under Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability, including any necessary inspection(s), from the date of receipt, to the date of decision on the application	49

H7: Pre-Tenancy Familiarisation Courses

A. Total number of new local authority tenants	129
B. Percentage of new local authority tenants who have been offered pre-tenancy familiarisation courses	100

- Total number of new local authority tenants	129
- Number of new local authority tenants who have been offered pre-tenancy familiarisation courses	129

L: Library Services**L1: Library Public Opening Hours**

A. Average number of opening hours per week for full-time libraries	37.4
B. Average number of opening hours per week for part-time libraries (where applicable)	19.1
C. Percentage of full time libraries that have lunchtime openings	100%
D. Percentage of full time libraries that have evening openings	100%
E. Percentage of full time libraries that have Saturday openings	100%

- Average number of opening hours per week for full-time libraries	37.4
- Average number of opening hours per week for part-time libraries (where applicable)	19.1

- Number of full time libraries that have lunchtime openings	4
- Number of full time libraries that have evening openings	4
- Number of full time libraries that have Saturday openings	4

L2: Library Visits

- Number of visits to full time libraries per 1,000 population	2951.41
- Total number of visits to full-time libraries	365500

L3: Library Stock

A. Annual expenditure on stock per head of population (county/city wide)	1.33
B. Number of items issued per head of population (county/city wide) for books	4.05
C. Number of items issued per head of population (county/city wide) for other items	0.58

- Annual expenditure on stock	165000
- Total number of books issued	501319
- Total number of other items issued	71342

L4: Internet Access through Libraries

- Number of Internet sessions provided per 1,000 population	586.53
- Total number of Internet sessions provided	72635

M: Motor Taxation

M1: Number of Motor Tax Transactions

A. Number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with over the counter	97930
B. Number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with by post	13857
C. Number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with in other ways (e.g. online, by telephone)	40926
D. Percentage of motor tax transactions which are dealt with over the counter	64.13
E. Percentage of motor tax transactions which are dealt with by post	9.07
F. Percentage of motor tax transactions which are dealt with in other ways (e.g. online, by telephone)	26.8

M2: Time Taken to Process Motor Tax Postal Applications

A. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the same day as receipt of the application	3507
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B. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the second or third day from receipt of the application	3744
C. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application	1984
D. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) in over five days from receipt of the application	4622
E. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the same day as receipt of the application	25.31
F. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the second or third day from receipt of the application	27.02
G. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application	14.32
H. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) in over five days from receipt of the application	33.35

M3: Time Taken to Process Driving License Applications

A. Number of Driving License applications which are dealt with on the same day as receipt of the application	3364
B. Number of Driving License applications which are dealt with on the second or third day from receipt of the application	2457
C. Number of Driving License applications which are dealt with on the Fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application	729
D. Number of Driving License applications which are dealt with in over five days from receipt of the application	11207
E. Percentage of overall driving License applications which are dealt with on the same day as receipt of the application	18.94
F. Percentage of overall driving License applications which are dealt with on the second or third day from receipt of the application	13.84
G. Percentage of overall driving License applications which are dealt with on the fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application	4.11
H. Percentage of overall driving License applications which are dealt with in over five days from receipt of the application	63.11

M4: Public opening hours

- Average number of opening hours per week	27.5
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P: Planning

P1: Planning Applications - Decision Making Individual Houses

A. Number of applications decided	581
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B. Number of decisions in Column A which were decided within 8 weeks	233
C. Number of decisions in Column A which required the submission of further information	327
D. Number of decisions in Column A where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000	21
E. Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	70
F. Percentage of applications granted	92.94%
G. Percentage of applications refused	7.06%
H. Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	51.43%
I. Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	48.57%

- Number of applications decided	581
- Number of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	233
- Number of decisions which required the submission of further information	327
- Number of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000	21
- Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	70
- Number of applications granted	540
- Number of applications refused	41
- Number of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	18
- Number of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	17

New Housing Development

A. Number of applications decided	33
B. Number of decisions in Column A which were decided within 8 weeks	12
C. Number of decisions in Column A which required the submission of further information	18
D. Number of decisions in Column A where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000	3
E. Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	74
F. Percentage of applications granted	87.88%
G. Percentage of applications refused	12.12

H. Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	100.00%
I. Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	0

- Number of applications decided	33
- Number of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	12
- Number of decisions which required the submission of further information	18
- Number of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000	3
- Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	74
- Number of applications granted	29
- Number of applications refused	4
- Number of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	2
- Number of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	0

Other: not requiring Environment Impact Assessment

A. Number of applications decided	539
B. Number of decisions in Column A which were decided within 8 weeks	324
C. Number of decisions in Column A which required the submission of further information	206
D. Number of decisions in Column A where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000	8
E. Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	75
F. Percentage of applications granted	93.69%
G. Percentage of applications refused	6.31%
H. Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	90.00%
I. Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	10.00%

- Number of applications decided	539
- Number of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	324
- Number of decisions which required the submission of further information	206
- Number of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000	8
- Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	75

- Number of applications granted	505
- Number of applications refused	34
- Number of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	45
- Number of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	5

Other: requiring Environment Impact Assessment

A. Number of applications decided	9
B. Number of decisions in Column A which were decided within 8 weeks	1
C. Number of decisions in Column A which required the submission of further information	8
D. Number of decisions in Column A where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000	0
E. Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	73
F. Percentage of applications granted	88.89%
G. Percentage of applications refused	11.11%
H. Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	83.33%
I. Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	16.67%

- Number of applications decided	9
- Number of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	1
- Number of decisions which required the submission of further information	8
- Number of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000	0
- Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	73
- Number of applications granted	8
- Number of applications refused	1
- Number of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	5
- Number of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	1

P2: Planning Enforcement

A. Total number of cases subject to complaints that were investigated	198
B. Total number of cases subject to complaints that were dismissed	88
C. Total number of cases subject to complaints that were resolved through negotiations	68

D. Number of enforcement procedures taken through warning letters	148
E. Number of enforcement procedures taken through enforcement notices	16
F. Number of prosecutions	4

P3: Planning Public opening hours

- Average number of opening hours per week	35
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P4: Pre-Planning Consultation

A. Number of pre-planning consultation meetings held	2142
B. Average length of time (in days) from request for consultation with local authority to actual formal meeting for pre-planning consultation	0

P5: New Buildings inspected

- Buildings inspected as a percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority	10.98%
- Total number of new buildings notified to the local authority	410
- Number of new buildings notified to the local authority that were inspected	45

P6: Taking Estates in Charge

A- The number of residential estates for which the planning permission has expired, in respect of which formal written requests for taking in charge (from residents or developers), were on hands at the beginning of the year	64
B- Number of estates that were taken in charge in the year in question	12
C- Number of dwellings in respect of column B	392
D- Percentage of estates in column A not completed to satisfaction of the planning authority in line with the planning permission	73.44%
E- Number of estates in column D in respect of which enforcement action was taken in the year in question and/or the bond was called in	8
F- Number of estates in column D in respect of which works were undertaken by the authority to bring the estate to taking in charge standard	1

- Number of residential estates for which the planning permission has expired, in respect of which formal written requests for taking in charge (from residents or developers), were on hands at the beginning of the year	64
- Number of estates that were taken in charge in the year in question	12
- Total number of dwellings in these estates	392
- Number of estates in column A not completed to satisfaction of the planning authority in line with the planning permission	47

- Number of estates in column D in respect of which enforcement action was taken in the year in question and/or the bond was called in	8
- Number of estates in column D in respect of which works were undertaken by the authority to bring the estate to taking in charge standard	1

Rec: Recreational Services

Rec.1: Children's Playgrounds

A. Number of children's playgrounds per 1,000 population directly provided by the local authority	0.16
B. Number of children's playgrounds per 1,000 population facilitated by the local authority	0.01

A. Number of children's playgrounds directly provided by the local authority	20
B. Number of children's playgrounds facilitated by the local authority	1

Rec.2: Local Authority-Facilitated Leisure Facilities

- Number of visitors to local authority-facilitated leisure facilities per 1,000 population	1871.02
- Number of visitors to local authority-facilitated leisure facilities	231705

Rev: Revenue Collection

Rev.1: House Rent

A. Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due from House Rent	81.47%
B. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are up to 1 month old	3.74%
C. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are 1-2 months old	2.73%
D. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are 2-3 months old	3.81%
E. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are more than 3 months old	89.72%

Amount due at year end from House Rent	6271823
Amount collected at year end from House Rent	5109666
Amount of arrears at year end from House Rent	1162157
Amount of arrears on Housing Rent that are up to 4 weeks old	43493
Number of arrears on Housing Rent that are 4-6 weeks old	31786
Number of arrears on Housing Rent that are 6-12 weeks old	44318
Number of arrears on Housing Rent that are more than 12 weeks old	1042559

Rev.2: Housing Loans

A. Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due from Housing Loans	65.48%
B. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are up to 1 month old	1.00%
C. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are 1-2 months old	1.00%
D. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are 2-3 months old	2.40%
E. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are more than 3 months old	95.60%

- Amount due at year end from Housing Loans	4677753
- Amount collected at year end from Housing Loans	3063009
- Amount of arrears at year end from Housing Loans	1614744
- Amount of arrears on Housing Loans that are up to 1 month old	16191
- Amount of arrears on Housing Loans that are 1-2 months old	16141
- Amount of arrears on Housing Loans that are 2-3 months old	38843
- Amount of arrears on Housing Loans that are more than 3 months old	1543569

Rev.3: Commercial Rates

- Amount collected at year-end as a percentage of amount due from Commercial rates	82.79%
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Rev.4: Refuse Charges

- Percentage of households paying refuse charges (including waivers) at year end	N/A
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Rev.5: Non-Domestic Water Charges

- Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due for Non-Domestic Water Charges	50.81%
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R: Roads**R1: Road Restoration Programme**

- Number of kilometres of local and regional roads improved and maintained under the Restoration Programme per annum	396.86
- Number of kilometres of local and regional roads constructed under the specific improvement grants scheme per annum	0.90

Roads and Transportation and Safety

An efficient road transportation system provides the necessary infrastructure to support economic and social development of a region. Mayo County Council in 2010 continued to play its part in the maintenance and improvement of the road network in the County thus supporting the economy within the County.

There are 6,353 kms of roadway in the charge of Mayo County Council and in 2010 a total of €36.1m was spent on maintaining and improving the network.

Roads Classifications & Finances

Roads in the County are classified as National Primary; National Secondary; Regional and Local Roads.

The lengths of the various categories of roads in County Mayo are as follows:

National Primary Roads	135 kms.
National Secondary Roads	271 kms.
Regional Roads	622 kms.
Local Roads	5,325kms.
Total	<u>6,353kms</u>

Funding of €1.34m was received from the National Roads Authority for the National Road network, whilst €0.3m was received from the Department of Transport for the Regional and Local roads.

The Council itself provided €4.4m for the Road network in the year.

(1) National Primary Roads:

The grants for the **National Primary Roads** for 2010 were broken down as follows:

The grant for **National Primary Improvement Works** totaling **€5,416,134** was broken down as follows:

NP Major Schemes:

N5 Charlestown By Pass	€1,517,000
N5 Westport to Bohola	€2,244,567
N26 Ballina - Bohola Phase 2 (Bypasses Foxford)	€200,000
N17 Knock to Tobercurry (Bypasses Charlestown)	€24,567
Total	<u>€4,486,134</u>

<i>NP Pavement & Minor Improvement:</i>	
NP Weather Related Pavement Rehab 2010	€100,000
N26 Coolcraun	€00,000
Total	<u>€600,000</u>

<i>NP Safety Measures:</i>	
Staff Regional Road Safety Engineer – MO	€165,000
N5 HCL Knockbrack – Option 1	€60,000
N5 HCL Westport Road Castlebar TC	€75,000
N17 HCL Cloonturk	€30,000
Total	<u>€330,000</u>

The grant for **National Primary Maintenance** totaling **€21,700** was broken down as follows:

Ordinary Maintenance	€13,000
Annual Resurfacing	€7,000
Winter Maintenance	€300,000
Route Lighting	€8,700
Bridge Maintenance	€3,000
Total	<u>€21,700</u>

National Primary – Major Schemes

o *N5 Charlestown By-pass (Swinford-RN Co. Boundary)*

The N5 Charlestown Bypass was officially opened in November 2007 and the allocation of €1,517,000 is for the completion of land acquisition and to making the final payment to the contractor.

o *N26 Ballina/Bohola – Phase 11*

The public Enquiry for the Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) and the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this scheme was held in February 2008. The decision of An Bord Pleanála dated 24th February 2010 was to annul the Compulsory Purchase Order and refuse the Environmental Impact Statement.

o *N5 Westport to Bohola*

This scheme will consist of 40 kms. of dual 2+2 carriageway between Bohola and Westport and includes the following schemes which were previously being progressed separately:

- Castlebar to Westport
- N5 Castlebar Bypass Scheme
- Westport Northern Relief Road
- N5 Ballyvary to Bohola

M/s. Roughan & O'Donovan/Faber Maunsell Alliance (RODM) have been appointed to progress the overall scheme to the detailed design and statutory procedure stages.

- *N17 Charlestown By-pass (Knock to Tobercurry)*

This grant was for the advancement of the scheme to Preferred Route stage.

- *N17 Knock Bypass to Ballindine*

No grant has been received for this scheme for 2010 and therefore, further work on this scheme has been deferred.

- *N17 Claremorris to Tuam*

This scheme is being handled by the Galway National Road Design Office.

(2) National Secondary Roads:

The **National Secondary Maintenance Grant** for 2010 was **€1,333,500** broken down as follows:

Ordinary Maintenance	€500,600
Annual Resurfacing	€435,400
Winter Maintenance	€330,000
Route Lighting	€59,500
Bridge Maintenance	€8,000
Total	<u>€1,333,500</u>

The 2010 allocation for National Secondary Roads maintenance grant showed an increase on the 2009 allocation in the sum of €17,040.

The **National Secondary Improvement Grant** for 2010 was **€4,420,000** broken down as follows:

NS - Major Scheme

N59 Westport to Mulranny	<u>€500,000</u>
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NS - Pavement & Minor Works

Remedial/Improvement Works	€400,000
Weather Related Pavement Rehab 2010	€600,000
N59 Briska	€550,000
N59 Knockbreaga Re-alignment	€692,000
N59 Lecarrow (Moylaw)	€500,000
N60 Cloonfad	€400,000
N84 Carrowmoney	€300,000
Total	<u>€3,442,000</u>

NS – Bridges

Rehabilitation and Widening of Mayo Bridges	<u>€350,000</u>
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NS Safety Measures:

N59 HCL Downhill/Buncree traffic route lighting	€100,000
N59 HCL Font Cross	€10,000
N60 HCL Bress	€8,000
N60 RSRM Holywell Crossroads, Ballyhaunis	
Improve vertical and provide signs	€10,000
Total	<u>€128,000</u>

National Secondary – Major Schemes

The grant for the N59 Westport to Mulranny route is for the design of a reduced standard low volume national secondary, mainly on the line of the existing route.

National Secondary – Pavement & Minor Works

There are five pavement overlay schemes provided for in 2010 on the N.59, N.60 and N.84. These schemes provided for the resumption of pavement works which were discontinued in 2009.

National Secondary – Bridges

Contracts were awarded by the National Roads Authority for rehabilitation, waterproofing and the provision of parapet rails on three bridges at Bangor Erris, Balla and Ballylahan.

(3) Regional and Local Road Grants:

Due to the severe weather conditions encountered during December 2009 and January 2010, the Restoration Improvement Grant was suspended for 2010.

For this year only, the Restoration Improvement Grant and the Discretionary Improvement Grant was amalgamated into the single 2010 Improvement Grant. The aim was to provide local authorities with greater flexibility to address the needs of the Regional & Local Road Network 2010.

The gross total funding available for Regional and Local Roads in 2010 from the Department of Transport and the Council's Own Resources was **€24,213,746**.

Regional Road Grants

Regional Roads - Maintenance	€1,452,000
Regional Roads – Winter Maintenance	€500,000
Regional Roads – Surface Dressing	€1,850,000
Regional Roads – Other Works	€14,000
Regional Roads – Bridges	€190,000

Regional Roads – Improvement Grant	€2,900,000
Specific Improvement Grants – Regional Roads	€1,278,000
Low Cost Safety Improvement Grants	€135,000
Signposting Grant	€50,000
R.312 Design	<u>€150,000</u>
Total	€4,419,000

Local Road Grants

Improvement Grant	€5,869,000
Surface Dressing	€3,113,000
Bridges	€200,000
Contributions to Local “Community Schemes”	€10,000
International Roughness Index	€15,000
Minor Improvements	€50,000
Councillors N.O.M. Allocations	€1,085,000
Local Roads Maintenance	€3,617,000
Verge Trimming/Hedgecutting	€150,000
Supervision Costs	€10,000
Low Cost Safety Improvement Grants	€64,000
Training Grant	<u>€11,746</u>
Total	€14,794,746

Local Improvement Schemes (L.I.S.)

The 2010 grant for L.I.S Schemes was €57,000. All of these Schemes were carried out in accordance with the Policy on L.I.S. adopted at S.P.C. and Council level.

Regional Road Signposting

An allocation of €150,000 was received in 2010 in respect of a programme of signposting on the regional road network. The programme takes account of the Official Languages Act, 2003, in respect of Gaeltacht locations.

Public Lighting

National Primary

The allocation for route lighting was drastically reduced from €95,200 in 2009 to €68,700 for 2010.

National Secondary

The allocation for route lighting has been reduced from €82,400 in 2009 to €9,500 for 2010

Road Safety

In 2007, in association with the Gardai, the HSE West, and the Road Safety Authority, the Cathaoirleach of Mayo County Council formally launched our Road Safety Strategy 2007–2011.

The County Council in conjunction with the Road Safety Authority operates a programme of education and awareness of Road Safety. This involves promoting the need for caution and awareness of the dangers on the roads in Mayo. The Programme includes visits to schools by the Road Safety Officer and the promotion of Junior Warden and Cycle Training Schemes with schools. With the co-operation of teachers, the Gardai and parents these schemes make a significant contribution to road safety. The Road Safety Officer also works with the Road Safety Together Committee in the County whose membership comprises of County Council, HSE West, Gardai and local community representatives towards the implementation of the Road Safety Strategy.

Road Safety Awareness for 2010 was concentrated in 4 main areas.

1. Promotion of Road Safety in the Primary Schools

Council provided support to the Gardai when visiting schools by providing leaflets, reflective arm bands and other road safety promotional material. The efforts of the Gardai in this area are greatly appreciated and there is good cooperation between the Council and the Gardai in promoting Road Safety in primary schools and the promotion of Road Safety generally.

2. Junior Warden Schemes

Again, the activity in this area is to support the 2 Junior Warden Schemes in Ballina Town. One at the Girl's National School, Convent Hill and the other at Scoil Padraig, Pound Street.

Uniforms and signs are provided by the County Council. Road markings are updated regularly. Again, this Council is fortunate to have the enthusiastic support of the Principals in both schools. Without their enthusiastic support it would not be possible to maintain the scheme. The teachers, parents and pupils appreciate the benefits of the Junior Warden Scheme to the pupils.

3. General Promotion of Road Safety through Local Media

The County Council operates in support of the Road Safety Authority and also general promotion in the local papers.

4. Road Safety Plan

The work of a steering committee in the promotion of the Road Safety Plan which was developed in 2007 continued evaluating progress of this plan. It is hoped over time that a significant reduction in the road accident statistics in the County will be achieved.

The Road Safety Together working Group has recently produced a Road Safety Strategy for Co. Mayo which runs from 2007-2012. This group is a partnership between several key players who have a role in promoting road safety. At present, members of the group include representatives from Mayo County Council, An Garda Siochana, National Roads Authority, National Road Safety Authority and the Health Service Executive.

The role of the Working Group is to promote Road Safety in Co. Mayo. We will:

- Produce a plan of action based on current best practice that will feed into our own strategy and the national Road Safety Strategy
- We will seek funding from relevant agencies for new and existing Road Safety Promotion developments on an annual basis.
- Seek out funding for construction and maintenance of safety measures
- Develop specific and measurable criteria for development of road safety initiatives
- Monitor the implementation of the Strategy
- Evaluate our Progress

The four “E’s” of Road Safety i.e.

- Education
- Enforcement
- Engineering
- Evaluation

are addressed by this committee.

The Education & Awareness Programme was further developed and will continue to be delivered by the Road Safety Officer.

The Roads Programme includes €12,000 under National, Regional and Local Roads specifically for engineering solutions to road safety problems.

ROAD ACCIDENT STATISTICS – MAYO

Year Fatalities

2002	14
2003	10
2004	13
2005	14
2006	11
2007	09
2008	10
2009	10
2010	08

The following areas were targeted by the Road Safety Officer in 2010:

- Promotion of road safety campaigns
- Target groups that are high risk identified within road safety plan.
- Publish Road Safety material
- Driver events for young drivers

These measures reaffirm Mayo County Council's commitment to road safety and in particular, to reducing the numbers of fatalities and serious injuries on the road network in County Mayo.

Motor Tax

The Motor Taxation Office deals with the administration of the Vehicle Licence and Drivers Licence system for the county of Mayo.

Mayo County Council has been to the forefront in the devolution of the motor tax service on a regional basis throughout the county and there are currently three motor tax offices located strategically in Mayo as follows-

- Glenpark, The Mall, Castlebar
- Civic Offices, Ballina
- Council Offices, Belmullet.

An online contact service is provided at motortax@mayococo.ie.

A renewal of Motor tax online service is also available to customers. This service can be used for the renewal of tax on private vehicles, motor cycles and agricultural tractors.

The table set out hereunder shows the level of usage of the motor tax service both in the local offices and online. The use of the online service continues to grow from year to year which reflects the user friendly nature of the service.

	2010 Local	2010 Online
No. of New Registrations	2300	
No. of Tax discs issued	91463	40926
No. of drivers Licences issued	19364	
Receipts	8791	2876
CRW's	12596	
Trade Licences	154	
Miscellaneous	102	
Total Issues	134770	43802
Total Income	€20,297,477	€9,376,873

The Motor Taxation Offices continue to provide a high class customer orientated service with customer care at the centre of all activity which is reflected in the overall level of customer satisfaction.

Water Supply and Sewerage (Water Services)

Water Services

While Mayo County Council continues to expand and improve the water services infrastructure in the County, the rate of expansion has slowed in 2010. The onerous demands of the Polluter Pays Principle, which requires Mayo County Council to pay an average of 30% of the capital cost of major schemes means that the principle will continue to affect the Council's ability to deliver on the Water Services Investment Programme.

Water Quality

It is imperative that the public has confidence in the drinking water provided by Mayo County Council. In this regard Mayo County Council is developing a water quality management system incorporating source protection, risk management of supplies, measuring and publishing details of water quality and developing incident management plans for all of our supplies. In 2011 water quality results will be made available on the Council's website, www.mayococo.ie

Water Supplies are independently tested for Mayo County Council by the Health Service Executive and other private accredited laboratories in accordance with a monitoring programme agreed with the Environmental Protection Agency (E.P.A.). This monitoring is carried out on a continuous basis and includes specific cryptosporidium monitoring. Mayo County Council will continue to work with the E.P.A. and Health Service Executive (H.S.E.) regarding the ongoing monitoring of water supplies.

Remedial Action List and EPA Audited Schemes

In its role as a supervisory authority under the 2007 Drinking Water Regulations the Environmental Protection Agency has audited 9 public water supplies in Mayo and has issued a direction on 6 of these supplies. The EPA also has expressed concern about 4 additional public water supplies, bringing to 13 the number of water supplies on its Remedial Action List. Mayo County Council incurred additional costs on these schemes in 2010 to ensure that the concerns of the EPA are addressed and that the quality of the drinking water complies with the appropriate standards.

Countywide Water Conservation Project

Phase 1 of this project was completed in 2007. Phase 2 commenced in 2009, with an estimated cost of €2.3 million. This phase will carry out water conservation on the

remaining water supply schemes in the county, including the Lough Mask Regional Water Supply Scheme.

To date all savings in water volumes achieved under phase 1 have been maintained and in some schemes increased.

Waste Water Discharge Licenses

Under legislation introduced in 2007, Mayo County Council must apply to the E.P.A. for licenses for all of our Waste Water Plants and this process has been initiated. The license application details are as follows:

<i>Applications Made</i>	<i>Status</i>
3 No. Waste Water Plants greater than 10,000 p.e.	3 Licenses granted
10 Waste Water Plants from 2,000 p.e. to 10,000 p.e.	0 licenses granted
9 Waste Water Plants from 1,000 p.e. to 2,000 p.e	0 licenses granted
11 Waste Water Plants from 500 p.e. to 1,000 p.e.	2 licenses granted

The application fees to the EPA for these 45 licenses has cost Mayo County Council €16,000. The Council has requested a reduction in these fees from the EPA and is awaiting a response on this matter.

Energy Management

Business electricity prices were reduced on the 1st October 2009, as approved by the Commission for Energy Regulation. These reductions will see savings across all Mayo County Council's accounts. This overall decrease will see a reduction of -0.4% on General Purpose Tariffs -5.5% on Maximum Demand and Low Load Factor tariffs. In addition to Electricity Price reductions, we also hope to see savings as a result of availing of a very dynamic Electricity market that presently exists.

Asset Management

A comprehensive preventative maintenance programme is being carried out by the Machinery Yard.

As the uninterrupted operation of our treatment plants is critical to the delivery of vital water and sewage services for the county, Mayo County Council operates an extensive preventative maintenance programme as well as necessary breakdown maintenance.

Preventative maintenance is carried out before breakdown or failure occurs, the maintenance is planned and carried out at specific intervals. This is done to minimise breakdowns. Predictive maintenance or condition monitoring requires the measurement of certain parameters of the equipment, such as vibration or temperature. At pre-set levels, alarms are initiated allowing the equipment to be shut down and maintenance carried out.

Water Services Investment Programme

2010 saw further improvements in the County's Water Services. The value of works in the Water Services Investment Programme for County Mayo will be of the order of €71m for the period 2010-2012.

Schemes in Progress:

1. Ballina Main Drainage and Storm Water Overflow
2. Castlebar Environs Sewerage Scheme Wastewater Treatment Plant
3. Achill Sound Sewerage Scheme
4. Kiltimagh Sewerage Scheme Wastewater Treatment Plant

Schemes to Commence in 2011-2012 (subject to finance being available)

1. Water Conservation Stage 3 Rehabilitation Works – Wherrew Rising Main
2. Water supply to Cong from Ballinrobe
3. Belmullet , Foxford and Charlestown Waste water treatment plants 9 as a bundled scheme)
4. Killala Sewerage scheme
5. Lough Mask Water Treatment Plant up grade

Schemes in Planning

1. Lough Conn – East Mayo regional water Supply scheme.
2. Water Conservation stage 3 works.

Small Schemes/Clár Programme

Schemes Completed in 2010 under the Small Schemes Programme

- Cross sewerage Scheme (Network only)
- Mayo abbey Sewerage Scheme (Network only)
- The Neale Sewerage Scheme(Network only)

The Council hope to secure funding for waste water treatment plants for these villages in 2011.

Schemes to Commence 2011 (Subject to Capital funding being available)

- Crossboyne Sewerage Scheme
- Knockmore Sewerage Scheme

Schemes at Planning Stage

- Ballyheane Sewerage Scheme
- Ballyglass Sewerage Scheme
- Achleam Sewerage Scheme
- Bunacurry Sewerage Scheme
- Carracastle Sewerage Scheme
- Attymass Sewerage Scheme
- Clare Island Sewerage Scheme

The Small Schemes Programme for 2010 was subject to funding from DEHLG and CLÁR. There is no indication as yet whether there will be Clár Funding in 2011 for small schemes.

Water Metering/Water Charges

2008 was the first year when all Non-Domestic customers were charged Water and Sewerage charges on a volumetric basis. A dedicated office was set up in 2008 dealing solely with Water Services Charges and water conservation. To date this office is processing 1800 bills per month. Customers can now pay their Water Services Charges in any Mayo County Council office, or online where they can also monitor their water consumption.

Water rates were not increased in 2010. The Council will review the domestic allowance which is currently set at 225 cubic metres per annum. The Council will also consider the introduction of a fixed charge for new customers pending the installation of a new meter. The Council will also prepare for the installation of meters for domestic customers as announced in the national budget for 2010.

Group Water Schemes

Mayo County Council is responsible for functions previously executed by the Department of the Environment in relation to the establishment and administration of Group Water Schemes throughout the County. This provides an additional opportunity for the Council to further the cause of subsidiarity, working hand in hand with local communities in the provision and maintenance of that most basic service – a potable water supply.

1. STRATEGIC RURAL WATER PLAN

The Strategic Rural Water Plan constitutes a blueprint for the future development of rural water supplies in County Mayo and facilitates the focusing of investment where it will have the most beneficial effect. The Plan has been prepared in full consultation with all interested parties. The emphasis in the early stages of the Plan was on dealing with the poor water quality problems in the privately sourced Group Water Schemes approximately 90 of which were seriously deficient. Funding has been concentrated on providing new Treatment Plants, replacing critical mains and installation of consumer meters.

2. DESIGN / BUILD / OPERATE (D.B.O.)

Bundle No. 1:

The first bundle of 13 No. Schemes for improvement of water treatment facilities using the D.B.O. process is complete.

Thirteen Schemes have agreed to use the D.B.O. process namely, Ballycroy, Ballyglass/Carnacon, Brackloon/Spaddagh, Drummin, Glencorrib, Glenhest, Killeen, Kilmeena, Kilmovee, Lough Mask/Creevagh, Laghta, Belderrig and Fahy/Kilmaclasser. All of these Treatment Plants have now been commissioned. These schemes supply water to 3,300 households.

Bundle No. 2:

A second Bundle has now been put together comprising of the following Schemes:-

- Callow Lake GWS Co-operative Society Ltd.
- Clew Bay GWS Co-operative Society Ltd.
- Cloonmore/ Rooskey GWS Co-operative Society Ltd.
- Curraghmore GWS Co-operative Society Ltd.
- Moylaw GWS Co-operative Society Ltd.
- Nephin Valley GWS Co-operative Society Ltd.
- Parke GWS Co-operative Society Ltd.
- PBKS GWS Co-operative Society Ltd.
- Shraheens GWS Co-operative Society Ltd.
- Killasser GWS Co-operative Society Ltd.

These schemes supply water to 4,000 households.

3 No. Advance Works Contracts for the replacement of Critical Mains and the installation of Stopcock Boxes are completed. 2 No. further contracts for Callow Lake and Bohola Group Water Scheme and Nephin Valley Group Water Scheme are due to start in 2011.

Treatment System Services Limited has been awarded the main DBO Contract. Work is in progress with commissioning of all the Plants expected by April 2011.

3. TAKE-OVER OF GROUP SCHEMES / NECESSARY IMPROVEMENTS.

Enquiries regarding take-over of Schemes have been received from in excess of 50 Groups. These applications will be assessed on the basis of existing water quality and reliability of supply among other criteria. Schemes proposed for take-over were shortlisted by the Council.

An allocation of €35,000 was granted to Mayo County Council for Take-over of Group Water Schemes in 2010.

4. SUBSIDY TOWARDS THE OPERATIONAL COSTS OF GROUP WATER SUPPLY SCHEMES.

This scheme allows for the payment by Local Authorities of an annual subsidy towards the operational costs of Group Water Schemes in supplying water for domestic use. The objectives of the scheme are to secure the improvements of rural water supplies and to extend the benefits of the abolition of Local Authority domestic water charges to households supplied by Group Schemes. It is important that all Group Schemes avail of their Subsidy entitlements. Mayo County Council encourages all Schemes to apply for Subsidy payments to assist them in the efficient running of their water supplies.

5. GRANTS FOR THE PROVISION OR NECESSARY IMPROVEMENT OF AN INDIVIDUAL WATER SUPPLY TO A HOUSE.

This Scheme was introduced to assist households dependant on private individual water supplies who are incurring capital expenditure to:

- Provide a piped supply of water for domestic purposes for the first time, or
- Remedy serious deficiencies in an existing supply of water for domestic purposes.

This scheme does not apply to houses to which a Public or Group Scheme Water Supply has already been, or can be, reasonably provided. 500 applications have been received to date.

6. NEW SCHEMES / UPGRADING OF EXISTING SCHEMES

CONSTRUCTION IN PROGRESS	
Kilcolman / Facefield	

CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED	
Carha	Mayo Abbey Villages

SCHEMES TAKEN-IN-CHARGE 1N 2009	
Bunowen Briska Ballinglanna	Bracklaghboy Clooncormack

Our Environment Awareness.... Enforcement Protection

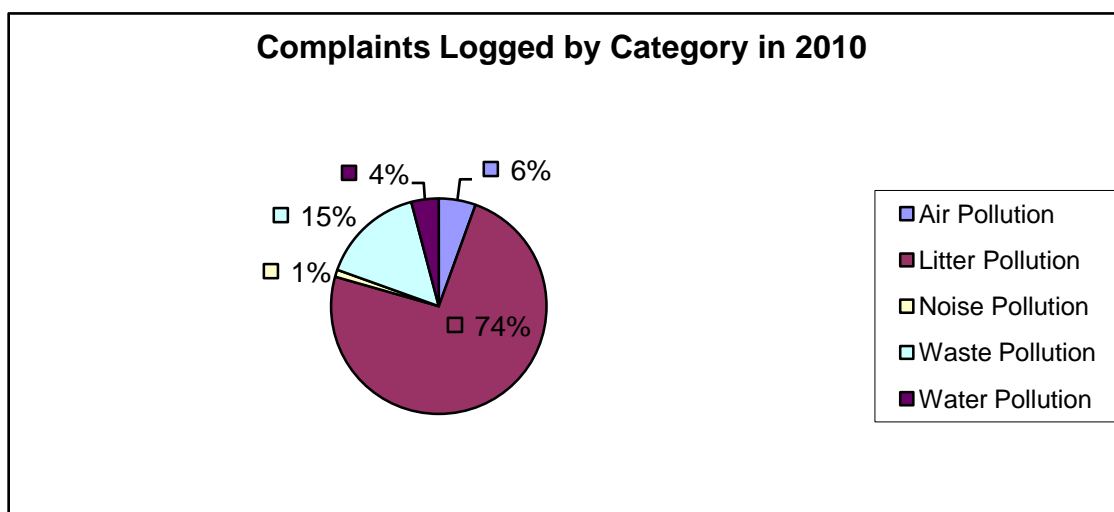
The Environment Section is tasked with the enforcement of environmental legislation, the implementation of EU directives and regulations, national and regional policies and the raising of awareness/education of environmental issues with the general public.

2010 saw the continuance of this role of striving to achieve the quality environment that is a key component of sustainable development.

Environmental Enforcement

There were 1414 calls registered to the Environmental Complaints System in 2010 with litter accounting for almost $\frac{3}{4}$ of all calls logged.

83% of these calls had been resolved with the remainder under investigation. The Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system for the Environment Section provides a reliable and effective system of policing, monitoring and analysing improper environmental conduct including littering, illegal waste disposal activities and persistent offenders.



Three Environmental Enforcement Officers are actively enforcing a range of environmental legislation in the county. In accordance with EU requirements an RMCEI (Recommended Minimum Criteria of Environmental Inspections) plan is produced annually. The 2010 RMCEI plan included details of proposed routine and non-routine environmental inspections to be completed. It also included for closure of enforcement actions initiated in the previous year. Each year the plan is updated to take into account any new or amended legislation and national or EU priorities.

Activities in the plan include road check points, surveillance, flyovers and other initiatives. Inter-county check points with Sligo and Roscommon County Councils

were completed in 2010. The search for evidence is often an unpleasant and difficult task due to the nature of materials illegally dumped. This year it was necessary to engage Irish Rope Management, a specialized contractor, to retrieve waste from a cliff ledge adjacent to the Céide Fields in north Mayo. The unsightly illegal dumping had been defacing and outstanding natural beauty spot for a number of months pending the availability of the specialized contractor. Once retrieved, an enforcement officer and litter warden spent several hours going through three and a half tonnes of the partially decomposed waste in search of evidence. Documentation and other items discovered will enable prosecution to be sought in this case. The combination of Environmental Enforcement officers out on the ground, successful court cases, media coverage and checkpoints continue to raise the Environmental Enforcement profile in the county.



Before and After the Clean Up at Céide Fields



Waste Collection and Recycling

The kerbside waste collection service in the Mayo County Council functional area is provided by private permitted waste collectors. In order to achieve the targets of the bio-waste strategy and the Connaught Waste Management Plan targets, waste collection permits of municipal waste collectors were reviewed to condition the roll out of the brown bin collection service. This is to ensure separate collection of biodegradable waste and its diversion from landfill. The waste collectors commenced roll out of a three bin collection service in 2009. Separate collection of residual waste, dry recyclables and organic waste is now available in the county. Permitted waste collectors are obliged to provide this service to 100% of commercial customers and 40% of householders.

A network of bring banks throughout the county allows for the convenient recovery of bottles and aluminium cans from householders.

Civic Amenity Sites

Civic amenity sites enable householders to recycle a range of household wastes. Materials collected include hazardous and non-hazardous wastes. Garden waste is now accepted at both centres to enable recovery of green waste by householders and further assists with diversion of bio-waste from Landfill. The fee for householders to avail use the Civic Amenity site is €3.40 (including VAT). The Connaught waste Management plan 2006 to 2011 identified the need for additional Civic amenity sites in the county and sites are being considered near Belmullet and at Claremorris.

Waste Collection Permits (WCP)

Mayo County Council as Lead and Nominated authority for the Connaught Region continues to process Waste Collection permit applications for the Region. This involves advice, pre-consultation, amendment, review and revocation of permits. Under the 2008 Regulations Multi-Regional WCPs can be issued by any of the ten waste Management regions nationally to waste collectors who wish to operate in more than one region.

Currently there are 338 active waste collection permits with authorization from Mayo County Council to collect various waste streams within the region and of these 30 are Multi Regional WCPs covering up to all ten regions. In addition a further 264 Multi-Regional Waste collection permits have been issued by other Waste Management Regions which authorize Waste collectors to collect wastes in Connaught. Mayo County council was consulted on these WCP applications and where appropriate has ensured the inclusion of specific regional conditions to ensure implementation of the Connaught Waste Management Plan. Similarly Mayo County Council circulates (electronically) all multi regional WCP applications it receives to all 33 local authorities for comment

Each collector is obliged to submit an annual environmental report (AER) detailing types and quantities of wastes collected. This data is analysed and used for the national waste database and Local Authority Service Indicators. A national online

system funded by the DEHLG was introduced last year for Multi Regional WCP holders. This system is currently being expanded to include single region permit holders. The on-line system worked well and has streamlined the process. In subsequent years the system will require a €1000 maintenance fee.

Waste Facility Permits and Certificates of Registration

Mayo County Council processes applications for Waste Facility Permits and Certificates of Registration for the County. New Waste Management (Waste Facility Permit and Certificate of Registration) Regulations were introduced on 1st June 2008. The minimum fee is €600 and the maximum is €2000. The fee relates to the class of activity being authorised. Thresholds (set out in the Regulations) relate to quantity and types of waste determine whether an application is Waste Facility Permit or a Certificate of Registration. Permits issued under the new regulations can have a five year lifespan and may be reviewed prior to expiry date (there is a fee for review). A valid application must include evidence of planning permission or planning exemption for the proposed activity. In 2010, 10 applications were received. Currently there are approximately 28 Mayo County Council authorised facilities these include waste transfer stations, authorised treatment facilities (for depollution of end of life vehicles) and sites for the recovery of waste construction and demolition waste. The number of applications received annually has decreased.

There are now a very limited number of facilities for construction and demolition waste throughout the county this can cause delays for construction projects where waste management facilities are not identified in time.

Landfills

Mayo County Council is licensed by the EPA to operate two Landfills. They are located at Derrinumera and Rathroeen. Currently, waste is not being landfilled at Rathroeen but all residual waste is being diverted to Derrinumera until the capacity of this site expires mid 2011. Arrangements are being made to construct cell 3 at Rathroeen to coincide with the expiration of capacity at Derrinumera.

Environmental Awareness

Environment Awareness is an integral part of the role-out of the current Connaught Waste Management Plan. Environmental Awareness is focused on all sectors of the community – school children, young adults, householders, business and community groups.

School programmes

Mayo County Council has continued to promote environment awareness on the issues of litter, waste, recycling, composting, energy and water conservation with both primary and secondary schools. School visits continued to be carried out during 2010

and schools were offered compost bins and other promotional and awareness information free of charge. Several other school based projects took place during 2010 to encourage better environmental awareness. These included

- Magician Marvin's Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
- The food We Eat Programme
- Christmas Decoration Competition
- Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland's Energy Workshops.
-



The 'Food We Eat' project - Creating the Web of life in Ballyvary Central National School.



The 'Food We Eat' project – Cooking the food we grow.



Children learn about water pollution at a Summer Camp held in Barnacarroll in July 2010.



National Tree Week – The Cathaoirleach of Mayo County Council, Cllr. John Cribbin plants a native tree at Balla National School.

Green Schools

To date there are over 175 schools registered for the Green Schools Programme in County Mayo and 123 schools have achieved Green School status. Preschools, Primary, Secondary and GMT, Castlebar campus are involved in the programme. Schools working on the programme work on waste and litter reduction and then embrace new environmental themes each year. The themes running at present are Litter and Waste, Energy, Water, Travel and Biodiversity. The Green School's programme has undoubtedly played a major role towards increasing environmental awareness among pupils, teachers and parents of the registered schools. **St. Patricks NS, Cloonlyon, Charlestown** was awarded their 6th Green Flag in 2010 becoming the first school in the County to reach this level.



St. Patricks NS, Cloonlyon, Charlestown receive their 6th Green Flag at the annual An Taisce's Green Schools Awards, held in Galway in May 2010.

Business and Community Environmental Awareness

Information presentations have been delivered to community groups during 2010. These presentations involve the delivery of information about Recycling Centres, Bring Banks, the principles of “**Reduce, Reduce, Recycle**”, composting, shopping for the environment, dangers of back-yard burning and the safe disposal of hazardous materials, WEEE and batteries.

Leaflets and brochures on litter, waste, recycling, landfill/recycling centres, composting and back-yard burning are distributed to those in attendance at these presentations. With the introduction of several pieces of new legislation there is a continuous need to develop community awareness programmes.

Environmental information days were held in Baxter Pharmaceuticals and Ireland West Airport.



Mayo County Council's Environmental Awareness Stand at Ireland West Airport Knock - Environmental Health and Safety Week.



*Environment Health and Safety Week at Ireland West Airport Knock - Paula Roberts, Finance Manager is presented with her prize of a home composting bin by Sharon Cameron and Mary Forde. Also Pictured is **Trina Donohue**, HR Manager.*

Food Waste Regulations for Businesses:

In July 2010, the Waste Management (Food Waste) Regulations came into force and their introduction brought major changes to all those involved in the preparation on or sale of food from their premises. An extensive awareness campaign was implemented by Mayo County Council and information seminars were organised in partnership with Mayo Chambers of Commerce.

Seminars were held in Castlebar, Westport, Ballina, Belmullet, Claremorris and Ballyhaunis.

Mayo County Council Take away Litter Campaign.

A new anti-litter campaign was launched by Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Michael Burke in September 2010 targeting litter arising from business selling food in disposable packing such as “Take-Aways” and Service Stations.



Posters, key rings and stickers with the hard hitting message “it’s a take-away not a throw away” were distributed to the 65 business that signed up to the campaign.

Composting

Mayo County Council offer householders “home composting bins” at the reduced rate of €30 and may be purchased at all area offices and the civic amenity centres. Composters are offered free of charge to schools.

In partnership with the Irish Peatland Conservation Council and Bangor Erris Towns Committee, a Composting Workshop was held in Bangor Erris in March 2010. A second workshop was also held in Castlebar for local community groups and those with an interest in composting. As organic waste accounts for one third of general waste collected from households and sent straight to landfill without segregation these Workshops proved to be very popular and was well attended by the general public and community representatives.

The Workshops also discussed ways of improving our gardens for the benefit of the local environment and wildlife, contributing to the wellbeing and quality of life of the local community.



Section of the audience who attended the composting and wildlife gardening workshop in Bangor Erris.

Green Waste Composting Training for Local Authority Staff

A very successful green waste training day was run for Local Authority Staff in June 2010. The Workshop took place as part of the EPA “Stop Food Waste” Campaign and is aimed at better management of green waste from Local Authority grounds. The Workshop was presented by Craig Benton, Master Composter and gardening expert.



Local Authority Green Waste Training Day held on the Grounds of the Museum of Country Life, Turlough Park. Staff from Mayo County Council, Ballina, Westport and Castlebar Town Councils, Donegal County Council and Sligo Borough Council attended.

FREE Electrical Recycling Days for Householders

During 2010, Mayo County Council in association with WEEE Ireland carried out FREE Electrical and Battery Recycling Days for the public. The area’s covered in 2010 were:-

- Claremorris
- Ballinrobe
- Castlebar
- Belmullet
- Achill
- Westport
- Louisburgh

These special collection events gave the public the opportunity to check their attics or garden sheds for any old electrical items which are no longer in working order. Basically the public can recycle anything with a plug or a battery for free at these events. Our strong links with community contacts and voluntary groups proved very effective in communicating and publicising these events in the various towns.



Free Electrical Recycling date held in Castlebar in May 2010

National Spring Clean

The National Spring Clean campaign which was originally introduced by Mayo County Council and has become a national blueprint for success is the country's biggest anti-litter campaign. It encourages people from all walks of life to take pride in their local environment and to take action against litter. The campaign runs throughout the whole month of April and relies on the wonderful support from volunteers nationwide. Mayo had over 300 groups of people participating in An Taisce's National Spring Clean throughout April.

All schools and community groups were invited to participate in the Spring Clean Campaign and all registered groups were issued with bags, gloves and litter pickers to assist them in their litter clean ups.

Free Trade Ireland – Don't Rubbish It, Reuse It www.freetradeireland.ie

An exciting new initiative which is up and running since July 2010 is the National Free Trade Website service. Mayo County Council awarded the tender in 2010 to RPS to set up and maintain this service on a national basis.

FreeTrade Ireland is a unique public service allowing householders to pass on and pick-up those unwanted household items to other users free of charge. The service offers householders a cost-effective way of managing unwanted items

while protecting the environment. The service also has social benefits nurturing a spirit of goodwill in the community. The ethos of Free Trade is simple - free reuse of items for all.

Litter Action League

2010 saw the continuation of the Litter Action League which was first introduced in November 2002. The competition is open to Tidy Towns Committees and Community Groups in all towns and villages in County Mayo, with the exception of the towns of Ballina, Castlebar and Westport. It is run on a league basis i.e. each of the participating towns and villages compete against all other towns and villages in its group in successive months.

The purpose of this initiative is to encourage Local Community Councils and Tidy Towns Committees to further their involvement in the eradication of litter in towns and villages in County Mayo. The competition also helps to raise awareness of the extent and effect of litter in local communities with awards being given to the winners and runners up. This competition received great interest with 26 groups participating in 2010. It is envisaged that the number of entrants will increase next year and have a positive effect of heightening litter awareness in our towns and villages. Entrants were divided into the following categories:

Group A	Large towns (population over 1,000)
Group B	Smaller towns (population 500 - 1000)
Group C	Large Villages (populations <500)

Group A	Winner	Newport
	Runner Up	Crossmolina
Group B	Winner	Mulranny
	Runner Up	Bonniconlon
Group C1	Winner	Ballycroy
	Runner Up	Aughagower
Group C2	Winner	Kilkeeran
	Runner Up	Polranny

Cleaner Community Campaign

Each year as part of its mission to promote and protect the environment, Mayo County Council organises a Cleaner Community Campaign. This campaign involves Community Groups, Schools, Tidy Town Committees etc and is geared towards fostering a sense of pride of the local community's surroundings.

The 2010 competition had four categories as follows:

- 1 Environmental Endeavour Award*
- 2 Best Kept Housing Estate*
- 3 Best Kept School*
- 4 Best Kept Burial Ground*

The winners under each category for 2010 were as follows:

Environmental Endeavour Award

- 1st Partry**
- 2nd Kilmaine**
- 3rd Bangor Erris**

Best Kept Housing Estate

- 1st Barr na hAille/Lui Na Greine, Claremorris**
- 2nd Rockwell Housing Estate, Ballina**
- 3rd Greenhills Housing Estate, Ballina**

Best Kept School

- 1st Cloonliffen NS, Ballinrobe**
- 2nd Newtownwhite National School, Ballina**
- 3rd Scoil Phadraig, Ballina**

Best Kept Burial Ground

- 1st Ballinahaglish Burial Ground**
- 2nd Burrishoole Burial Ground**
- 3rd Glenhest Burial Ground**

Christmas Campaign.

In January 2010, a Christmas card recycling campaign was ran to coincide with the Christmas tree recycling campaign. In December 2010, a very successful Christmas Decoration Competition was run by Mayo County Council whereby primary school children were encouraged to make decorations from “waste” materials.



Presentation to Newtownwhite NS, Ballina, winners of Christmas Decoration competition



Presentation to S.N. Dhú Thuama, winners of Christmas Decoration competition



Presentation to Cloondaff NS, Glenhest, winners of Christmas Decoration competition

Administration and Implementation of Grant Schemes

- **Anti-Litter & Anti Graffiti Grants 2010**

This grant scheme is aimed towards organisations that are planning a project to target anti-litter or anti-graffiti measures. Organisations are invited to apply for grant aid to co-fund public education and awareness initiatives on the subject of litter and graffiti. Fifteen applications were received in 2010 for consideration for funding. The following organisations were funded to run anti-litter awareness projects in the County.

Organisation	Project
Crossmolina Tidy Towns –	Anti-litter competition between 3 local schools. Provision of hi-viz jackets

Anti Litter Project	with anti-litter slogan and car-bins with anti-litter message.
Kando Arts – “Recycle Magic”	Educational awareness programme for children using magic and puppets. Strong visual messages to convey negative consequences of litter and the importance of effective litter control.
Bangor Erris Tidy Towns – “Make Ballybeg Road Litter Free”	Continuation of the village care team involving local children to take care of the Ballybeg Road area, clean up litter and general enhancement. Designate it a litter free zone.
Avondate Residents Association – “Colouring Your Estate”	Transform area in Estate which is prone to litter and enhance it with the co-operation of the local youth. Interactive, practical and educational process so that they take ownership and reduce possibility of litter.
Castlebar NYP – “NYP Community Awareness Project”	Castlebar Neighbourhood Youth Project creating large piece(s) graffiti art with anti-litter message for public display. Also visit to a recycling facility to educate youth to the benefits of recycling and appropriate litter disposal.
Midfield N.S. – “Time for Our Environment”	Anti-litter poster competition through the school, and designing of a Calendar with appropriate anti-litter slogans and tips.
Kilmaine Village Enhancement – “Enhancing Ballinrobe Road”	Project aiming to enhance entrance road to Kilmaine Village and eliminate this litter black-spot. This project will transform the road and the general community will have more respect and ownership when it is upgraded.
Carrowholly Development Group – “Carrowholly Litter Awareness Campaign”	Anti-litter campaign using monthly litter-pick, dividing village into different areas. Stone plaque’s to be erected with place names. Community clean-up drive.
Balla Tidy Towns Committee – Balla Town Litter Blitz	Project to address litter black-spot in Balla Publicity campaign of posters/leaflets, community clean-up.
Keelogue Community Council – Litter Awareness Project	Anti-litter initiative to address the littering of the Keelogue Church – Graveyard Area – community clean-up.
Geesala Tidy Towns Committee – “Cardboard Crazy”	Since the plastic bag levy many people have resorted to cardboard boxes. However, disposal of same is a problem – boxes being blown away and left at bottle-banks. Shredding cardboard and setting up area for people to leave their cardboard – supply to local wormery and equine centre. Hold “Cardboard Crazy Furniture Making” Fun Day” – make small piece of furniture from cardboard.
Abbeystown/Abbeyview Residents Organisation – Project Abbeystown/Abbeyview	Community clean-up and litter pick days in the Estates – the youth of the Estates involved – more effective and heightens awareness towards litter.
Cinemobile – “Litter Bugs Anti Litter DVD”	DVD with anti-litter message, relayed in a humorous manner shown before all cinemobile screenings in Co. Mayo. Anti-litter message – Bin Your Litter/Recycle Your Waste/Keep Mayo a Magic Place”
Club Inferno – “Clean-up our Estate”	Project aims to work with the youth to eliminate litter and take pride in cleaning up their Estate.



Bangor Erris Tidy Towns Committee - Winners of the “Don’t Let it all go to Waste Award” in the 2010 National Tidy Towns Competition.



Kilmovee Bring Centre – Regional Winner of the 2010 Best Kept Bring Site Award in the National Tidy Towns Competition.

- **Local Agenda 21 Environmental Partnership Fund 2010**

Local Agenda 21 is a process which facilitates sustainable development at community level. Mayo County Council received thirty applications under this Scheme in 2010.

Eligible projects under this scheme support and complement national environmental policies such as those on waste, biodiversity, climate change, air, water, sustainable development etc. The following projects received funding in 2010:-

Carra Mask Corrib Water Protection Group	Schools Education Programme	Raising awareness with primary school children on the issues of water quality and pollution in our lakes and rivers.
Mayo Sustainability Forum	Castlebar Community Orchard Scheme	Community orchard scheme involving Town Council, community groups, schools - project will involve planting 100 fruit and nut trees in Castlebar municipal area to raise awareness of food security issues.
Westport Civic Trust	Wildflower Garden	Creation of a public "wild flower" garden with the purpose of raising awareness towards wild flowers and to promote awareness of the social and environmental benefits of restoring a public garden in the middle of Westport town.
Irish Peatland Conservation Council	Sustainable Living Workshop - Eco Tips for Communities	Sustainable Living Workshop - Eco Tips for Communities to take up the challenge of reducing their carbon footprint, reducing their contribution to waste, conserving natural resources of energy and water, protection biodiversity in natural habitats and growing their own food.
Tubberhill Community Garden Committee	Tubberhill Community Garden	To develop and sustain community garden in newly built community of both social and affordable houses and apartments - opportunity for residents to grown their own organic vegetables.
Louisburgh Polytunnel Project	Louisburgh Community Garden	Increase activities at community garden by local people. Set up demonstration garden to act as resource centre to encourage and assist locals to set up their own organic gardens.
Crossmolina Tidy Towns	Crossmolina Community Nature Garden	Develop a community nature garden within the Crossmolina town boundary area (under utilised green space easily accessible by all members of the community). Raise awareness of local biodiversity.
Castlebar Community Garden	Castlebar Community Garden	Pilot community garden project in Castlebar. Close partnership with local resident associations, town council. Organic gardening course.
Mr. Edward Conway, Ballycroy Community Council	Composting System and Rainwater Harvesting System	Creation of an area where waste materials from the kitchen and garden can be composted. The roof of the Community Centre would facilitate rainwater harvesting which in turn could be used on the garden area.
Westport Family & Community Resource Centre	Quay Community Organic Garden	Partnership involving Family Resource Centre, Westport Town Council and local Quay community. Working with a professional gardener to produce wide range of vegetables. Demonstration workshops dealing with all aspects of crop rotation, weed control, control of pests/diseases and pruning.
Baile Slachtmhar Gaoth Saile.	Gaoth Saile Glas	Local groups and school working together with the aim of promoting importance of waste minimisation via composting and recycling. Promoting water harvesting system also.
Mayo Eco-Literacy	"The Food We Eat Project"	Education programme for primary children in creating awareness of healthy eating, growing our own organic food and incorporating biodiversity - home skills (soup making and baking).

Litter Management

Mayo County Council Litter Management Plan 2010 to 2013 has been drafted and is due to undergo a consultation process with voluntary and representative bodies. Strict enforcement of litter legislation continues to be a priority. Detailed measures that were undertaken during the life of the previous Litter Management Plan included cigarette and gum litter awareness campaigns. An awareness campaign on the litter caused by takeaway packaging is one of the objections in the draft plan. This goal was achieved earlier than anticipated with the launch of *'It's a Takeaway, Not a Throwaway'* in October 2010.

Cooperation with community groups, local businesses and residents committees continued throughout 2010 and the participation in locally organised litter awareness competitions such as the Litter Action League and Cleaner Community Campaign Awards demonstrated the consistent interest and enthusiasm within the local community. Throughout the year, all litter awareness, prevention and control initiatives were fully supported by Mayo County Council.

Water Framework Directive

The Water Framework Directive was transposed into Irish Law by the EC Water Policy Regulations, 2003. These regulations established a number of statutory deadlines for the river basin planning process.

Ireland is divided into 8 River Basin Districts (RBD's) to allow for the co-ordinated management and implementation of the Water Framework Directive. Mayo is part of the Western RBD. The RBD's were required to develop a River Basin Management Plan for their districts and the final plan was made by reserved function by the County Councils of Mayo, Galway, Roscommon, Clare, and Sligo and by Galway City Council. Leitrim County Council did not make the plan by reserved function.

Galway County Council as the coordinating local authority for the Western River Basin District published the plan in May 2010.

Swimming Pools

Mayo County Council is directly involved in the operation of 6 swimming pools in the County. In conjunction with the 2 town councils, pools are operated in Castlebar and Ballina while grants are made to swimming pool committees for the annual operations at Kilmovee and Ballaghadereen.

The Council in agreement with the HSE is also involved in the maintenance of the swimming pool at the O' Dwyer Cheshire Home which due to the Councils' initiative is now available on a limited basis to the public.

The leisure facility which replaced the old swimming pool in Claremorris is operated by the former swimming pool committee in conjunction with Mayo County Council.

Burial Grounds

With a total of 156 burial grounds in Co. Mayo, community groups now maintain 95 of them with a financial contribution given towards maintenance by Mayo County Council. Community involvement is encouraged as much as possible and is appreciated.

Derelict Sites

A survey of all towns and villages is being undertaken by area staff to update the position with regard to the registration of all derelict sites. Owners of these sites will be notified of the Council's intentions to have the sites rendered non-derelict. All sites will be entered on the Register of Derelict sites which will be available for public inspection. At present there are 65 sites registered.

Housing and Building

2010 has been another challenging year for Mayo County Council in the Housing Service. The challenges faced by the service during the year and into 2011 include;

- Managing the demand led grant schemes with limited financial resources, yet ensuring that the schemes can meet applicants' needs in a timely fashion;
- Continuing to invest in the Housing stock through a planned programme of refurbishing casual vacancies and continuing the refurbishment of occupied stock to the extent of the resources available.
- Managing the change from meeting housing needs from a large direct supply social housing construction programme to meeting it from a very limited construction programme supplemented by housing sourced from the new Leasing Initiative by the DOEHLG.
- Dealing with the new Policy / Management issues arising under the Provisions of the Housing Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2009.
- Continue to provide access to home purchase by funding mortgages for the Tenant Purchase Scheme, Private Housing, and Incremental purchase of Housing Stock.
- Managing the collection of housing rents and housing loan repayments in very challenging times for our tenants and mortgage holders.

Capital Programme 2010

The Housing Construction Capital Programme for 2010 was delivered as part of a rolling multi-annual programme covering the years 2008 – 2011. As part of the Housing Action Plan review process Mayo County Council meets with the Department of Environment twice a year to discuss the Housing Capital programme. These meetings facilitate a review of the financial and housing output for the year and also outline the parameters within which the Housing Investment Programme should be prepared, for the coming years.

The multi-annual programme for 2010 saw a significant reduction in the level of new-build activity throughout the County compared to previous years. Housing Capital Allocations for 2010 were only adequate to meet existing construction commitments, and permitted a very limited number of 'new starts', which were mainly associated with the Remedial Works Scheme (RWS) approved for Parkview, in Charlestown and one-off rural units throughout the county.

This reduction in 'new starts' is a direct result of the Department's current policy and focus in terms of future social housing supply. The Department's focus is now firmly fixed on the expanded suite of **non-construction** supply options, including the Social

Housing Leasing Initiative and the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS), in terms of meeting future social housing need.

The new housing developments delivered in 2010 were integrated, mixed tenure schemes with Affordable Units or Serviced Sites being provided side by side with units for Rent.

Completions 2010

A total of 60 units were completed in 2010, providing housing units, housing schemes, rural houses, extensions, special works and acquisitions.

The completions for the County at large are detailed in table below:

Mayo Completions 2010

	Schemes	Rurals	Exts	SWIL	Misc	Totals
Ballina Town Council	Foxford Rd 4 Knockleagha 4		2			10
Ballina Electoral Area		1				1
Swinford Electoral Area	Midfield 7			1		8
North East Region	15	1	2	1	0	19
	Schemes	Rurals	Exts	SWIL	Misc	Totals
Castlebar Town Council						
Castlebar Electoral Area		1	1		1	3
Claremorris Electoral Area	Knock 10	1			5	16
South Region	10	2	1	0	6	19
	Schemes	Rurals	Exts	SWIL	Misc	Totals
Westport Town Council					3	3
Westport Electoral Area	Kilmeena 10					10
Belmullet Electoral Area		6	2	1		9
West Region	10	6	2	1	3	22
Total Completions	35	9	5	2	9	60



*Kilmeena Development, Westport
Mixed Development of Social dwellings & Serviced Sites*

This development also incorporated a purpose-built community centre (to shell and core stage).



*Kil Kelly Road, Knock.
Development of 10 Social dwellings.*

House Starts 2010

A total of 27 starts were achieved in 2010 through housing units in schemes, rural houses, extensions, special works and acquisitions.

The Starts for the County at large are detailed in table below:

Mayo Starts 2010

	Schemes	Rurals	Exts	SWIL	Misc	Totals
Ballina Town Council	Mount Assumpta 2	0	2	0	0	4
Ballina Electoral Area						
Swinford Electoral Area	4 Parkview Charlestown			1		5
North East Region	6	0	2	1	0	9
	Schemes	Rurals	Exts	SWIL	Misc	Totals
Castlebar Town Council						
Castlebar Electoral Area	0	1	0	0	1	2
Claremorris Electoral Area			1	1	5	7
South Region	0	1	1	1	6	9
	Schemes	Rurals	Exts	SWIL	Misc	Totals
Westport Town Council					3	3
Westport Electoral Area						
Belmullet Electoral Area		5		1		6
West Region	0	5	0	1	3	9
Total Starts	6	6	3	3	9	27

A **Remedial Works Scheme (RWS)** for Parkview, Charlestown was also approved by the Department in 2010, which will see the refurbishment and upgrade of 23 existing units and general site enhancement works to the overall estate. Works have commenced on site and are due for completion in early 2012.

Housing Developments **under construction** and due for completion in 2011 include:

- **Laveymore, Charlestown** – a Traveller specific development incorporating four family units and an independent living annex.

Traveller Accommodation

Progress Report for 2010

Mayo County Council have continued to provide for the accommodation needs of Travellers using the full range of housing options available, as outlined in the implementation strategy of the Traveller Accommodation Plan 2009 – 2013. Significant progress has been made, as shown below. The number of Traveller

families residing on the roadside in County Mayo has reduced from twenty one in November 2009 to nine in 2010.

The figures below, under the heading 'Private Rented Sector 2010' show the additional number of families who have been accommodated in private rented accommodation during this year. The additional families consist of new family formations, or families who move from a different electoral area, county or country.

The numbers do not account for families who were accommodated in the area throughout the year and have now left or the families who have transferred to different properties within the same area and would be considerably higher if these were included.

The Local Authority allocations shown relate to new allocations and do not show transfers of existing Local Authority tenants.

<i>Electoral Area</i>	T.A.P 2009 – 2013 5year Target	Total Achieved To date For 2010	Local Authority 2010	Private Rented Sector 2010	RAS 2010	Vol Groups & Other 2010	Families in Unauthorised Encampments
<u>Ballina</u>	29	17	4 Offers pending	14	0	2 1	4
<u>Swinford</u>	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
<u>Kilkelly</u>	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
<u>Kiltimagh</u>	2	1	0	1	0	0	0
<u>Foxford</u>	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
<u>Charlestown</u>	5	2	0	2	0	0	1
<u>Castlebar</u>	17	20	1	16	2	1	3
<u>Claremorris</u>	2	3	0	3	0	0	0
<u>Ballyhaunis</u>	7	12	0	11	1	0	1
<u>Ballinrobe</u>	3	6	1	5	0	0	0
Total	70	61	2	52	3	4	9*

***The number of families residing in unauthorised encampments has reduced by 12 since Nov. 09.**

Ballina Town Electoral Area

Phase I of the Cluid Voluntary Housing Association Regeneration Project at St. Patrick's Estate was completed this year. In addition to the families returning to the redeveloped properties, there was a surplus of five houses available for re-letting. Two of those five properties have been offered to Traveller families.

Traveller families will be considered for a further four properties in Ballina in the near future. The two Mayo County Council properties are located at Cooneal on the Killala Road and at Barnadearg. The two Town Council properties are located at Knockleagha and Cluain Na Ri.

One family have surrendered their Town Council dwelling and have purchased a property from their own resources, with the assistance of a Mayo County Council Housing Loan, Mortgage Subsidy Allowance and the Special Traveller Grant.

Swinford Electoral Area

Due to bad weather conditions, progress is continuing slowly at the Group Housing Scheme Development at Laveymore Charlestown. This development consists of four units of accommodation. The expected date of completion is now March 2011.

Applicants are being considered for the tenancies of a three bedroom dwelling in Bohola and a three bedroom dwelling at Culgarrif, Kilmovee.

Castlebar Electoral Area

In 2010 Cluid Housing Association accommodated one family in the new housing development at Saleen.

During this year, three families were offered accommodation in the Halting Site in Castlebar. One family accepted an offer and has moved into Bay 6. Also refurbishment work was carried out to Bay 5 and the family have now returned to the accommodation.

One family was re-allocated a tenancy in Woodlands, Balla. Three Traveller families have also been accommodated by RAS this year.

Claremorris Electoral Area

Two families were transferred within the housing stock in the Claremorris Electoral Area. One property was in Tooraree, Ballyhaunis and the other in Sli Na Roba, Ballinrobe. Two Traveller families received offers of accommodation in Ballinrobe recently. One family refused their offer and the other has accepted and the family has been allocated the property.

Radon Sample Testing of existing Local Authority Housing Stock

Background

Following a management decision in early 2010, a Radon Sample Testing of existing Local Authority Housing Stock was initiated.

All Local Authority Housing Estates (County and Urban) were identified and a minimum of two house units were tested within each estate. Once the participation of the particular tenants was agreed, a brief induction was arranged on the testing procedures involved and the radon detectors were placed.

A rolling programme throughout the year has seen the testing of **271 house units** throughout the county. 97% of these test results have now been returned to date. A fully comprehensive Radon Survey Report will issue in early 2011 on receipt of all test results.

Radon Measurement

Radon Measurement involves the placement of 2no radon detectors in each dwelling – one in the main living room and one in the main bedroom. Detectors once placed must be left in-situ for a minimum of 3months. The detectors are then retrieved by MCC and returned to the Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland (RPII) for a Radon Measurement Report.

Where radon concentration levels in the dwelling exceed the National Reference Level of 200Bq/m³, the RPII advises that remediation be considered.

Of the 271 dwellings tested to date, radon concentration levels detected in approximately **12% of the dwellings** would appear to exceed the above National Reference Level of 200Bq/m³

Remediation

An evaluation of the ‘best practice’ remediation techniques has indicated that an '**Active Radon Sump**' - including fan extract, would appear to be the best solution as recommended by the RPII, in dealing with excessive levels of radon in dwellings.

It is anticipated that a full Radon Remediation Programme in respect of dwellings where radon concentration levels exceed the National Reference Level of 200Bq/m³ will be undertaken by Mayo County Council in early 2011.

Refurbishment Programme

- **Long Term Voids:** In the Budget for 2010, a special provision was made for dealing with long term voids during the course of the year. A total of **€666,500** was invested throughout the County, with the additional funding coming from the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government.
This programme will continue in 2011 to fund the long term void units arising during the year.
- **Refurbishment Programme 2000 – 2010:** Mayo County Council initiated a major Refurbishment Programme of all Housing stock in 2002. The Programme will see approximately **€15m** invested in the housing stock through the County. It will ensure that every house is brought to an acceptable standard of physical fabric, comfort and appearance. Work began in 2002, targeting initially rural houses which were surveyed and tendered in blocks on an Electoral Area basis.

The Programme has moved on to the refurbishment of schemes, which by their nature are more complex, given the mixed public/private ownership and the requirement to upgrade external open space. The state of progress in each

electoral Area is outlined in the following Tables. The total investment to date on the Scheme amounts to approximately **€11.9m.**

Steady progress continues to be made on this programme. In 2011, every effort will be made to utilise the available funding from the DOEHLG and own resources to advance progress in this programme.

NORTH EAST REGION

Ballina Electoral Area

Type	No. of Units	Status	Cost €
Rurals	95	On Site	2,294,690
Schemes	60	On Site	593,600
	75	At Survey	(675,000)*
Total	230		3,563,290

*Estimate based on previous works.

Swinford Electoral Area

Type	No. of Units	Status	Cost €
Rurals	75	Complete	870,049
Schemes	159	Complete	873,654
Total	234	-	1,743,703
N.E. Region Overall	464	-	5,306,993

WEST REGION

Belmullet Electoral Area

Type	No. of Units	Status	Cost €
Rurals	174	Complete	3,182,519
Schemes	89	At Survey	924,000
Total	263	-	4,106,519

Westport Electoral Area

Type	No. of Units	Status	Cost €
Rural	71	Complete	1,252,000
Schemes	49	At Survey	441,000
Total	120	-	1,693,000
West Region Overall	383	-	5,799,519

SOUTH REGION

Ballinrobe Electoral Area

Type	No. of Units	Status	Cost €
Rural	26	Complete	194,000
Schemes	30	Complete	136,000
Total	56	-	330,000

Castlebar Electoral Area

Type	No. of Units	Status	Cost €
Rural	38	Complete	435,000
Schemes	16	Complete	93,000
Total	54	-	528,000

Claremorris Electoral Area

Type	No. of Units	Status	Cost €
Rural	44	On Site	800,000
Schemes	40	On Site	1,500,000
	35		
Total	119	-	2,300,000
S.W. Region Overall	229		3,158,000

Total for the County	No. of Units	Total Cost
	1,076	€ 14,264,512

Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)

The Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) was introduced by the Government in July 2004. This scheme involves Local Authorities progressively assuming responsibility for accommodating recipients of rent supplement who have a defined long term housing need, through direct arrangements between the Local Authority and the private rented sector.

Multiple benefits accrue under Rental Accommodation Scheme, details as follows -:

Tenant: Security of Tenure; Improved choice; improved quality & standard of accommodation; RAS tenants will not lose support if they gain employment but will make a larger contribution to the rent.

Landlord: Guaranteed income stream; Prompt payment by State Agency; Ease of administration – Local Authority act as agent in respect of re-letting of voids for certain type of arrangement and rent collection.

Local Authority: Additional housing option; Provides increased choice of housing options; Facilitates social mix with wider geographical spread of Social Housing.

The Rental Accommodation Scheme was introduced to Mayo Local Authorities in July, 2006 and a dedicated unit has been established to oversee the successful delivery of project. The RAS unit currently comprises 3 full time & 1 part-time staff, with a technical support as required.

To-date (mid February, 2011), Mayo County Council have assumed responsibility for **859** units (366 from Voluntary Sector & 493 from Private Sector). There are currently **1,616** long-term recipients of rent supplement within Mayo, all of whom will have to be accommodated under RAS. This represents a significant challenge for Mayo County Council, who will have responsibility for all of these clients.

The lengthy process of contacting and interviewing all clients in order to **(1)** confirm their eligibility for RAS, **(2)** to establish their areas of preference and **(3)** type of accommodation to be sourced, is continuing. In addition, accommodation assessments are being carried out to ensure that the appropriate standards are met.

The scheme has been very well received in Mayo, with benefits accruing to all parties.

The process of transferring eligible clients to RAS will continue, with RAS becoming an integral part of the housing service being offered by Mayo Local Authorities.

New Leasing Arrangements for Social Housing

In May 2010 the Department of Environment, Heritage & Local Government ran an awareness campaign on the new leasing arrangements which have been introduced for social housing. As the delivery of social housing is expected to be provided by the new leasing initiative over the next three years; the Department wished to make property owners aware of the opportunities available through their local authority. This scheme will ultimately assist local authorities to meet their social housing targets.

The initiative will allow local authorities to enter into a leasing agreement when a property becomes available in an area where there is an identified social housing need. The two options available to local authorities are:

- Long-term lease arrangements (10 - 20 years)
 - The Local Authority will be the landlord to tenants
 - It will also be responsible for the day-to-day property maintenance.

- Shorter-term rental arrangements (1- 10 years)
 - The property owner will retain responsibility for day-to-day property maintenance
 - The property owner will be the landlord to tenants nominated by the local authority.

Rental income will be guaranteed from the local authority for the whole leased period for both arrangements.

Expressions of Interest were sought from property owners for the provision of dwellings under this initiative and a total of 25 applications were received by Mayo County Council in 2010.

The Council will only enter into leases in locations where there is a demand for housing and the Council is satisfied that housing applicants are willing to avail of this housing option. To date, many of the properties offered are in areas where there is little demand and some of the properties have not been suitable to meet the needs identified. The Council will continue to assess all offers of property for Leasing and to maximize the benefits of the Scheme for housing applicants.

Leased properties will be allocated to tenants, in accordance with the local authority's allocations schemes.

Voluntary Housing

Voluntary Housing activity during 2010 delivered one unit in The Cedars, Castlebar, and progressed one new scheme of 36 units in Mayfield, Claremorris. The reduced level of activity is a result of a decrease in Mayo County Council's 2010 Capital Allocation.

There are a further 112 units of accommodation at the planning stage which can be advanced if the Capital funding required is made available. However, it is anticipated that just one scheme will be progressed in 2011 due to the constraints in the capital allocations.

In 2010 the Council submitted a prioritised list of schemes to the Department to ensure these schemes are advanced should funding become available. Both the Council and the Department recognises the support and partnerships between the Council and local voluntary organisations in progressing these Schemes.

For 2010 only, The Department set aside €25 million to support a special call for proposal for the acquisition of newly built properties or properties nearing completion, which are suitable for meeting specific categories of need, including older people, persons with a physical disability, mental health, intellectual or sensory disability, persons citing temporary homeless accommodation, elderly returning emigrants etc. Funding of up to 100% of the approved cost of projects will be provided under the Departments Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS). Mayo County Council received approval for one unit for Newgrove Housing Association at Kilkenny Cross, Breaffy Road, Castlebar under the 'call for proposal'.

Voluntary Housing 2010

Schemes Under Construction	
Mayfield Clar IRD	36 units
Voluntary Housing Completions 2010	
The Cedars, Castlebar	1 unit
Total	1 unit
Total	36 units

Schemes at Planning Stage 2009 / 2010

	Units
Ballina Mayo Mental Health	12
Ballinrobe Vincent De Paul	14
Belmullet Irish Wheelchair Ass.	29
Foxford Vincent De Paul	12
Glenamoy VHA	10
Swinford Mayo Mental Health	12
Breaffy, Castlebar Irish Wheelchair Ass.	4
Attymass, Ballina	7
Westport Road, Castlebar, Castlebar Social Services	10
Breaffy Road, Castlebar, Newgrove HA	1
Tulrahan, Claremorris, Brickens HA	1
Total	112

Grants Schemes

The Council operates the new Grants Schemes, comprising;

- Housing Aid for Older People
- Mobility Aids Grants
- Housing Adaption Grants for people with disability.

The Council received an allocation of **€3,720,000** for Housing Grants for the year. Following consideration by the Housing SPC, the housing grants scheme was amended to ensure that the Council was able to meet the needs of applicants in a timely fashion.

As can be seen from the table below, a total of 832 grants were approved during 2010 and 414 grants were paid to date at a value of **€1,938,217**. It is anticipated that an additional €1.5million will be paid by the end of this year. As a result of amendments to the Schemes, the number of applications approved increased from 250 in 2009 to 832 in 2010.

	Grants Approved	Grants Paid	Value €
Housing Aid for Older People	605	245	1,209,533
Mobility Aids Grant	165	146	479,331
Housing Adaptation Grant	62	23	249,353
TOTAL	832	414	1,938,217

The Housing SPC will continue to monitor progress on these schemes during 2011.

Social Workers Conference

2010 saw Mayo County Council host the 19th Annual Local Authority Social Workers Conference which was held in Westport, Co.Mayo. A total of 32 delegates attended the conference from all over the Country. The conference theme was “Understanding Mental Illness and the challenges of Drug Abuse”.

Architects

The Architects Department is a multi-discipline office, providing a centralised design, management and consultancy service to all departments and regional directorates of Mayo County Council.

The office offers a range of in-house technical and administrative expertise and is comprised of -

- ✓ Architects
- ✓ Engineers
- ✓ Architectural technicians
- ✓ Horticulturalists
- ✓ Clerks of Works
- ✓ Clerical staff

The Capital Works Programme of Mayo County Council can be both extensive and varied and involves the Architects Department in the delivery of new Local Authority Housing developments, Civic Offices, Fire Stations and Libraries throughout the County. In more recent times emphasis has been placed on Remedial Works Schemes and Refurbishment/Conservation projects within the County.

Other areas of increasing involvement include:

- Provision of Playgrounds, Parks & Neighbourhood Schemes.
- Administration of the “Restoration & Conservation Of Protected Structures” Grants Scheme
- Implementation of the Disability Strategy.
- Facilitation of Public Art,
- Maintenance & Management Of Turlough Park Gardens
- Planning Consultancy Services
- Heritage Surveys
- Town & Village Enhancement Programme.

Housing Programme 2010

An important function of the Architects Department is in facilitating the provision of Local Authority Housing throughout the county.

This involves Public Consultation with local communities, sourcing and acquisition of suitable development sites, the design, costing and tendering of appropriate housing projects and subsequent on site management and supervision of the works to completion and ultimately handover to the tenant.

The multi-annual programme for 2010 saw a significant reduction in the level of new-build activity throughout the County compared to previous years. Housing Capital

Allocations for 2010 only permitted a very limited number of ‘new starts’, which were mainly associated with the Remedial Works Scheme (RWS) approved for Parkview, in Charlestown and one-off rural units throughout the county.

This reduction in ‘new starts’ is a direct result of the Department’s current policy and focus in terms of future social housing supply. The Department’s focus is now firmly fixed on the expanded suite of **non-construction** supply options, including the Social Housing Leasing Initiative and the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS), in terms of meeting future social housing need.

The new housing developments delivered in 2010 were integrated, mixed tenure schemes with Affordable Units or Serviced Sites being provided side by side with units for Rent.



Architects: Cox Power Architects

*Kilmeena Development, Westport completed in 2010.
Mixed Development of Social dwellings & Serviced Sites*

This development also incorporated a purpose-built community centre (to shell and core stage).



**Kilkelly Road, Knock completed in 2010.
Development of 10 Social dwellings.**

On-going Housing projects due for completion in 2011 include developments at:

**Remedial Works Scheme (23 units) and 4 new Builds in Parkview, Charlestown.
Traveller accommodation (5units) in Laveymore, Charlestown.**

Restoration & Conservation of Protected Structures Grants Scheme

The objective of the Conservation Grants Scheme operated by Mayo County Council is to assist the owner / occupier of a structure that is protected because of its architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest to undertake restoration and conservation works.

The Council is allocated a fixed amount of money for a calendar year to meet grant payments. Grant applications are prioritized each year within the available resources. Works do not qualify for Grant Assistance if they begin before the structure concerned is inspected & approved unless we are of the opinion that the works are, or were necessary to eliminate or reduce an immediate risk to the safety or structure of the building.

The “Neighbourwood” Scheme Belleek Woodland Ballina.

The Neighbourwood Scheme is a woodland Grant scheme that is available to local community groups which is administered and managed by the local authority to fund the development / establishment of new and existing woodlands in close proximity to towns and Villages. The scope of the works involved include the following:



- Establishment Of New Woodland
- Improvement To Existing Woodland
- Provision Of Outdoor Recreational Facilities

Mayo County Council in association with the Belleek Woodland Enhancement Committee has successfully applied for funding under this Neighbourwood Scheme for works recently completed at Belleek Woods, in Ballina.

To fund the project, Grant aid of €96,550 was secured from the *Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Food* under the 'Neighbour Wood Scheme'. Approximately €60,000 was allocated for the development of Wheelchair Accessible facilities, while the remaining €36,550 was allocated to Habitat Enhancement works for the Red Squirrel.

Playgrounds and Parks

Following from the success of Mayo County Council's Playgrounds Initiative, which has seen the establishment of many fine playground facilities throughout the county, similar developments were undertaken in 2010 at Balla, Irishtown and the Greenway Recreational Park in Westport.

The **Balla playground** with a construction cost of approximately €100,000, was co-



funded by LEADER, Mayo County Council and the Community and the facility was officially opened by the Chairman of Mayo County Council Cllr John Cribbin in April 2010.

The facility in **Irishtown**, which is comprised of a

MUGA (multi-use games area) and a children's playground was also funded by LEADER, Mayo County Council and the Community. The total cost of this scheme was €120,000, and the facility was opened by the Chairman of Mayo County Council Cllr John Cribbin, in April 2010.

The Greenway Recreational Park Westport. This park located just off the Leenane Road and adjacent to the West Road and the Greenway, consists of a full sized MUGA (multi-use games area) and the county's first Skate Park.

The project developed as a result of a partnership between Westport Town Council, Westport Tidy Towns Committee and South West Mayo Development Company and was co-funded by all 3 groups. The total cost of the project at approximately €300,000 is due to be officially opened shortly by the new Junior Minister for Tourism and Sport, Michael Ring.

Town & Village Enhancement Programme 2010

In general a provision of €35,000 per electoral is made annually within the estimates to facilitate village enhancement works each year. The underlying principle of the scheme is to provide a co-funded structure availing of both LEADER funding and a Community contribution to augment Mayo County Council funding thus permitting Mayo County Council in partnership with Community groups to develop and deliver substantial projects throughout the county.

Projects promoted in 2010 included the following:

Street refurbishment works, Shrule. Village enhancement proposals, developed and progressed through a Part 8 public Consultation and tender process, are currently awaiting formal approval to proceed.

New Recreational Park in Belmullet. This park, adjacent to the Civic Centre in Belmullet, involved the construction of a Multi Use Games Area, a Teenage Congregation Zone and All-weather Tennis and Soccer pitch. The total cost of the project at approximately €400,000, was facilitated by substantial funding secured through the various project partners - Erris No Name Club, LEADER, the Corrib Fund and the Bellacorrick Fund. Mayo County Council's contribution to the project was approximately €35,000.

Street Refurbishment works in Kilkelly, a Recreational Park in Swinford and Landscaping works at Gurteens near Ballina, were also initiated and are due to be completed in early 2011.

Public Art

Mayo County Council has been a leading Local Authority in promoting the 'Per Cent for Art' Scheme to provide 'Public Art' throughout the county over the last 15 years.

The development of policy, the implementation of a wider range of commissioning practices and engagement with a broader range of artistic practices has been realised through the work of the Public Art Co-ordinator in conjunction with the Architect's Department.

The following Public Art commissions were undertaken in 2010 and grant assisted through Capital Projects managed by the Architects Department –

- **'In an attempt to find the right words..'** by James Hayes, Aras Inis Gluaire, Belmullet.
- **'Make a big Splash!'** by Tim Redfern & Mark Cullen, Claremorris Pool.



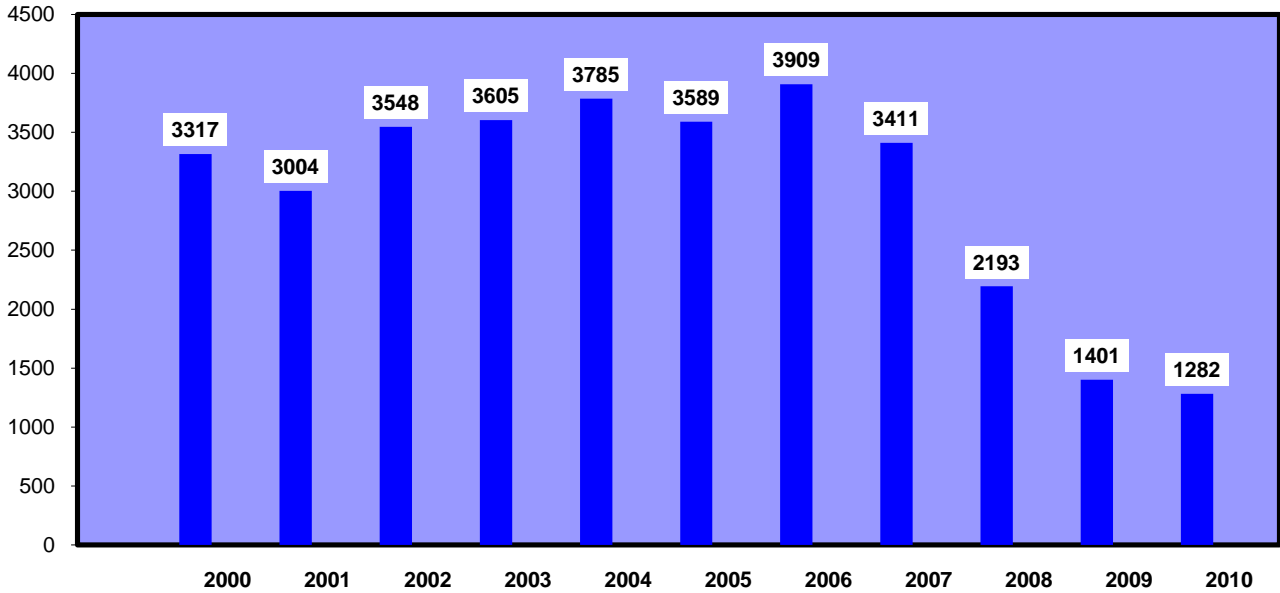
*'In an attempt
to find the
right words..'
by James
Hayes,*

This is a
bronze
sculptural
installation
developed
through a
community
consultation
programme.

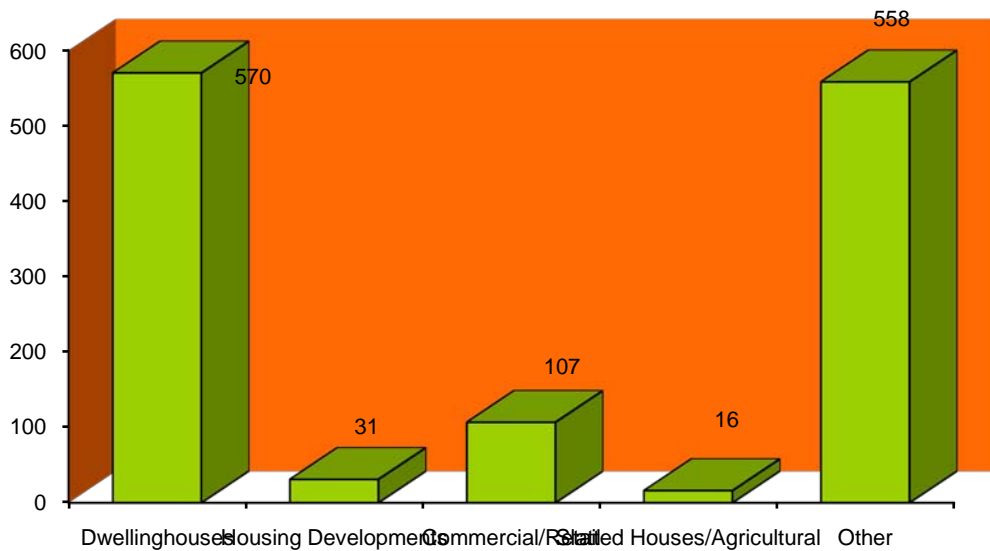
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Planning and Development

Planning Applications 2000 - 2010



Breakdown of 2010 planning applications

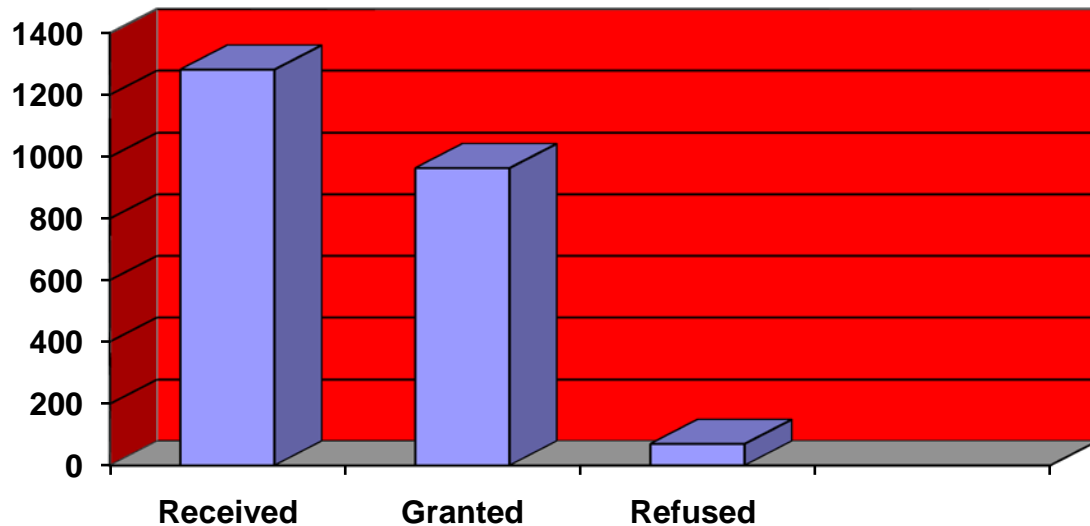


Planning Decisions 2010

Applications Received **1282**

Applications Granted **964**

Applications Refused **70**



During 2010, some sections of the new Planning and Development Act 2010 have been implemented and this has resulted in an increased number of applications for extension of duration of existing planning permissions being received. This is also a consequence of the downturn in the economy as applicants require more time to secure finance to commence and complete developments.

Planning Clinics

Planning Clinics are held in each of the seven electoral areas, every Wednesday from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. 355 Planning Clinics were held in 2010.

Development Plans

In order to reduce costs the Planning and Forward Planning Sections no longer refer Plans, Studies or Strategies to outside agencies or consultants and have instead developed and built upon all the in-house expertise available. In doing this the Council are now producing more relevant documents, based on the vast local knowledge and expertise acquired by those who have worked within the County for many years, and who have a genuine interest in its further development in the future. In doing this all departments including Planning, Environment, Sanitary Services, Roads etc can coordinate their expertise to produce better Plans and Strategies for the

County. Some of the Strategies and Plans recently completed and currently being undertaken are summarised below.

Local Area Plans

- Kiltimagh adopted 14th June, 2010
- Charlestown/Bellaghy adopted by Mayo County Council & Sligo County Council in May 2010
- Ballinrobe adopted on 8th February, 2010
- Ballyhaunis adopted on 8th February, 2010
- Westport Town & Environs adopted in conjunction with Westport Town Council on 28th January, 2010.

Knock Strategic Development Zone

Mayo County Council made a formal Submission to the Department of the Environment Heritage & Local Government in relation to the development of a Strategic Development Zone at Knock Airport. The Department requested the Council to prepare a Local Area Plan for the area, as a precursor to the Strategic Development Zone.

Work on the Draft of Knock Airport Local Area Plan is being advanced. The Strategic Environmental Assessment and Appropriate Assessment are currently being undertaken. Publication of Draft Local Area Plan for the Knock Airport area is expected in mid-2011.

Draft Renewable Energy Strategy

In February 2010 the Council published a Discussion Paper titled “The Potential for Renewable Energy in Co. Mayo.” Following publication of this document, a large number of submissions were received from interested parties. Having considered the submissions, the Forward Planning Section undertook the preparation of a Draft Renewable Energy Strategy for County Mayo. This will be approved by the Council in early 2011, and then published for public consultation. A full Strategic Environmental Assessment and a Habitat Directive Assessment was also considered in conjunction with the preparation of the Draft Renewable Energy Strategy.

E-Planning

Mayo County Council is continuing to develop the concept of e-planning by further developing an efficient service to the public with our on-line facilities. All current and recent applications are available on-line for inspection by the public.

Currently five agents are taking part in the on-line application scheme, which will be available to all Agents in early 2011.

Mobile iPlan for Engineers and NavPlan for Planners and Engineers are now in use, the benefits of which greatly reduce costs and travelling time to locate sites.

Mayo County Council remains one of only two local authorities in Ireland offering both online Applications and online Submissions.

In 2010, Mayo County Council's Planning area of the website had more than 2 million hits.

Taking in Charge of Estates and Quarries

The inspection and reporting function in relation to both Taking in Charge of Estates and Quarries has been transferred from the Enforcement Section to the Planning Office in the past year. The Estates and Quarries within each Local Area has now been assigned to the appropriate Area Planner in order to carry out inspections, consult with the Local Area Engineer and compile reports for take over of estates or for enforcement action as appropriate.

Building Control & Planning Enforcement Section

Mayo County Council is the Building Control Authority for the administrative area of County Mayo, and the three Town Councils, Castlebar, Westport and Ballina. Mayo County Council is also the Planning Enforcement Authority for the administrative area of County Mayo, excluding the three Town Councils of Castlebar, Westport and Ballina.

The main functions of the Unit are to investigate written complaints received in relation to alleged unauthorised developments in accordance with the Planning and Development, Act, 2000, and carry out random building control inspections under the Building Control Acts, 1990 and 2007, to ensure compliance with the Building Control Regulations, 1997 to 2000. Duties carried out under the Building Control Acts 1990 and 2007, also include the examination of Disability Access Certificate applications and the issuing of Disability Access Certificates.

The Disability Access Officer duties are also assigned to a member of the Unit. Other duties carried out by the Unit include the maintenance of Aras an Chontae and associated buildings. In the current economic climate it has been found that many Planning Enforcement and Building Control files require protracted negotiation in order to achieve a satisfactory conclusion.

The Planning Enforcement Activity is shown in the table below.

Description of Activity	2009	2010
<i>Number of complaints investigated</i>	237	175
<i>Number of cases subject to complaints that were dismissed</i>	78	87
<i>Number of cases subject to complaints that were resolved through negotiations</i>	102	63
<i>Number of enforcement procedures taken through Warning Letters</i>	143	139
<i>Number of prosecutions</i>	0	5
<i>Number of enforcement procedures taken through Enforcement Notices</i>	7	12
<i>Number of files currently with the County Council's Solicitor</i>	34	35

Finance

The Finance Section of Mayo County Council is responsible for the collection of revenues due to Mayo County Council and the payment of monies and charges due from Mayo County Council.

Mayo County Council's Revenue Department deals with the collection of:

- Commercial Rates
- Water Charges
- Housing Rents
- Housing Loans
- NPPR Charges

Commercial Rates

In 2010 2,700 rate demands were issued with €0.35 million collected. Approximately 10% of Mayo County Council's revenue expenditure is raised through rate charges. The collection of rates on commercial and industrial properties is thus essential in maintaining the range of Council services.

Water Charges

Mayo County Council levies charges for water supplied for non-domestic purposes, such as agricultural, commercial and industrial. Consumers are billed on a metered charge basis. A new water services charging structure commenced in January 2008.

Total amount of billed customers in 2010 was 6740 approx. Water Charges collected in 2010 amounted to €5.9 million

Housing Rents

Mayo County Council has approximately 2243 housing rent accounts. The total amount of rents collected in 2010 amounted to €3.93 million.

Housing Loans

Mayo County Council has approximately 1071 housing loans. The total amount of housing loan charges collected in 2010 amounted to €2.99 million. The total number of redeemed and expired accounts in 2010 was 86.

Non Principal Private Residence (NPPR) Charge

The Minister of Finance in his budget for 2009 introduced a charge on Non Principal Private Residences. Following on from this the Local Government (Charges) Act, 2009 was passed by the Oireachtas in July 2009 which introduced a charge of €200 on all Non Principal Private Residences.

This charge applies to all Residential Properties in the state that are not occupied as the owner's Principal Residence. Examples of chargeable properties include Rented Properties, Holiday Homes and Vacant Properties.

The administration and collection of the charges is operated nationally, on a shared services basis, by the Local Government Computer Services Board (LGCSB). The LGCSB have developed a website (www.nppr.ie) which includes information on the charge as well as a system for registration of properties and payment of the NPPR charge online. It is estimated that circa €2.1 million will be collected in Mayo (including Town Council areas) in respect of this charge for 2010.

Payment Practices

General Payments are made weekly through the Finance Section. All payments are properly checked and certified by the relevant Senior Officer, before submission for payment.

Financial Management

The Council seeks to improve Financial Management by:

- On-going monitoring, management and control of the Council's financial resources.
- Ensuring value for money in all the Council's activities.
- Strengthening the role of internal audit and continually reviewing internal control procedures to ensure propriety and transparency in all the Council's activities.
- Maximising the financial resources available to the Council through the ongoing investigation and pursuance of funding opportunities at local, national and EU level and effective management of debt collection.

Procurement

Local Authority procurement has for many years been subject to a comprehensive governance structure. In this regard local authorities comply with a mixture of EU rules, National Guidelines and their own locally adopted internal procedures. Local authorities must still adhere to the appropriate national and EU procurement rules and procedures when sourcing goods and services from prospective suppliers. The essential principles of non – discrimination, equal treatment, transparency, mutual recognition, proportionality, freedom to provide service and freedom of establishment must be respected. Mayo County Council has been concentrating on achieving compliance with procurement legislation as it relates to all areas of purchasing.

Whilst the majority of the Council's objectives revolve around the increased leveraging of its purchasing power, there is also an acknowledgement of the need to ensure ongoing compliance is adhered to. Throughout 2010 the Procurement Section targeted a number of areas and services where savings could be generated by procuring goods and services more efficiently and effectively. We tendered for electricity, sludge removal from our waste water treatment plants, water treatment chemicals, bulk fuel requirements, personal protective equipment and service and maintenance of fire equipment to name just some. The procurement section also provides advice on a myriad of procurement issues and assists in compiling tender documents for sections throughout the Council. In late 2010 a review of existing practices for the hire of plant & equipment through the LAQuotes system was undertaken. It was agreed that the LAQuotes system provided a useful service to the Council and simplified the procedure for the hire of items of plant for routine short term or maintenance works.

It is a basic tenet of public procurement that a competitive process should be used unless there are justifiably exceptional circumstances. Mayo Co Council has already established that significant savings can be generated by tendering for various goods and services by engaging in a competitive tendering process. The type of competitive process may vary depending on the size and characteristics of the contract to be awarded and the nature of the contracting authority. For contracts below the EU thresholds, we are obliged to ensure that they are awarded in accordance with the procedures set out in the Public Procurement Guidelines - Competitive Process (Supplies and Services) to the extent that this is practical and proportionate. 2010 has seen significant savings generated through an effective and efficient tendering programme.

Mayo County Fire Service

Mayo is a large rural County, which covers an area of 2,159 sq. miles and has a population of approximately 124,000 people, making it one of the largest fire authority areas in the country. Mayo County Fire Service, as one of the 37 fire authorities in the Country, serves this area.



It has an obligation, under the Fire Services Acts, 1981 and 2003, to make provision for the organisation of fire Services, Fire Safety, Fire Fighting, the protection and rescue of persons and property and related matters. Mayo County Council is the Fire Authority for the administrative area of County Mayo and the three Town Council areas of Castlebar, Westport and Ballina.

Fire Prevention

Fire Prevention Officers ensure that buildings are planned, designed, constructed and maintained in a safe manner from a fire safety point of view. There is a vast body of legislation under which the Fire Authority works; the two principal pieces of legislation are the Fire Services Acts, 1981 and 2003 and the Building Control Acts 1990 and 2007. The Fire Prevention Officers, who are engaged in this highly specialised work area, are also involved in the processing of, inter alia, the following:

Fire Safety Certificates	2007	2008	2009	2010
<i>Applications Received</i>	313	239	172	137
<i>Applications Invalid</i>	4	2	2	0
<i>Decisions Made</i>	277	253	139*	118
<i>Granted (With conditions)</i>	248	225	134	118
<i>Granted (Without conditions)</i>	28	27	5	0
<i>Applications Refused</i>	1	1	0	0

* 4 Local Authority developments included in this figure.

The Council also process Commencement Notice Applications, under of the Building Control Acts 1990 and 2007, within the Fire Service. The number of Commencement Notice Applications received and processed is as follows:

Commencement Notices	2007	2008	2009	2010
<i>Applications Received</i>	1366	994	579	415
<i>Applications Valid</i>	1277	921	565	410
<i>Applications Invalid</i>	89	73	14	5

Fire Prevention Officers also carry out inspections under Section 24 of the Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003. This legislation covers the licensing of public houses, hotels, dance halls, clubs, restaurants, gaming and lottery premises etc. The inspections carried out by the Fire Prevention Section are shown in the table below.

Inspection Category	2009	2010
<i>Section 24 Inspection (Licensing Applications)</i>	255	271
<i>Section 13 Inspection (Planning Applications)</i>	17	11
<i>Other Inspections</i>	107	77

Fire Service Operations

The Council currently employs approximately 121 fire fighters in 12 fire stations and 2 first-aid fire fighting units located around the County. These fire fighters deal with, on average, around 1200 incidents annually ranging from chimney fires, house fires, bog/forest fires, road traffic accidents, rescues, chemical spills and flooding.

In 2010, Mayo County Fire Service attended 1463 incidents, up 21.6% from 2009. This increase in activity is due to a significant increase in gorse, bog and forest fires.

While the number of such incidents increased significantly in most counties along the western seaboard counties Mayo, Galway, Donegal and Leitrim were the worst hit. A breakdown of the responses to incidents by brigades in Co Mayo is given in the table below.



Details of Incidents	2007	2008	2009	2010
Number of fires attended		713	673	732
<i>In own area</i>	687		651	706
<i>In other fire authority area</i>	26		22	26
Special Services Incidents		283	356	294
<i>Road traffic accidents</i>	164		243	194
<i>Water pumping / flooding</i>	23		14	13
<i>Water rescue</i>	10		5	6
<i>Other non-fire rescues</i>	22		7	11
<i>Haz-Mat in transit</i>	42		50	35
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	22		37	35
False alarms		175	186	177
<i>Malicious</i>	64		51	63
<i>Good intent</i>	111		135	114
<i>Total number of incidents</i>		1171	1215	1203

The 1463 incidents in 2010 resulted in 1703 fire brigade responses, i.e. actual fire brigades attending incidents. The 2010 figure represented an increase of 28.4% from that recorded in 2009, as shown below.

Fire Brigade Attendances	2007	2008	2009	2010
<i>Annual Attendance</i>	1323	1336	1326	1703
<i>% Annual Change</i>		+ 1.0%	- 0.75%	+ 28.4%

Fire Service Appliances



The Council took possession of one new four wheel drive jeep in 2010. This appliance went in operation with the Westport Fire Brigade fleet.

The new appliance stems from the continuous fire appliance fleet upgrading programme in the County, funded by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

Fire Service Retirements

In 2010, three members of the Council retired from the fire service. Details of the retirements are shown in the table below.

Rank	Name	Brigade	Details
<i>Station Officer(s)</i>	Frank Connolly	Castlebar	Retired 25 th October 2010 with over 34 years of service
<i>Sub-Station Officer(s)</i>	Frank Joyce	Claremorris	Retired 31 st March 2010 with over 30 years of service
	Maurice Ryan	Ballina	Retired 31 st July 2010 with over 36 years of service

CAMP West

2010 was the first full year that the CAMP West system and Service was fully operational throughout all the Fire Authorities in the West (Connaught and Donegal) Region. The CAMP West mobilisation software and communications network was also fully utilised by the Ambulance Service of counties Galway, Mayo and Roscommon, in their control centre located at St Mary's Hospital Castlebar.

The total call volume for CAMP West Control Centre in 2010 was 48,961 calls. The table below compares the increased call volumes year on year since 2007.

CAMP West Emergency Calls	2007	2008	2009	2010
<i>Incoming Calls</i>	14,905	17,566	21,547	28,425
<i>% Increase Incoming Calls</i>	11.1%	17.9%	22.7%	31.9%
<i>Outgoing Calls</i>	10,586	15,234	19,044	20,536
<i>Total Calls</i>	25,491	32,800	40,591	48,961

There represents an annual increase of almost 32% in incoming call volume activity compared with that recorded in 2009.

Much of this increased activity is explained by the fact that: -

- CAMP handled all 999/112 calls for Galway City Station area for the full 12 months of 2010, compared with only 10 months in 2009; and

- The significant number of calls received during the severe weather conditions during January and December 2010.

This call volume activity resulted in just over 7996 station turnouts to 7080 separate fire brigade emergencies throughout the region during 2010.

Civil Defence

Mayo Civil Defence is a voluntary organisation comprising of approximately 80 volunteers providing support to emergency services and local communities with highly trained members whose activities are valued by local communities and front line emergency services. The strength of the organisation lies in its voluntary ethos and commitment to purpose with its members willingly and freely giving of their time and expertise.

Mayo Civil Defence is committed to maintaining an environment that allows its members to carry out their duties, displaying a positive and professional image that reflects well on the organisation at all times.

This is part Grant Aided by the Civil Defence Board / Department of Defence.
The Civil Defence budget for 2010 was €167,00.00.

Mayo Civil Defence Resources

Volunteers	80
Vehicles	11
Boats	3
Command and Control Unit	1



All members receive training in the following areas:

- Pre hospital emergency care
- Auxiliary Fire Service
- Communications
- Rescue
- Water Rescue –Boat
- Welfare – Humanitarian services
- Search Management
- Radiation Emergencies

Highlights of Activity in 2010

Pre Hospital Emergency Care Council (PHECC) Qualifications

Mayo Civil Defence volunteers receive Pre hospital emergency care qualifications from the Pre Hospital Emergency Care Council. Volunteers are trained at the following levels in conjunction with the Civil Defence College, Roscrea.

- Cardiac First Responder
- Occupational First Aid
- Emergency First Responder
- Emergency Medical Technician



Community Support Activity

During 2010 Mayo Civil Defence attended 111 community events ranging from Equestrian sports, community festivals, adventure races and also supported pilgrims on Croagh Patrick on their July pilgrimage.



During the Big Freeze January and December 2010 Civil Defence Volunteers provided Humanitarian assistance to members of the public in conjunction with Mayo County Fire Service and the Health Service Executive and An Garda Síochána.

Regional Exercise –Castlebar 2010

As part of our National training plan we conducted a very successful exercise at Mitchell Barracks, Castlebar which involved all aspects of Civil Defence Services in which 4 Local Authorities, Sligo, Donegal, Monaghan and Galway were involved. The exercise was visited by Civil Defence Board and Executive members as well as members of Mayo Fire Service and Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Inspectors by which all aspects of the exercise were highly commended. Winners of the event Donegal went forward to the National Finals in September in Co Meath. Mayo Civil Defence had 40 volunteers involved at the event.





National Conference

The conference took place in Ballybofey, Co Donegal and the overall theme was 'Severe Weather Response', at the gala dinner the guest speaker was Mr. John Hume.



Mayo Civil Defence Information

If you would like to join Mayo Civil Defence or get more information visit www.civildefence.ie or contact Rose Doherty Civil Defence Officer on 094 9024400 / 087-9443634

Community & Integrated Development

The *Community & Integrated Development Directorate* of Mayo County Council provides a range of important and innovative interventions and services within the Local Government system. The section promotes and facilitates inclusive and integrated development and empowers communities through the promotion of new approaches to Community Development and community involvement. Community & Integrated Development also leads and facilitates the *County Development Board (CDB)* process on behalf of the Council and the Interdepartmental Government Task Force on Local Integration.

Some of the highlights of the areas of work covered by the Community and Integrated Development Directorate in 2010 included:

- A total of 120 people from rural areas were trained with funding received from the Benefit Programme (Dept Communications, Energy & Natural Resources) in the use of computers. The target audiences in 2010 were the unemployed, older people, rural women and those living in isolated areas. Additional training provision was carried out by the local LEADER / Partnership companies;
- The delivery of a programme of activities with Comhairle na n-Óg, which meets regularly at the same time as the County Council. The Comhairle na n-Óg is increasingly being called on as the representative body for the views of young people. There was also representation from Comhairle na n-Óg at the national Dáil na n-Óg;
- The ongoing roll-out of the Fiontar Chomhraic Fund which was established as a response to the closure of the ESB power station at Bellacorick. There has been significant interest in the Fund which aims to stimulate enterprise development in areas affected by the closure;
- The continued roll out of the Community Futures Initiative and the development of an innovative approach to addressing community needs through collaboration with the *Inspiration Station* initiative;
- A number of meetings of the Mayo Joint Policing Committee were held in 2010. Topics considered by the JPC included the issue of knife crime and the work of the Community Alert scheme.

Mayo County Development Board

Some of the highlights of the work carried out by Mayo County Development Board in 2010 include:

- A review of the operation of the various CDB working groups. This included agreeing new Terms of Reference for the groups, membership review and prioritisation of actions;
- A Networking & Review day which was held in November. This event proved to be particularly valuable in allowing a space to consider some key CDB successes, reflect on the main learning arising from these and identifying lessons for the future;

- Increased priority on the work of the Economic Working Group. This group began work on the production of a guide to enterprise support services in the County;
- The identification of the ‘youth-at-risk’ group as a priority for the work of the Social Inclusion Measures Working Group (SIMWG);
- The further development of the Mayo Science & Technology Festival. The *Mayo 2040* was a huge success as was the Open Day which attracted in the region of 3000 attendees;

Picture shows children engrossed in one of the exhibits at the Mayo Science & Technology Festival Open Day held in Castlebar in November. Over 3000 people attended the Open Day, which featured a wide range of exhibits, demonstrations and interactive shows.



- The Mayo Ideas Lab continued its work in the areas of supporting the innovation agenda with local industry, local animation, product development support, assistance with R&D funding applications. Ideas Lab priorities in 2010 included:

- Launch of an idea evaluation service;
- Mayo Ideas Week;
- GMIT Higher Certificate in Business in Enterprise;
- Entrepreneurship in Education project;
- ITILEE Project roll-out (enterprise training for unemployed people aged over 50);
- New Opportunities Roadshows;
- Digital Media Training;
- Engineers Week events.

Walking Development

There are currently over 100 Recreational Trails developed throughout Co Mayo. These trails were developed under the leadership of the County Mayo Walking Partnership Group, a sub-committee of Mayo County Development Board. This group consists of representatives from the local LEADER companies, Mayo Sports Partnership, Coillte, Fáilte Ireland, HSE West, Údarás na Gaeltachta and Mayo County Council. The variety of trails on offer are categorised under the following headings:

- National Loop Walks
- Long Distance Waymarked Ways
- Greenways

- Slí na Slainte
- Community walks / Trails
- Woodland
- Mountain / High Level Walks

Some of the most recent developments include the establishment of a total of twenty three National Loop Walks and the Great Western Greenway from Newport – Mulranny which opened in April 2010. Further information relating to all of the trail network is available from www.mayowalks.ie



*Walkers
along the
Great
Western
Greenway*

Mayo County Childcare Committee

2010 was another busy and effective year for Mayo County Childcare Committee. Highlights included:

- The successful seminar in Westport which was attended by over 220 childcare providers. The seminar provided childcare services with guidance and information regarding Siolta, Aistear (the national childcare frameworks and curriculums for 0-6 year old children) and childcare Regulation 5 and how all three tie into together;
- The work of the Childcare Committee was recognised nationally when the Road Safety Authority established ‘*Simon and Friends*’ as the national pre-school educational programme. Mayo CCC was the first organisation to bring this material to Ireland back in 2008 in collaboration with Mayo Road Safety Officer Noel Gibbons;

- The roll-out of the Free Pre School Year programme. There are currently 117 childcare services delivering the Free Pre School year in Mayo and over 2,000 children currently attending pre-school;
- Roll-out of the Childcare Employment Training Support scheme (CETS) which aims to meet the childcare needs of parents returning to education through FAS and VEC courses;
- Other childcare schemes which Mayo CCC also implements locally are the Childminders Development Grant and the Parent & Toddler Initiative grant scheme. Both schemes were delivered successfully during 2010;
- Mayo CCC continues to provide information on all aspects of childcare with a focus on information regarding the various childcare schemes referred to above. These schemes are all funded by the Office of Minister for Children & Youth Affairs. Mayo CCC is the local component in the delivery of these schemes. Mayo CCC provide information through our web site www.mayochildcare.ie , through our Newsletter, through information workshops and meetings and through general contact in our offices or out at meetings with individual childcare services. Information is provided mainly to childcare services, parents and agencies;
- The Childcare Committee works with many agencies and individuals to provide training to childcare services – 12 training courses were provided during 2010 (e.g. Buntus Start, 1st Aid, Using Music in your Pre School, Promoting Positive Behaviour, etc). There were 839 participants recorded at the various training events and over 125 referrals to other agencies who also deliver training.

*Beep Beep Road
Safety Day –
Training for Pre
School Groups*



Mayo Sports Partnership

Background

Established in November 2004 the Sports Partnerships main aim is to increase participation in sport and physical activity among all sectors of the community.

It has three main functions:

Information - To establish a consultation process with sport clubs and organisations and to identify their needs and resources. Initiate research and compile a sports directory. One stop shop for sport in Mayo.

Education- Provide quality opportunities for training courses for volunteers held locally.

Implementation - To develop sports policy within the county through a strategic plan for sport in Mayo and select participation programmes to suit local needs.

We are also involved in facilitating and co-ordinating a number of targeted programmes, projects and initiatives at local level. The Sports Partnership office managed by Sports Co-ordinator Charlie Lambert also contains Administrator Andrea Farrell, Sports Inclusion Disability Officer Ray Mc Namara and Community Sports Project Worker Anne Ronayne.

New Strategic Plan “Promoting an Active Mayo” Launched

Mayo Sports Partnership’s 2nd Strategic Plan for sport & physical activity “Promoting an Active Mayo” was launched by the Cathaoirleach of Mayo County Council Cllr Michael Burke in December. The strategic plan covers the time frame 2010 - 2014 and forms an integral part of the work of the Sports Partnership. Building on the successful implementation of the first plan 2006-2009 it will guide and focus the work of the Sports Partnership, outline the Partnership’s vision for sport / physical activity in the county, sets down goals and objectives over the next four years and identifies partners with which such goals and objectives can be achieved.

Four strategic themes have been identified in the strategic plan and they are as follows: 1) Increasing Participation, 2) Training & Education 3) Facilities and Amenities and 4) Communication and Co-ordination.

The Strategic Plan was the result of a six month process which commenced in April 2010 with extensive consultations undertaken with those with an interest or remit in sports provision in the county.

West of Ireland Womens Mini Marathon

It was a day to remember in Castlebar last May as thousands of women, runners and walkers, took over the picturesque Mall for the West of Ireland Womens Mini Marathon. Organised by the Western People and the Mayo Sports Partnership, the event surpassed even the most optimistic expectations with more than 3,000 ladies setting off on the 10 kilometre journey from the centre of Castlebar to Turlough village and back to the Mall.

There was a great fun element to the mini-marathon with families, groups of friends and workers all taking part in the event. Even a few males managed to gatecrash the female party by donning wigs and, in some cases, skirts and tights. Representatives of Castlebar Chamber of Commerce said the event had generated substantial revenue for the local economy, with many of the participants remaining in town long after the final walkers had crossed the finish line.

Many thanks to the many volunteers from local organisations who helped to make this happen. The 2011 event takes place on Sunday 1st May.

A section of the 3,000 participants setting off for the 10K West of Ireland Womens Mini Marathon



Significant other Achievements in 2010 included

- Developing and launching the 2nd Strategic Plan for Sport and Recreation in Mayo.
- Co-organised the Inaugural West of Ireland Womens Mini Marathon which attracted over 3,000 participants over the May Bank holiday in Castlebar.

- Launched an initiative “ Link2BActive” which provides jobseekers with opportunities to participate in sport and physical activity at discounted rates in 20 leisure / sporting facilities throughout the county.
- Co partner in a training programme “Goal to Work” which provides 12 jobseekers with the skills to become fully trained coaches and referees while also giving them personal development skills to assist them.
- The Active 55 participation project for older people is now active in 15 leisure and community facilities throughout Mayo with 300 participants. The project was showcased on national television as a project funded by the national lottery in the “Winning Streak” programme
- Co Partner in the inaugural “Westport Get Out There Adventure Festival” and organised the Festival of Sport Fun Day which alone attracted approx 2,000 people.
- Co organised with Walking Officer Anna Connor the Mayo in Motion Walking and Cycling Month which attracted 3,000 participants during June.
- Mr Jimmy Corbett, Carnacon Ladies GAA Club Manager was recognised as a National Sports Volunteer of the Year by the Department of Arts Sport and Tourism.
- €25,000 was allocated to 28 groups / organisations through our Special Participation Grant Scheme in 2010 with €6,000 allocated to athletic clubs involved with the West of Ireland Womens Mini Marathon.
- Facilitated the formation of a county wide Boccia league for people with a disability. 12 teams from all over the county with approximately 50 participants. In addition 30 people with a disability participated in an Adventure Sports day in Achill.
- Expanded the Women in Sport programmes to include Fit4Work a workplace physical activity programme (300 participants), Girls Active for teenage girls who do not participate in mainstream sport (100 participants in 5 schools), Community Fit Walk Programme and Summer 5K fun run / walk series (400 participants in 3 events).
- Facilitated the development of a “Mayo Cycle for Fun Series” which promoted leisure cycling in 4 different areas throughout the county with approx 250 participants.
- Completion of a very comprehensive volunteer training programme in 2010 attended by 319 volunteers. Courses included Child Protection in Sport, Occupational Sports First Aid, Go for Life and performance level volunteer training.



Westport Festival of Sport, organised as part of the Get Out There Adventure Festival in August 2010, proved to be a tremendous success with over 2,000 people participating in many events such as the above

Looking ahead to 2011, Chairman of Mayo Sports Partnership Cllr Henry Kenny stressed the need to support disadvantaged groups of the population including youth at risk, unemployed, travellers, disabilities, ethnic minorities etc.

“Projects such as the Moy Sports Network in Ballina, assisted by Anne Ronayne Community Sports Project Worker, will be key in the delivery of our new plan for the next 4 years. Local organisations such as resident groups, youth clubs, town council and the leader partnership will have a key role to play in these local networks”

The Sports Partnership office is situated at the Cedar Building (Beside Roadstone) Moneen, Castlebar however if you need more information contact the Partnership at 094-9047025,e-mail msp@mayococo.ie or log onto www.mayosports.ie



Participants going through some final kayaking instructions during the Outdoor Adventure Day for Disabilities in Achill Outdoor Education Centre May 2010

Mayo County Enterprise Board

Selective Financial Intervention

Since it was established in 1993, Mayo County Enterprise Board has approved just over €9.2 million in grant aid in favour of some 651 micro-enterprises throughout the County. To-date over €7.3 million has been paid out by the Board.

The provision of this support has assisted micro enterprises within the County in the creation and retention of **1151 full-time jobs**, as revealed in the annual employment survey undertaken in November 2010.

During 2010 a total of **€475,513** was approved in favour of **23 projects**, with a job creating potential of **68 full-time jobs**.

During the same period grant payments totalling **€429,409** were made to **27** separate projects located throughout the county.

Entrepreneurial Development and Capacity Building

Mayo County Enterprise Board has since 1993 provided business and management training to over 4,000 persons in County Mayo.



In 2010 Mayo County Enterprise Board received an allocation of €194,379 towards the delivery of its Soft Support Programme. This allocation has enabled the Board complete a number of programmes initiated in the year 2009 and also undertake an

extensive programme of training and support in 2010. In all 358 persons availed of the business training and advisory supports provided by Mayo County Enterprise Board during 2010.

Among the main initiatives undertaken were;

<u>Programme</u>	<u>Participants</u>
Start your Own Business Programme	81
Managing Finances Programme	27
Marketing Programme	20
One to One Business Advice & Mentoring	104
E-Commerce Support	39
One Day Workshops	<u>87</u>
	358

Student Enterprise

The Board organised and delivered the Student Enterprise Programme within the county. It offered enterprise training and guidance to all 26 second level schools.

In all a total of 1,133 students from all second level schools in the county received enterprise training.

As a result of the increased activity by the Board in this area some 95 students from 10 schools participated in the Mayo County final of the National Student Enterprise Awards.

St. Louis Community School, Kiltimagh represented Mayo in the senior section at the National Finals in Croke Park. Our representatives in the junior section were Our Lady's Secondary School, Belmullet.



Students from St. Louis Community School, Kiltimagh who represented Mayo at the National finals of the Student Enterprise Awards.

Arts Service

The county Arts service was set up in 1989 and is firmly based on the principles of quality, access, inclusion and long-term value. The service includes the following areas: information, promotion, advice, programming, planning and policy. It covers all art forms: music, visual arts, drama, dance, film, community arts, festivals and public art. The effectiveness of the service is maximised through networking and strategic partnerships, with emphasis on the integration of arts into everyday life.

Annually the service works with over 250 community groups and impacts directly on the lives of at least 30,000 people who attend events organized or funded through the Arts Office.

Through our annual programme which includes Bealtaine, Writer-in-residence programme, The Summer Music Series and EXCEL youth arts programme the office provides access to quality arts events for a large proportion of people in Mayo. These events are open to everyone, whatever their age, education or nationality.

Through partnership with local and national groups, agencies and organisations Mayo Arts Office has secured a very high reputation alongside its counterparts nationwide. These partnerships have been instrumental in the use of Mayo as a location for various projects that may otherwise have not been seen outside Dublin, Galway, Limerick etc.

The long-term value of the work is extremely important to the office. All large scale projects offer opportunities to community groups or interest groups to avail of training therefore leaving a legacy within the county.

Arts Information, Promotion and Advice

This advisory service is availed of by over 250 community groups, artists and arts organisations which regularly seek advice about arts events and sources of funding for their projects and programmes. Furthermore, the Arts office advises on grants for artists and Arts Acts grants which are available annually to any community or group wishing to run their own Arts-based event.

The arts office also circulates an email bulletin on a monthly basis updating activities that may be of interest to local communities and individuals. The update carries Mayo County Council Arts Service information, county-wide and national information regarding arts events and opportunities. This is an important focal information point for people working in the industry.

Arts Programme 2010

Mayo Arts Squad:

Established in 1997 with FÁS support, Mayo County Council's Arts Squad has continued to provide excellent training in community arts skills for fifteen participants (from a wide variety of backgrounds) annually. In 2010 the Arts Squad worked extensively with festivals throughout the county, with community groups, intercultural groups and with disabled people.



Installations, (New Ground 3), Feile na Tuaithe, May '10.

In May 2010, Mayo Artsquad were again invited by the National Museum of Ireland, Country Life, to participate in Feile na Tuaithe. This involved all of the Artsquad participants, arts workers from Mayo, the wider community and groups of disabled people siting original artworks in the grounds of the museum for the duration of the festival. Over 25,000 people attended the Feile in 2010.

Art in Education Programme:

The Arts Service offers six week co-funded arts programmes for national schools in the county, across all art forms: music, drama, dance, creative writing, visual art.

- In 2010, the arts office carried out 5 co-funded arts programmes in schools throughout the county.



Arts in schools workshop

- In Association with the Mayo Education Centre the Music Instruments for Children in Primary and Post-primary Schools Schemes continued successfully in

2010, with support workshops being offered through the arts office. Over eighty schools have now availed of this resource.

Mayo County Council School's Exhibition Programme:

- There are two exhibitions from the Mayo County Council collection which were collated especially for primary schools. These exhibitions are on loan to schools for up to six months. Support workshops are also provided through the arts office by artists included in the exhibitions and specially designed education packs are available for teachers and pupils. In 2010, the exhibitions went to three schools.

Literature:

Writer-in-residence programme:

In 2010, Mayo County Council's writer-in-residence was Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill who carried out an extensive programme of workshops and readings throughout the county. She worked with writer's groups and in schools and her tour included Belmullet, Castlebar, Claremorris, Ballina, Westport, Kiltimagh, Ballinrobe, Tourmakeady, Ballycastle and Ballindine.

All-Ireland Poetry Day:

Mayo County Council Arts Office, Library Service and Oifig na Gaeilge presented an evening of poetry with John F Deane and Anne Le Marquand Hartigan in Castlebar Library on October 7th as part of All Ireland Poetry Day 2010. This is the third year that the arts office has been involved in this initiative.

Arts for Older People:

Bealtaine:

Mayo County Council Arts Office runs an extensive, interactive programme for older people throughout the county during the month of May, to mark the annual festival which celebrates creativity in older age. In 2010 there were two major artists' residencies: Musicians Emer Mayock and Joe Byrne Go Visiting and a Dance Theatre of Ireland Residency. In addition, there were two major exhibitions arising from the Arts & Health Artist's Mentoring initiative. The 'Reflecting Colours' Exhibition of posters shown in shop windows in Westport and 'Dancing with Paint', a permanent exhibition in the Sacred Heart Home, Castlebar. Artists Tom Meskell and Aileen Lambert gave public talks about their public art projects in Aghagower and Ballindine/ Ballyhaunis and Knock and poet Tony Curtis gave a well-attended reading in Castlebar Library. The month was launched with a tea-dance at which The River Lee Jazz band played for members of Active Retirement Groups and residents of care homes around the county. Workshops and events were held with over 20 Active Retirement Groups and in care homes and 1,000 older people benefitted.



Emer Mayoock & Joe Byrne with Ballina Active Retirement Association, 2010

Artists Mentoring & Networking Programme:

Since 2004, six visual artists have been working on a weekly basis in Westport, Achill, Ballina, Swinford and Claremorris, mentored by artist Deirdre Walsh. The programme is nationally recognised and continues to provide weekly workshops for older people in the county and networking opportunities for the artists involved. Several successful exhibitions of this art work took place in 2010.

Public Art & Visual Art:

% for Art:

Mayo County Council has been one of the leading and most proactive Local Authorities in drawing down and using the % for Art scheme. Since 1989 over 80 commissions have been undertaken. Many new commissions actively engage with local communities leading to long-term engagement with an artist and artworks which are well-integrated into the fabric of a community.

New works completed 2010 include:

'Flow', by Joe Neeson, Ballina

- This artwork won a LAMA (Local Authority Member's Award) for being the best piece of art commissioned by a local authority in 2010.





'Pilgrimage', by Tom Meskell, Aghagower.

- The artist worked directly with members of the local community to create this artwork which was installed in the local church grounds and lit up, leading to spectacular results. It was launched in mid summer and was extremely well-received locally.

'In an attempt to find the right words', by James Hayes,

Belmullet Civic Centre

- The art work comprises over 2,000 bronze pencils which are embedded in the wall of the Belmullet Civic Centre. The artist included pencils donated by local people, school children, artists, architects and the wider community. An exhibition included texts submitted by the donators and a full record of the making and installation of the artwork.



Artist James Hayes giving a public talk about his work in Belmullet.

Works in Progress include:

'En Route', by Aileen Lambert, in Ballindine, Knock and Ballyhaunis

- The artist explored local places through personal associations, stories and memories of local routes including used and unused mass paths, short cuts across fields, old railway lines, pilgrimage routes, routes of old lanes and roads etc. The artist organised guided tours as part of the "En Route" project in Bekan, Tulrahan and Ballindine. With the assistance of local people, Aileen guided walkers through lanes, fields and paths rich in history. The contributions of local people both in the run up to and during the tours were integral to the success of the project. Documentation of local events along with maps and audio recordings feature on the website www.enroute.ie and in a booklet and accompanying CDs.

'Echo, Again', by Vivienne Roche, Kilkelly

'A Bigger Splash!', by Tim Redfern & Mark Cullen, Claremorris Swimming Pool

Mayo County Council Collection

This collection is comprised of works purchased through exhibitions within the county including paintings, batik, prints, small sculptural works, photographs etc. These artworks are hung in public buildings and are often loaned for exhibitions in Arts Centres and other contexts in the county. In 2010 an exhibition of photographs by Willem Vermassee documenting an artist-in-residence project from 1997, was shown in Ballina Arts Centre; titled 'O Cheann go Ceann, A Wave Of Emotion', it was accompanied by an extensive schools programme and was extremely well-received.

Theatre:

Mayo Youth Theatre:

Initiated in 1999, through the promotion and support of quality youth theatre, MYT provides access to drama for those aged 14 - 22. With 25 young members MYT continued to flourish in 2009 with weekly workshops. The group completed a film in late 2009 and had a very successful production in Ballina in April. They also participated in the NAYD festival in Wexford in July.

Music:

Summer Music Series:

Each July, the Arts Service provides a series of free concerts for the public. These are programmed in churches, community halls and open spaces, in order to promote diverse quality music, develop audiences for live music and provide access for communities.

In 2010, another excellent series of county-wide music events brought quality music to Westport, Charlestown, Ballyhaunis, Louisburgh, Ballina, Achill, and Belmullet. Over 2,500 attended. The international line-up included; Tarab, Lunfardia, The Irish Chamber Choir, Cadenza, The Lost Brothers, Gráda and the Artis Quartet.

Whistleblast Quartet:

This partnership project (funded by the Arts Council, National Concert Hall and Mayo County Council), successfully completed fifteen interactive music education programmes in Mayo this year. Each programme culminated in a performance for the wider community, including the children who had been involved. The response from schools and communities has been tremendously positive.

Community Music Project:

Initiated in 2004, this community music initiative is funded by Mayo County Council and Mayo VEC. The project encourages people of all ages to become involved in music, often using instruments which may have been left unused in their attics. The project is facilitated by musician John Hoban. In 2010 groups were facilitated in Derrada, Keenagh, Achill and Westport. Participants included disabled people and refugees.

Resurgam Choral Residency:

Internationally recognised choral ensemble Resurgam completed a wonderful choral residency in November 2010 (see also EXCEL programme). They worked with five school choirs and gave a well-attended open choral workshops for adults (over 80 attendees). The residency culminated in a free concert at Ballintubber Abbey where Resurgam were joined by members of Mayo's choirs singing songs of freedom and justice.



Resurgam choral workshop with Mayo Choirs, November 2010

Youth Arts Programme:

The Arts Service runs a youth arts programme in November annually, which specifically addresses the needs of teenagers. Specialist provision and masterclasses are offered to groups already involved in the arts: orchestras, choirs, bands, students wishing to pursue a career in theatre or visual art, drama groups etc. Also opportunities to try out a new art form are provided.. In 2010, Resurgam completed a very successful Choral residency working with 5 secondary school choirs. Also a Creative Careers day was held at the TF theatre where a wide ranges of professionals gave advice on careers in the arts and creative industries. Approximately 2,000 young people benefit annually.

Disability Arts Programme:

Mayo County Council Arts Office is very proactive in the area of disability and the arts. A number of long-term, equality-based projects are funded annually.

- In addition, where possible, opportunities to include disabled people are sought so that groups of disabled people are invited to participate in other programme strands. For example, the New Ground residency involved community artists, communities, Cranmór group (LUISNE) from Ballinrobe, The HSE Rural Training Centre, Castlebar and the general public in a holistic event in May.
- Force 12 Writer in residence also includes disabled groups such as the Dolmen Clubhouse and the festival welcomes participants to the readings and workshops in June.
- Mayo County Council's Artsquad is also inclusive in ethos and up to 40% of participants are registered disabled.
- The Arts Office also funds series of workshops with disabled groups.

LUISNE

The LUISNE project is a visual arts project which began in 2004. The purpose of this project is to provide quality artistic experience for a group of service users of the Crann Mór Resource Centre operated by the Western Care Association. The project is funded by Western Care and Mayo County Council, with administrative and other supports provided by TACÚ. In 2009 a website was developed, www.artluisne.com, a major exhibition was held in the Linenhall (with catalogue) and two smaller exhibitions followed in Ballina and Foxford.

Altered Images:

A major, groundbreaking visual arts project developed by Mayo County Council in partnership with South Tipperary County Council and the Irish Museum of Modern Art, supported by the Arts Council. The partners presented a new and unique approach to exhibiting visual arts. Altered images is an interactive exhibition which toured to South Tipperary (June & July 09), Mayo (August & September 09) and was launched in IMMA, Dublin (June to September 2010).



Altered Images exhibition in Ballina.

Using an innovative approach - including audio descriptions, three dimensional interpretations of paintings, sound art and an interactive website (www.alteredimages.ie) - the project attempts to engage new audiences for the first time, using

a multi sensory approach. The catalogue for the exhibition was also produced in accessible formats (audio CD, Braille, large print).

Arts & Disability Networking Pilot:

In a developmental partnership, The Arts Council, Mayo County Council Arts Office and Arts & Disability Ireland worked intensively in 2009 to deliver a pilot programme for Arts and Disability. The programme has delivered a number of strategic goals including and is now being replicated in further local authorities.

A publication produced by the partners was launched in December 2010. Titled 'A shift in perspective', it is a national resource pack for the arts sector in best practice for engagement with People with Disabilities in the visual arts, theatre and arts venues.

Culture Night:

The Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism and Templebar Cultural Trust extended an invitation to Mayo County Council to participate in Culture Night in 2009. In a unique take on the event, Culture Night in Mayo was county wide. In 2010

participation was extended to 15 organisations/venues including Áras Inis Gluaire in Belmullet, Ballina Arts Centre, Ballinglen Arts Foundation in Ballycastle, Custom House Studios in Westport, Linenhall Arts Centre in Castlebar, The Jackie Clarke Library & Archives, the National Museum of Ireland – Country Life, Claremorris Open Exhibition, Mayo Artsquad and six independent galleries in Westport under the Blink visual art initiative. Over 1,500 people attended the free events programmed on the evening.



Mayo Artsquad on Culture Night, 2010

Arts Grants

The Arts Office provides a wide variety of grants for both professional and non-professional practitioners in all art forms.

- Arts Acts Grants (14 grants ranging from €500 to €5,250)
- Visual Arts awards (4 exhibition assistance and 9 materials assistance awards)
- MCC Tyrone Guthrie Awards (2 awards)
- Amateur Drama Awards (1 award)
- Music Recording Assistance Awards (2 awards)

Networking and Partnerships

Partnership Projects:

A number of arts organisations receive annual funding on a partnership basis with Mayo County Council. The professional contribution of these organisations towards the strategic development of the arts in the county is recognised and supported by Mayo County Council: The Linenhall Arts Centre (Castlebar), The Heinrich Boll Cottage (Achill), Yew Tree Theatre Company (Ballina), Ballina Arts Events (Ballina), Custom House Studios (Westport), Feile Iorras International Folk Arts Festival (Belmullet), Ballinglen Arts Foundation (Ballycastle) and Áras Inis Gluaire (Belmullet Arts Centre). In 2010, €160,000 was dispersed to assist these venues with their programmes.

Other Partnerships:

Partnerships with other agencies are crucial to continued outreach and success. The Arts Service has developed good working partnerships with: other LA arts offices, Western Care Association, FÁS, Health Service Executive Western Area, Age & Opportunity, The Arts Council, Mayo Education Centre & Schools, Sacred Heart Hospital, Community Development Projects, Mayo VEC, Údarás Na Gaeltachta, Irish Writer's Centre, Irish Music Rights Organisation and Neighbour Youth Projects among others.

Summary

The Arts Service will continue to support artists and arts practitioners who live and work in Mayo in order to maximise their creative potential. The support of those who make art and are involved in the arts, at whatever level, continues to be the core of a progressive and responsive service.

Mayo County Library Service

In 2010 Mayo County Library will have lent half a million books to 25,000 members. This represents an increase in usage of almost 10%. The library also provides a school library service, a family history service, and a wide ranging programme of cultural events every year. In addition new services such as downloadable books, a FAS eLearning service, online newspapers and a HSE reading scheme have been added during the year. A new library for Swinford also commenced construction in 2010. Mayo libraries are attracting 260,000 visits per year which is far in excess of any other cultural or heritage organisation in the county.



Enda Kenny presenting his vast collection of Dail debates to Mayo County Library

Cultural Programme

Mayo Library runs an extensive cultural programme which is expanding annually. In 2010 over 300 events were held in libraries in

the county. Highlights included:

CASTLEBAR LIBRARY

Regular computer sessions for the Adult Learning Network, the elderly and REHAB students are held in the library.

'Through a Swedish Lens', Images of early 20th century Irish life from the National folklore collection UCD.

The Open University Information Evening

A Story-hour is held every Wednesday

Brent Pope – talk in library

Castlebar Book Club meets in the library every month.

Darwin, Praeger and the Clare Island Survey Exhibition

Engineering as a career – talk for students

Poetry reading with Tony Curtis

The Famine in Mayo – exhibition

Book Launch 'Victory or Glorious Defeat' by John Mulloy

Book Launch 'Cathal can sign' - a book of Irish sign language by Brenán Mooney

"Maritime Ireland" - exhibition for **Heritage Week**

'Western Sahara: Footsteps towards Freedom', exhibition by Bryan Duffy.

Exhibition for European Mobility Week on sustainable travel

Castlebar Volunteer Group Information Display

All Ireland Poetry Day 2010, readings from John F. Deane and Anne Le Marquand Hartigan

Senator David Norris in conversation

'Healing Visions' Book Launch, by Katherine Cannon

National Gallery Arts workshop – from the gallery's outreach programme

Online sources for local history- talk and workshop given by library staff



Launch of The Famine in Mayo exhibition by Michael Burke Cathaoirleach to mark the National Famine Commemoration 2010

BALLINA LIBRARY

Numerous arts exhibitions held in library

Ballina Music Circle meets monthly in the library

The Stitch & Bitch Knitting Circle meet every Tuesday night in the library

The Active Retirement Musicians group use the library as a venue to practice

Free **computer courses** for Over 55's in the library

Flower arranging demonstration and talk by Richard Delmer

Club Vibe, a neighbourhood youth, project launched their new music CD in the library

Art Exhibition by Noel Hanley

Children's Active Citizen Art Challenge Exhibition

'Tracing your family tree in Mayo on-line', a talk by Ger Delaney from the South Mayo Family Centre

Grow It Yourself Ireland-meeting and talk by Niall Allister

Nuala Ni Dhomhnaill reading

'Reach Out, Choose Life' HSE suicide awareness project

The Famine in Mayo, Graphic Exhibition

Ballina Salmon Festival -library street exhibition

Launch of street sculpture entitled **'Flow'**and exhibition

Photographer **Tracy Rees** displayed an exhibition of her work

The Sacred Heart Missionary Exhibition

'A Walking Tour of Ballina', talk by Terry Reilly

Creative workshop, presented by ImagineGYM

Arts workshop – from the National Gallery of Ireland's Outreach programme

Road safety for children, a talk by Noël Gibbons, Mayo Road Safety Officer

WESTPORT LIBRARY

Aspects of Mayo Heritage, talk by Anthony Nugent

Art Exhibition by a group of local amateur artists

Heritage Garden Exhibition - Westport Civic Trust

Art and Design Exhibition by students of Carrowbeg College

Tir na nOg Playschool, Art Exhibition
Smarter Travel Live Better Schools Exhibition
Children's Puppet Show, as part of Westport Arts Festival
Westport Arts Festival Exhibition by Austrian artist Ursula Janig
ICA Photographic Exhibition

OTHER EVENTS

- Story hours for children and book clubs are run in most branches
- Achill Healthy Ageing Day– Achill library
- "A Night of Carols"- Ballinrobe Library
- Launch of musical society new show "Come the Dawn in Ballinrobe Library
- Creative Writing Workshop as part of Raifteiri Festival, Kiltimagh library
- Storytelling and music with Rosie McCabe – Crossmolina
- Series of Irish language lessons – Crossmolina
- Talk on wildlife with wildlife ranger - Crossmolina

EACHTRAI CULTURTHA

Le h-aghaidh Seachtain na Gaeilge I mi Mharta, eagraíodh eachtraí eagsula tre mheán na Gaeilge i leabharlanna tríd an chontae.

Ina measc bhí:

- Dramaíocht le Rosaleen Ní Shuilleabháin - *Caisleán a' Bharraigh* agus *Cathair na Mart*
- Children's Juggling as Gaeilge- *Béal an Átha*
- Sean Nos dancer Eimear O'Suilleabhán workshop - *Béal an Átha*
- *Leitheoireachta le* Patricia Forde & Ailbhe Mac Ghiolla - *Caisleán a' Bharraigh* agus *Béal an Átha*
- Jenny Mulvey ag leamh - *Baile an Róba* agus *Clar Chlainne Mhuiris*
- Laura Ní Éanacháin ag déanamh liathróidí as plúr agus balúnaí le na páistí- *Coillte Mach*
- Ceardlann drámaíochta sa leabharlann le Lochlann Ó Mearáin - *Cathair na Mart*
- Comórtaisí do pháistí scoile - *Caisleán a' Bharraigh*
- Taispeántas Leabhar Gaeilge – *Cathair na Mart*
- "Ciorcal Craic": Comhra, amhrán agus an cupán tae - *Crois Uí Mhaoilíona*

The library also supports numerous festivals and cultural initiatives throughout the county including:

- The Mayo Folklore Society
- The Westport Arts Festival
- The John Healy Weekend

- The Admiral Browne Project
- The Sogroo Festival Charlestown
- The Sonas Festival in Louisburgh
- Mayo County Child Care Committee
- Mayo Women's Refuge
- Kiltimagh Raiftieri Festival

Children's Programme

The library runs a wide range of events for children throughout the year from story hours and competitions to author visits and workshops. The highlight of the year is the month-long Children's Book Festival in October which comprises 80 events attended by over 3000 children including:

- Visit by internationally renowned children's writer Darren Shan
- Puppet shows
- Pet care demonstration
- Writing workshops
- Library Quizzes
- Keep fit for kids

Children's author Darren Shan talks to packed Castlebar Library during children's book festival.



Other children's events included:

- **Summer Reading Challenges** for children were organised in Achill, Crossmolina, Claremorris,

Castlebar, Kiltimagh and Ballyhaunis. The children were challenged to read at least 10 books over the summer. Many read up to twenty books and received certificates.

- Library tours for school children are run in most branches



Children receive their Summer Reading Challenge certificates from Michael Burke Cathaoirleach

ICT Initiatives

MAYO NEWSPAPERS ON-LINE

The library launched the Mayo Newspaper Archive On-line in 2009. In 2010 the entire run of the Connaught Telegraph from 1828 was made available online. The entire *Western People* from 1889, *The Mayo News*, *The Ballina Herald*, *The Ballinrobe Chronicle* and *The Western Journal* are now available online in all library branches.

FACEBOOK AND EZINE

Mayo Library is now providing up-to-the minute information on its events and services on Facebook. The library also produced its first electronic magazine in 2010 which it will send to over 3000 homes on a regular basis.

IRISH TOURIST ASSOCIATION SURVEY ONLINE

In the early 1940s a survey was conducted in County Mayo on a parish by parish basis in an effort to promote tourism in the West of Ireland. The surveyors' files are now preserved in the library. They include information regarding the history and topography of each parish, sporting provisions, holiday amenities, photographs, local industry and general information about the various villages. The survey is now also available online at www.mayolibrary.ie.

DIGITAL AUDIO BOOKS

Mayo County Library now provide a Digital Audio Books service which allows members to listen to a book anywhere. These are books stored on a compact player that is small, light and portable. They are also suitable for people with failing sight or visual impairments or for language learners.

WIFI

Wifi is now available in many library branches. This facility allows members of the public to use their own laptops to work on the Internet in libraries. In 2010 Wifi access was provided in Ballyhaunis, Ballinrobe, Kiltimagh, Belmullet and Swinford libraries to add to the previous installations in Castlebar, Ballina, Westport and Claremorris.

FÁS ELEARNING AT THE LIBRARY

'FÁS eLearning at the Library' is a new programme that allows people to learn in their own home or in the library. The aim of the programme is to upskill participants in IT skills. A facilitator is available in the library to deliver workshops and support learners to progress through a suite of online courseware. The programme is open to all learners (over 18 years) and is free of charge and is available in Ballina, Castlebar and Swinford libraries.

COMPUTERS FOR THE ELDERLY

A series of Introduction to Computers classes are held in most library branches as part of the Bealtaine festival. Adult Learning Groups also use the libraries in Castlebar, Ballina, Kiltimagh, Belmullet and Claremorris weekly to learn basic computer skills.

MAYO GENEALOGY ONLINE

Mayo County Library, in conjunction with the Mayo Family History centres, now provides a genealogical service on the library web site. This facility provides access to the millions of family records held on the centres' databases for library users. The service was enhanced with additional records in 2010.

BORROWBOOKS, an online library loans service which allows Mayo readers to borrow books from anywhere in Ireland continues to be hugely popular.

MAPBROWSER

A new version of Mayo Maps Online was introduced in 2010 with many new features providing enhanced access to the 1838 Ordnance Survey maps, Bald's map of Mayo and maps of the Lynch-Blosse estates covering the Balla-Claremorris area.

POSTCARDS OF MAYO

Mayo County Library now provides online access to its historical postcard collection showing views of Mayo towns from the early to mid 20th century.

MICHAEL DAVITT EXHIBITION ONLINE

In 2010 the library created a graphic exhibition on the life and times of Michael Davitt on its website.

JSTOR IRELAND COLLECTION

Mayo County Library is now offering free online access to the JSTOR Ireland Collection in all of its libraries. The content in this collection covers a wide range of disciplines, including music, art, history, literature, archaeology, sociology, mathematics, and science, among many others. Ceased rare periodicals essential to the study of Ireland's cultural and political life will be found alongside journals publishing vital contemporary scholarship in their fields.

Antiquarian map of Clew Bay (1812) acquired by the library service in 2010.



Acquisitions

The library purchased over 20,000 books in 2010 including the following:

- *Coming Home: Stories of people who left Ireland as young men and women and, after many years in exile closed the circle of emigration by coming home again.* Compiled by Frances Bowner . Published by 'Safe Home' Mulranny.
- *Victory or Defeat: Biographies of participants in the Mayo Rebellion of 1798.* Ed. By Sheila Molloy. Published by Carrowbaun Press 2010
- *Crossing the Channel: An amazing adventure* by Fr. Sean Noone. Erris Publications 2009.
- *Tuar Mhic Eadaigh: Stair agus Seanchas le Padraig Standun* 2010.
- *Fitzgerald-Kenney Estate: Catalogue of the contents of Clogher at sale in April 1967.*
- *The West and Connemara* by Mr. and Mrs. Hall 1853.
- *The Dolmens of Ireland* by William Copeland Borlase 1897.
- *A Tour in Ireland with meditations and reflections* by James Johnson 1844.
- *The Art Journal 1907* (includes views of Ballina, River Moy, Lough Cullin, Turf-cutters at Castlebar, Westport, Clew Bay, Achill, Dugort Bay and Cong).
- *Ordnance Survey Letters Mayo 1838.* New Edition edited by Michael Herity 2009.
- *Rental Records of the Earl of Lucan's Estate: Aghlish, Kilmaclasher, Kilmeena, Aghagower, Oughaval, Kilgeever, Turlough & Breaffy. 1834-1839 & 1848-1873.*

Donations

- *Kilmaine Agricultural Society's Show* 19th September, 1946 (programme copy donated by Christy Doherty, Kilmaine).
- *Kiltimagh Remembered* Vol. 1, 2010. Donated by the author Basil Burke.
- A collection of nineteenth century newspaper illustrations including several of events in the West of Ireland during the Land War. The donor is Maggie Land Blanck, New York. This gift augments the substantial collection previously donated by Ms. Blanck to Mayo County Library.

- *From the Plain of the Yew Tree*: The lifetime journey of a County Mayo musician. Donated by the author John Hoban. Donation includes six music C.Ds.
- Thesis on *The History of Mayo County Library* service donated by author Margaret Mulloy.

Mayo Science and Technology Festival

To mark Mayo Science and Technology Festival in November the library ran **Anyone for Science** a series of workshops that introduces a hands-on approach to science in the classroom. The library also held a stand at the Science Week exhibition at the TF Royal Hotel.

Healthy Reading Scheme

The library service is currently running a **Mayo Healthy Reading Scheme**. This is an initiative designed to guide individuals in their choice of self-help book which can then be used in tandem with treatment made by a health professional. This scheme is an initiative developed by the HSE and Mayo County Library.

School's Library Service

As the Dept. of Education no longer funds the school library service it will be run down over the next three years. Mayo Library will continue to provide a Special Needs Service to teachers and children experiencing literacy difficulties. The need and demand for this area of the service far outstrips supply as evidenced by a further 54% increase in SEN resources lent to schools between 2009 and 2010.

In keeping with this goal to facilitate increased literacy levels in Mayo, the collaborative literacy focused intervention project between Mayo County Library and the HSE West Speech & Language Therapy Service has continued to develop and expand. In 2010 a collection was created in Ballina and Westport Libraries.

Jackie Clarke Library

The Jackie Clarke Collection continued to be promoted during the year as work began on the bank Building that will house the collection. In January the collection was nominated for a LAMA award and a €7,000 grant for conservation was secured from the Heritage Council. In March a highly successful promotional visit to New York was undertaken with the highlight being a talk on the collection at the American Irish Historical Society. During this visit a major donation of family papers was made by Patrice Kane, Librarian, Fordham University. These papers relate to her family in Belmullet and their emigration to the US. The collection was also featured on a radio

documentary by PRI's *The World* (the BBC world service in the US) which was transmitted across the US on St Patrick's Day.

The collection was open to the public during Heritage Week, Culture Night and the Halloween Weekend as part of a Ballina Tourism initiative. During 2010 visitors included Síle de Valera and the 16-91 Club from Dublin. A Fás training program was started and an Archivist/ Supervisor was appointed in September 2010. Fáilte Ireland provided a major grant towards the housing and display of the collection in November.

The library also won a Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Award.



Sheila de Valera with Mayor of Ballina and library staff on a visit to the Jackie Clarke Library

Heritage

The Mayo Heritage Office promotes enhanced levels of awareness and understanding, leading to a greater appreciation and conservation, of the natural, built and cultural heritage of County Mayo. The ongoing implementation of the *County Mayo Heritage Plan* contributes to the fulfillment of our commitments under the National Heritage Plan, the National Biodiversity Plan and the National Climate Change Strategy. A number of key Heritage Plan Projects were undertaken in 2010, in addition to the ongoing work of the heritage office, details of which are outlined below. Mayo County Council allocated a budget of €75,000 towards Heritage Plan Projects in 2010, of which €48,800 was recouped from The Heritage Council.

Review of the County Mayo Heritage Plan

The first ever County Mayo Heritage Plan was adopted in 2006, this five-year plan is a strategic, cross-agency strategy which provided the basis for the identification, investigation, interpretation, promotion, protection, preservation, conservation and enhancement of County Mayo's natural, built and cultural heritage. It sets out a strategy for the management of heritage resources and landscapes in a sustainable manner. The review of the Heritage Plan and the formulation of Mayo's second Heritage Plan commenced in 2010. The Heritage Forum met in June and agreed to review the plan; three working groups were established dealing with (i) Archaeological/Cultural Heritage, (ii) Biodiversity/Natural Heritage and (iii) Built Heritage. A pre-draft public consultation period of 8 weeks was held during September/October. Following this a draft Heritage Plan was prepared, the consultation period for which runs from February to April 2011.

Mulranny Village Design Statement (VDS)

It is an objective of the Mayo County Development Plan 2008-2014 to prepare Village Design Statements (VDSs) for villages in the county, as appropriate. Mulranny, with its distinctive identity and setting, had been identified as a key village for which a VDS is required, to ensure that future development is responsive to the village's distinctive character and has regard to its surrounding landscape and ecology. Mulranny's unique natural coastal environment, its scenic and rural character and significant railway heritage are all important elements of the village's heritage. The Mulranny community is currently involved in the *Community Futures Programme*, and as such is collectively engaged in looking to its future. The village has become somewhat of a 'walking hub' in the county with loop walks and links to the Western Way, and its location along the recently opened Great Western Greenway. However, despite its many natural and built heritage assets, the village lacks public open space and also car parking and footpaths.



Village Character Workshop held to inform preparation of Mulranny VDS

The Mulranny draft VDS, prepared in consultation with the local community, aims to guide the design of future development in the village, so that it compliments the village's unique heritage assets. It represents a vision for the future of Mulranny, one that is shared by the residents of Mulranny,

local community groups and Mayo County Council and is a tool to enhance the village character in a positive way. The draft VDS was put on display for a period of 8 weeks. When finalised, it will be presented to the elected members of Mayo County Council for adoption.

Mayo Heritage Farm Building Survey

A survey of Heritage Farm Buildings was undertaken in 2010 with support from the Heritage Council. The decision to embark on a county wide survey of farm buildings stemmed from the need to record for posterity building types that are under threat or may soon be lost. It is important to record this historic farm architecture which was largely built from the late eighteenth century to the late nineteenth century. This project assessed the extent, quality and character of farm buildings in Mayo, and a detailed survey of a cross section of these was compiled. A representative sample of farms was selected for detailed survey where the authenticity and integrity of the surviving fabric was considered important.

The main purpose of the survey is to identify the most significant and threatened aspects of Mayo's agricultural architectural heritage. This information is required to ensure that the most significant buildings in this category can be protected, through the planning process, from demolition or unsympathetic development. The aim of the documentary survey was to identify and collate information on historical elements such as maps and drawings. A desktop survey was carried out of the designed landscapes of Mayo to identify farm buildings of a larger nature.



A sample of Farm Buildings recorded in the Mayo Heritage Farm Building Survey at Roundfort (left) and Rockfleet (right).

A field survey was carried out to supplement the desktop survey of the larger country estates and to identify the more modest vernacular farm buildings dotted around the countryside. The resulting inventory includes a written description of all recorded structures and features, a photographic record, current location data, 1st edition OS Map and an appraisal of significance and condition. All structures are grid referenced for inclusion on the Mayo County Council GIS. Structures such as barns, cow houses, dovecotes, granaries, hay barns, houses for poultry, lofts, shelter sheds, stables and sties are recorded and associated elements such as gates, gate posts and lime kilns are noted. Approximately 160 sites were identified. The survey acts as a permanent record of some of the farm building heritage of the county.

Local Heritage and Living Landscape Course

Mayo County Council in partnership with Mayo North East Leader, with support from the Heritage Council, ran a *Local Heritage and Living Landscape* Course in 2010. This course which was developed and run on a pilot basis in 2009, in partnership with South West Mayo Development Company, proved to be very successful, and it was decided to run the course again in 2010. The aim of the course is to raise awareness of local heritage, promote best practice in heritage conservation and management and to encourage and facilitate the development of community-based heritage projects. The focus of the eight-week course was on the importance of identifying appropriate ways to ensure long-term benefits for communities and landscape in their interaction with the natural, cultural and built heritage.



Local Heritage & Living Landscape Course Participants on Natural Heritage Field Trip (left) and Archaeological Heritage Field Trip (right)

The course was attended by representatives of ten communities from the north east Mayo area and ran over eight evenings, with two Saturday field trips. A diverse range of heritage topics was explored in the course ranging from the cultural and historical value of churches and graveyards to gateposts and shop fronts to potato ridges and house styles. Techniques for recording local and natural heritage, and recognition of landscape type together with its impact on both human habitation and biodiversity, were covered by lectures delivered by experts in their fields. The two fieldtrips were particular highlights, which included visits to a number of archaeological and natural heritage sites in north east Mayo.

An integral part of the course is that each community was required to plan and undertake a local heritage project within their community. To ensure that projects will be viable and sustainable, it is essential for them to be embedded within the communities. Course participants have been implementing these heritage projects within their own communities with the aim of fostering an interest in and recognising the importance of local heritage and landscape.

Heritage Booklet Series

Many surveys on various aspects of Mayo's natural, architectural and archaeological heritage have been undertaken during the lifetime of the current Heritage Plan. The results of these surveys are in report form. To mark the end of the first Heritage Plan a selection of these surveys are currently being published and a series of heritage information booklets will be produced. These booklets will not only raise awareness of the various aspects of heritage in the county but will also raise awareness of the Heritage Plan itself. Booklets that are currently being prepared include a Mayo Vernacular Architecture booklet and a Mayo Hedgerow booklet. When published, the booklets will be available for distribution through the heritage office, local libraries, local area and planning offices and tourist offices. In addition, a biodiversity booklet for schools is also currently being compiled which will provide primary school teachers and pupils with an introduction to the habitats of the county and easy-to-use identification key to the most common species they are likely to encounter as they study the habitats around them. It also includes ready to use lesson plans and materials covering the main habitats in Mayo and deals with some of the main issues relating to biodiversity.

Mayo Local Biodiversity Action Plan

The *Mayo Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2014* was adopted by Mayo County Council in November 2010. The plan provides a framework for conservation of biodiversity at the local level. The main objectives of the plan are to (i) Increase awareness, understanding and appreciation of Mayo's biodiversity and natural heritage; (ii) Collect and make accessible biodiversity/ natural heritage information and (iii) Promote best practice in natural heritage management and conservation. The Plan will be launched in 2011.

Biodiversity Training Programme for Local Authority Staff

A key action of the Mayo Local Biodiversity Action Plan 2010–2015 is to develop and deliver a Biodiversity Training Programme for staff of the Mayo Local Authorities to ensure that biodiversity is integrated into the role and function of the local authority, including in the formulation of Development Plans and Local Area Plans, development control, infrastructure delivery and maintenance and other services. Following an audit of key services delivered by Mayo County Council and the three Town Councils, and consultation with key staff within various departments and sections a training programme was developed. This training programme was delivered over five days in early 2010 to relevant staff from the following sections: Roads, Planning, Housing, Environment, Architects, Library and Community and Enterprise. This project was funded by The Heritage Council under the Local Biodiversity Action Plan Fund.

Control of *Gunnera tinctoria* on Achill and Clare Island

Mayo County Council has been involved in research on the control of *Gunnera tinctoria*, or giant rhubarb as it is commonly known, since 2006. In 2009, Mayo County Council, in partnership with the National Botanic Gardens obtained funding from the Heritage Council to undertake an intensive programme of *Gunnera* control on Clare Island. This intensive control programme was continued in 2010. A team of volunteers from all over the world arrived on Clare Island for 2 weeks in July 2010 to tackle the remaining infested areas of the island. In addition, Mayo County Council, in partnership with local communities in Achill, undertook an intensive programme of control in various areas of the island, which were heavily infested with *Gunnera*. *Gunnera* control demonstration events were organised on Achill and Blacksod. The aim of these events was to practically demonstrate the most effective way of treating and controlling the plant.



Practical demonstration on how to control Gunnera, Achill Island (left); Treating Gunnera on Achill (middle) and treating Gunnera on Clare Island (right)

Launch of *Wild Mayo*

Wild Mayo, written by Michael Viney and edited and produced by the Heritage Office highlights the importance and richness of natural heritage in Co. Mayo. This publication, aimed at locals and visitors alike celebrates the natural heritage and landscape diversity of County Mayo and details the species to be found in a wide range of habitats found in the county. The book was launched in July by poet Paul Durcan in the Courthouse in Castlebar Over 1200 copies of the book were sold during 2010.



*Launch of *Wild Mayo* in the Courthouse, Castlebar*

National Famine Commemoration Programme of Events

The National Famine Commemoration was held in Murrisk on 16th May 2010. In tandem with this occasion, a series of cultural events, organised by the Heritage Office in conjunction with Westport Town Council, took place locally in the week leading up to the Commemoration. Events included an evening of music and readings by author and songwriter Brendan Graham, accompanied by Cathy Jordan of Dervish; a talk on the legacy of the Great Famine on the landscape of the west of Ireland by archaeologist Michael Gibbons; and a lecture on Famine and its affect on the world today by John O'Shea of GOAL.

Mayo Heritage Website

The Mayo heritage website is continually updated and expanded with information on all aspects of heritage in the county. In addition, details of projects being undertaken and heritage events taking place in the county are provided.

Mayo Heritage Calendar 2010



A Mayo Historic Bridges Calendar was published in 2010. The calendar which contains images of historic bridges throughout the county, aimed to highlight this aspect of our built heritage and to showcase what is but a small sample of these wonderful structures.

Areas addressed by the Heritage Officer on an ongoing basis include:

- Input into the preparation of the Local Area Plans, Strategies, Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) etc
- Preparation of Habitats Directive Assessments as required under Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive.
- Provide support and advice to Development Control
- Support the Planning Enforcement Section, when requested
- Provide advice to Road Design Section as requested
- Provide advice to owners and occupiers of protected structures
- Advise public and council staff on heritage-related matters
- Provide advice to Mayo Leader Companies on heritage issues.
- Provide advice to community groups undertaking “Graveyard clean-up” schemes
- Provide advice and assistance to individuals, community groups, Rural Social Scheme supervisors and participants, and Tidy Towns Groups in relation to Local Heritage Projects

- Promote Heritage Council Local Heritage Grant Programme and provide advice to community groups on applications as required
- Promote Heritage in Schools Scheme
- Promote Heritage Week

Information Communication Technology (ICTs)

Once again Mayo County Council was the overall winner of the eGovernment Awards 2010 in the category “Best Local Authority”. This national award recognizes excellence and places Mayo County Council ahead of all other Local Authorities for its ICT developments. We are to the forefront in the e-enablement of our systems and are ready to implementing the changes required to meet our obligations under the “Towards an Integrated Public Service” and “Transforming Public Services” agenda.



Overall eGovernment Winner 2010



Mayo People of the Year 2010

We have successfully tested and deployed an online Planning Submission and Planning Application system becoming the second Local Authority in Ireland to offer such an online service. We are also working closely with the DoELG to make the system available nationally.

Our IT team were very much involved in the technical production of the very successful Mayo People of the Year 2010 Awards.

We managed to retain ISO27001 certification in 2010 making us the only Local Authority in Ireland to continue to hold such a distinction.

Human Resources

Retirements from Mayo County Council 2010

Yvonne Walsh	Work Placement
Brian O Reilly	Senior Engineer
Christy O Malley	Clerk Of Works
Patrick O Grady	Clerk Of Works
William Keane	General Services Supervisor
James P Mc Tighe	Plant Operator
Thomas Ruane	General Operative
Michael Kennedy	Light Equipment Operator
Dominic Fallon	Waterworks Caretaker
Peter Sammon	Ganger
James Desmond Lavin	Foreman
Patrick Cafferty	Light Equipment Operator
Michael Howley	Ganger
Francis Lavin	Foreman
John Nilan	Mobile Library Driver
Frank Connolly	Station Officer
Frank Joyce	Sub Station Officer
Maurice Ryan Snr	Sub station Officer

Recruitment 2010

Following recommendation from the Public Appointments Service and resolution of Mayo County Council, Mr Peter Hynes was appointed as County Manager of Mayo Local Authorities on 14th May, 2010.

There were 7 competitions held for posts in 2010. The 7 interviewed boards comprised of 17 males and 3 females.

Promotions/Appointments in 2010 arising from above interviews-

Robert Jordan	Sub Station Officer Ballina.
Seamus O Brien	Sub Station Officer, Claremorris.

General Purposes

Freedom of Information

The total number of requests under the Freedom of Information Act for 2010 was 66.

Higher Education Grants

Third level grants continue to provide vital and essential financial assistance to Mayo students both inside and outside the country.

The total number of grant applications received in the 2010/11 academic year was 1246. These included both first time applicants and applications reviewed for previous years.

The current number of students receiving grants from Mayo County Council (including those renewed for previous years) is 1523. 747 of those were new applications awarded in the 2010/11 academic year.

Learning and Development

Mayo County Council is committed to Human Resource Learning and Development to achieve our objectives and goals. We recognise that our success in providing a high quality of service to the community has been built on a loyal, dedicated and committed workforce. We deem it important to foster a team spirit in all our employees by implementing a progressive Learning and Development Plan for our employees throughout all areas of activities, a Plan that each employee has an input into in its preparation and execution.

Third Level Courses Completed by Staff Members in 2010 :-

Diploma in Irish

Maura Murphy

Diploma in Computer Studies

Michael Reynolds

BA in Public Management

Johanna Gormley

BA in Public Management

Neal Higgins

BSc in Construction Management

John Walsh / Vincent Tomas

PgDip in Environmental Protection

Marie O'Connell

MA in Local Government

Kevin Keegan

Register of Electors/Edited Register 2010/2011

The following are the statistics for the 2010/2011 Register and Edited Register of Electors, 2010/2010 as at 1st February, 2010:-

Part I			
1.	Dáil Constituency	Presidential Electors	Dáil Electors
	Mayo	97,517	100,242
	TOTAL	97,517	100,242
2.	European Parliament Constituency	European Electors	Potential European Electors
	North-West	100,600	1,421
	Total	100,600	1,421
3.	Local Electoral Areas	Local Government Electors	
	Ballina	18,896	
	Béal an Mhuirthead	13,604	
	Castlebar	23,136	
	Claremorris	21,538	
	Swinford	13,596	
	Westport	12,346	
	Total	103,116	
4.	Borough or Town Council	Local Government Electors	
	Ballina Town Council	7,710	
	Castlebar Town Council	8,037	
	Westport Town Council	3,671	
	Total	19,418	

Part II – Postal Voters							Part III – Special Voters
Dáil Constituency	Gardaí	Defence Forces	Diplomats	Physically Disabled	Occupation etc.	Prisoners	Special Voters
Mayo	4	106	0	151	8	0	230
Total	4	106	0	151	8	2	230

Part IV – Edited Register				
Dáil Constituency	Presidential Electors	Dáil Electors	European Electors	Local Electors
Mayo	10,507	11,263	11,369	12,402
Total	10,507	11,263	11,369	12,402

Part V - Postal Voters on Edited Register							Part VI – Special Voters on Edited Register
Dáil Constituency	Gardaí	Defence Forces	Diplomats	Physically Disabled	Occupation etc.	Prisoners	Special Voters
Mayo	1	19	0	12	4	0	9
TOTAL	1	19	0	12	4	0	9

Oifig na Gaeilge

The Irish Language Office fosters and promotes the use of Irish in County Mayo and assists in the development and implementation of Mayo Local Authorities' language policy.

Mayo is a Gaeltacht County with a vibrant Irish speaking community. The Gaeltacht areas of Iorras, Acaill and Tuar Mhic Éadaigh are rich in folklore, writing, music, historical and archaeological sites and most importantly, are areas of the spoken Irish language. The Council is committed to the protection of the County's unique and linguistic heritage, and to the promotion of Irish as the community language in its Gaeltacht areas.

There is also, a significant Irish speaking community outside of the Gaeltacht areas, with over 44% of the County's population describing themselves as Irish speakers in the most recent census.

Official Languages Act, 2003

The Council is committed to ensuring an improved availability, and a higher standard of public services through Irish. In improving services through Irish, the Council has continued with the implementation of the Official Languages Act 2003 by providing information for staff regarding the Councils obligations in this regard, and providing Irish Language Training to staff. In 2010 classes were organised with HSE West and Mayo VEC in order to offer a wider range of classes at different levels in different locations, and also to reduce costs.

The objective of the Act is to increase the visibility and availability of bilingual service options through continued improvements in the quantity and quality of public service provision through Irish. The Official Languages Act impacts every section of the County and Town Councils.

Mayo Local Authorities Language Scheme

Progress has continued during 2010 on the implementation of the Council's Language Scheme which was agreed with the Department for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs and came into effect on the 22 December 2006. The language scheme details the Council's commitment to implementing a bilingual policy throughout the County Council on a phased basis. It encompasses a broad range of projects and statutory obligations including maintaining and developing bilingual websites, bilingual application forms and information leaflets, and ensuring the Council provides its services to key groups such as Gaelscoileanna, schools in the Gaeltacht etc., through Irish. The scheme is in the process of being reviewed and it is expected that a new 3 year scheme will come into effect in 2011.

A survey of individuals and organisations who have regular dealings with Mayo County Council, which was conducted as part of the consultation process prior to the drafting of the new scheme, showed that while the demand for services through Irish has been relatively low, 66% said they would request a service in Irish if they knew it was available, and 89% said they would like to use their Irish more often. Both this survey and the staff survey, where 67% said they would like to have the opportunity to provide services through Irish, demonstrate a high level of goodwill towards the language.

Cultural & Language Events

Oifig an Gaeilge has continued to provide and promote opportunities for people to meet and speak Irish, with the aim of forming a network of Irish speakers across the County. A series of monthly ‘Lón Gaeilge’ or Irish Lunches was held in Castlebar, Ballinrobe and Ballina, these lunches have proven very successful, offering Irish speakers, Irish learners and those who rarely use the Irish they have, a chance to use their ‘cúpla focal’ in a relaxed, informal setting.

Informal conversation groups were set up with Louisburgh Community Development Project and Kiltimagh Community Development Project in 2010, the ‘Cúpla Focal’s Cupán Tae’ groups met once a week for a 10 week period, with the Kiltimagh group continuing to meet on a monthly basis.

Oifig na Gaeilge supports the County-wide network of ‘Ciorcal Comhrá’ or Conversation Groups who meet on a weekly or monthly basis, organises events for all the different Irish groups and learners to come together, such as a guided walk ‘as



Gaeilge’ in Ceathrú Thaidhg.

Oifig na Gaeilge compiles and distributes a monthly e-newsletter, informing people of Irish language and cultural events

throughout the County from conversation groups to music sessions to guided walks to film screenings, summer camps for children, Gaeltacht courses for adults, along with other stories of interest, employment and funding opportunities. With over 900 subscribers to the newsletter service, it has helped in the development of a countywide

network of Irish speakers. The newsletter service is also a useful resource for Gaeltacht and Irish Language Organisations and Community Groups who wish to publicise their events and programmes.

‘Gaeilge Mhaigh Eo’ Facebook and Twitter pages were developed to provide information about Irish language related events and stories on an ongoing, proactive basis. There are over 2,500 followers on Gaeilge Mhaigh Eo’s Facebook page and over 600 followers on the Twitter page.

Ceol ‘s Comhrá

The aim of Ceol ‘s Comhrá is to encourage young people to speak Irish in everyday life. The idea came from a recommendation of Comhairle na nÓg Mhaigh Eo during a discussion about resources and facilities in County Mayo for young people. Ceol ‘s Comhrá is funded by Foras na Gaeilge and Youth Bank.

The Club meet every Saturday from 3-5, in the Neighbourhood Youth Project, Castlebar and participate in different activities such as drumming, animation, music, dance, pottery, all through Irish. In October 2010 they participated in an outdoor theatre as part of the Joyce Country GEO Fest.



Drumming Workshop with Ceol ‘s Comhrá

Seachtain na Gaeilge

Oifig na Gaeilge assisted the Library in organising a number of Irish language events all across the County during Seachtain na Gaeilge 2010:

Juggling Gaeilge – Achill, Ballina, Swinford, Kiltimagh, Charlestown
Ceardlann Amhránaíochta – Ballyhaunis, Claremorris, Ballinrobe
Damhsa ar an Sean Nós – Ballina
Dúlra Cruthaithe – Castlebar
Ceardlann Drámaíochta – Westport, Louisburgh

As well as a Talk on Mayo Placenames with Fiachra MacGabhann in Mayo Education Centre.

Placenames Competition in Charlestown

Oifig na Gaeilge assisted the John Healy Weekend committee in the organisation of a Placenames competition. Joe Byrne visited every primary school in the Charlestown area - Charlestown, Cloonlyon, Tavneena, Barnacogue and Carracastle, encouraging them all to examine the meanings of the placenames around them and the folklore and stories associated with these placenames, and encouraging them to find out more information about their own locality from their parents, grandparents and neighbours.

The children were then asked to draw a picture, take a photograph or write a poem or a short piece based on the placenames in their area, and were awarded prizes at a special event during the John Healy Weekend.

The main aim of this competition was to foster an understanding of the importance of placenames amongst the local community and provide them with an opportunity to gain a greater understanding of their locality. This project was financed by Foras na Gaeilge.

*Gleann Mhullaigh an Eo –
by Elisha Duffy, Anna
McHale, Leasha McHale
and Sinéad O’Doherty from
Tavneena National School*



Gnó Mhaigh Eo

The Council has continued to support the work of Gnó Mhaigh Eo, an organisation founded to illustrate the economic value of the Irish language to businesses in Mayo.

Gnó Mhaigh Eo organised many different events during 2010 – An Flóta is Fearr, float competition on St. Patrick’s Day, a Heritage Day as part of Westport Music Festival and Shop n’ Spraoi na Nollag in Westport, and worked closely with the business community in Erris in the lead up to Comórtas Peile na Gaeltachta. Gnó Mhaigh Eo also assisted a number of businesses with funding applications to Foras na Gaeilge and other bodies.

Other areas addressed by the Irish Language Officer include:

- Provide information to the public in relation to Irish language events, classes etc.
- Provide support to Irish Language, Gaeltacht and Community Groups as required
- Input into Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects
- Provide support and advice regarding translation service providers
- Liaise with translation service providers
- Liaise with Mayo Regional Training Centre, Ionad na dTeangacha Maynooth, HSE West and Mayo VEC re. Irish Language Training
- Promote Foras na Gaeilge’s Grant Schemes, meet and advise community groups on applications as required

Water Safety



Presentation of the All Ireland Inter Local Authority Charles Thompson Water Safety Award to Mayo Co. Co. in November 2010.

Back Row : Frank Nolan (Chairperson, Irish Water Safety), Eddie Duffy (RLSS Ireland), Jim McCurry (RLSS NI), Mick Gavin, Water Safety Development Officer, Mayo Co. Co., Michael Finneran T.D., Minister of State, Dept. of Environment, Heritage & Local Government.

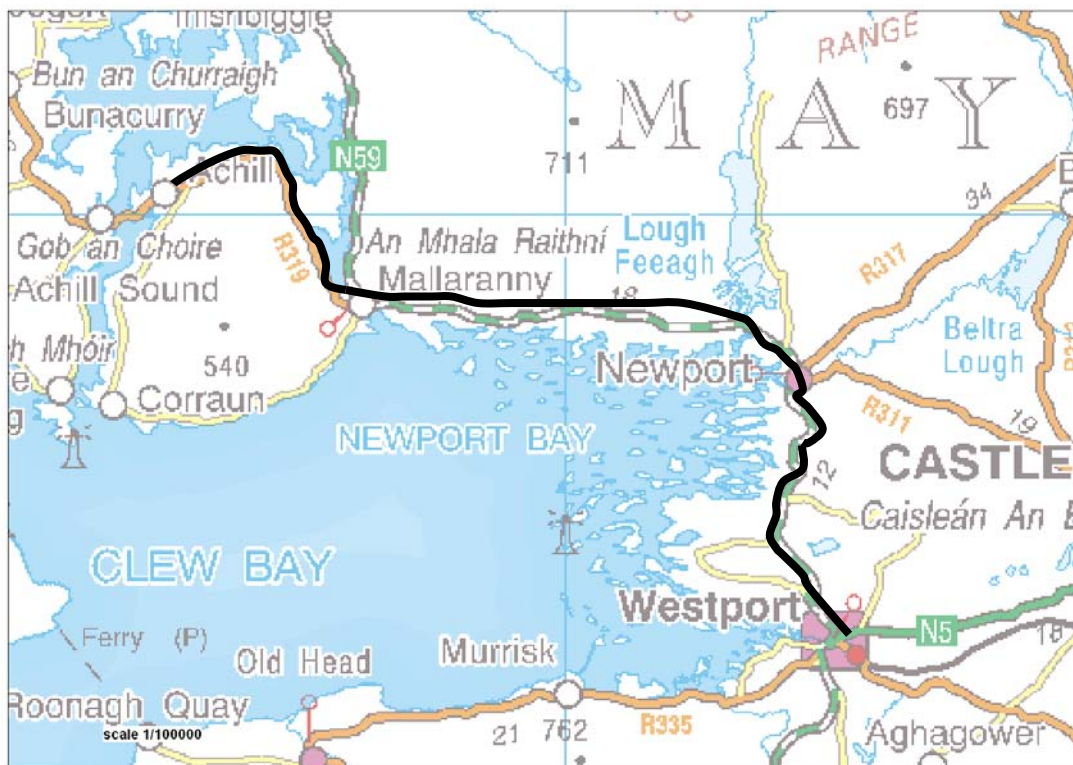
Front: Karen McCurry (RLSS NI), Michael Bourke M.C.C., Cathaoirleach, Mayo Co. Co.

Great Western Greenway

Westport / Achill

The development of a traffic free multipurpose Greenway on the route of the disused Westport to Achill railway will provide a walking and cycling facility in Mayo which is equivalent to similar European infrastructure.

The facility will be multifunctional serving tourist, local recreational, school and work travel needs. It will attract recreational users and visitors, primarily cycling and walking visitors, young families, school pupils and more serious sports cyclists.



Route of Westport to Achill Greenway

The Greenway is located within a close distance of ten schools and passes by four hotels at Newport, Mullaranny and Achill Sound. The Greenway will be of national significance, form an important part of the proposed National Cycle Network and offer users 42 km of traffic free cycling. The proposed Greenway adheres to the Governments Smarter Travel and National Cycle Policy frameworks and will help promote smarter travel, improve health and increase the sustainable tourism products in the Mayo area.

Phasing of Works

The Great Western Greenway between Westport and Achill is being developed in three phases namely:

Phase 1 Newport/Mulranny

Phase 2 Westport/Newport

Phase 3 Mulranny/Achill.



Phase 1 – Newport Mulranny

Mayo County Council received funding of €1.6m during 2009 to develop 17.5km of off road cycling and walking route between Newport and Mulranny. Financial support for the project was made available by the Department of Transport, Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs and Fáilte Ireland.

The development of the route was made possible through the good will of local landowners. The principal access points are at Newport town, Derrada, Burrishoole, Mulranny village and the Park Inn Hotel, Mulranny. There are 14 additional access points along the route where the Greenway crosses low trafficked local roads, residential estates and a link to the N59 Belmullet Road at Ballycreagher, Mulranny.

Construction work commenced on 7th September 2009 using the Councils own workforce.



Willie Kean, General Services Supervisor, at Mulranny



P Joyce, S Menamon and D Carey



D McGuire and J D Murphy



Greenway at Caherheenbrack

Phase 1 was officially opened by Minister for Transport, Mr Noel Dempsey TD on 14th April 2010.



Greenway Launch 14th April 2010



Official Opening of Phase 1



Greenway Usage

Traffic counts during summer 2010 on the Greenway confirm that there are approximately 300 persons using the facility each day.



Users at Doontrusk



Red Bridge at Burrishoole

Phases 2 and 3

Mayo County Council received funding of €3.5m during 2010 to complete the conversion of the remaining sections of the old Westport / Achill railway to Greenway. Financial support for the project was made available by the Department of Transport and Fáilte Ireland

The Greenway linking Westport and Newport commences at Aitreech, Westport and traverses across Drumlin landscape for a distance of 11km. The Greenway linking Mulranny and Achill Soundwill commences at the N59 Overbridge at Mulranny and utilises large sections of open land along the old Achill railway track and terminates at Poll an Raithni, Achill. The route passes within close view of Ballycreagher Bay and some of the most idyllic scenery in the West of Ireland.



Railway on Embankment - Owenduff

Work commenced in September 2010 and is programmed for completion in April 2011.



Westport



Clearance and drainage at Aitreech,



Railway overbridges at Barley Hill, Westport



Completed 804 at Cross and Cornrea

In late 2009 Westport Town Council undertook the conversion and upgrade of a 2.5Km railway line into a high standard Greenway facility. The Greenway has proved to be a popular social, recreational and health giving amenity for both residents and visitors to the town of Westport. It has been extraordinarily successful in promoting walking and cycling in the town and its environs.

Phase 2 of the Greenway is currently under construction and will eventually link in to the Great Western Greenway from Achill to Westport.



The Westport Greenway was one of the finalists in the 2011 prestigious LAMA Awards. Also, Mayo's effort in RTE's Operation Transformation was launched on the Westport Greenway.





Michael McSharry, Kildare County Council, Bernadette Hanley Offaly County Council, Ann Helferty Dublin City Council, Carmel King Wexford County Council, Tima Asadi DunLaoighre Rathdown County Council, Organisers Orla Hughes & Bernie Rowland Mayo County Council, John Hanley Dublin City Council. The group took some time out to walk Wesports Greenway.

Energy Usage in 2010

Overview of Energy Usage in 2010

The main energy users at Mayo County Council are Water and Waste Treatment services (70% Consumption). All other regional services including administration buildings account for the balance 30% of consumption.

In 2010, Mayo County Council consumed 54,050MWh of energy, consisting of:

- 48,613MWh of electricity;
- 5,154MWh of fossil fuels, including (LPG, Heating Oil & Transport fuels)
- 293 MWh of renewable fuels (wood Pellet).

Actions Undertaken in 2010

In 2010 Mayo County Council undertook a range of initiatives to improve our energy performance, including:

- Conversion of Swimming pool to high efficiency wood pellet boiler, which will save an estimated 60MWh
- Insulation & Heating Upgrades to housing stock which will save an estimated 4.6MWh
- Regional Water services Monitoring & Metering upgrade which will save an estimated 200MWh

Altogether, these and other energy saving measures are saving Mayo County Council 264.6 MWh annually.

Actions Planned for 2011

In 2011 and beyond Mayo County Council intends to further improve our energy performance by undertaking the following initiatives:

- Conversion of Regional Office (Claremorris) and Leisure Centre (Westport) to high efficiency Gas boiler, which will save an (estimated 170MWh each year)
- Feasibility study for installation of energy efficient lighting upgrades at our headquarters and Regional offices (estimated saving 100MWh each year)
- Feasibility study for installation of Biomass Heating system at selected Regional office.
- Insulation & Heating Upgrades to housing stock (40 units) which will save an estimated 8MWh annually
- Feasibility study for installation of Water pumping systems to improve efficiency
- Feasibility study Energy efficient Public Lighting

Contact Details

HEADQUARTERS:

**Áras an Chontae,
The Mall,
Castlebar.**

Tel (094) 9024444
Fax (094) 9023937
Email secretar@mayococo.ie
Website www.mayococo.ie

AREA OFFICES:

Mayo Motor Tax Office	(094) 9047600
Castlebar	(094) 9024444
Westport	(098) 50400
Newport	(098) 41456
Ballina	(096) 76100
Swinford	(094) 9251132
Also	(094) 9251495
Claremorris	(094) 9371508
Also	(094) 9371285
Ballinrobe	(094) 9541029
Ballinrobe Housing Office	(094) 9541111
Béal an Mhuirthead	097) 81004

FIRE BRIGADE & SERVICES:

Fire Brigade Headquarters
Humbert Way
Castlebar
Tel (094) 9021211
Fax 094) 9024137
E-mail fire@mayococo.ie

Fire Brigades (in case of emergency)
Ballina, Ballinrobe, Ballyhaunis, Béal an Mhuirthead, Castlebar, Charlestown,
Claremorris, Crossmolina, Gob an Choire, Kiltimagh, Swinford, Westport 999 or 112

COUNTY LIBRARY:

Mayo Library Headquarters
John Moore Rd.
Castlebar
Co. Mayo

Tel (094) 9047922
Fax: 094 9026491
E-Mail: librarymayo@mayococo.ie
Web: www.mayolibrary.ie

Branch Libraries:

Castlebar Library	
Tel	(094) 9047959
Fax	(094) 9026491
Acaill	(098) 20910
Ballina Library	(096) 22180
Ballinrobe Library	(094) 9541896
Ballyhaunis Library	(094) 9630161
Béal an Mhuirthead Library	(097) 82374
Charlestown Library	(094) 9255934
Claremorris Library	(094) 9371666
Crossmolina Library	(096) 31939
Kiltimagh Library	(094) 9381786
Louisburgh	(098) 66658
Swinford Library	(094) 9252065
Westport Library	(098) 25747
Foxford Library	(094) 9256040
Clare Island	(098) 29838
Kilkelly Library	(094) 9367758

MAYO CHILDCARE COMMITTEE:

Chambers House, Ellison St, Castlebar (094) 9047010

SWIMMING POOLS:

Castlebar Swimming Pool	(094) 9021357
Ballina Swimming Pool	(096) 70506
Claremorris Swimming Pool	(094) 9371313

WATERWORKS CARETAKERS:

Acaill	(098) 45185
Balla	(094) 9365008
Ballina	(096) 32313
Ballindine	(094) 9364276
Ballinrobe	(094) 9541029
Ballycastle	(096) 43106
Ballyhaunis	(094) 9649026
Bangor Erris	(097) 83436
Béal an Mhuirthead	(097) 84646
Bonniconlon	(096) 71146
Charlestown	(094) 9254633
Claremorris	(094) 9362416
Crossmolina	(096) 31396
Cong	(094) 9546068
Foxford	(094) 9256333
Kilkelly	(094) 9367071
Kilmaine/Shrule	(093) 33436
Kiltimagh	(094) 9381392
Knock	(094) 9381742
Lough Mask / Treatment Plant	(094) 9544029
Louisburgh	(098) 66266
Newport/Mulranny	(098) 36181
Swinford	(094) 9251898
Westport	(098) 21295

TOWN COUNCILS:

Ballina	(096) 76100
Castlebar	(094) 9023350
Westport	(098) 50400

CIVIC AMENITY SITES:

Derrinmera

(098) 41632

Rathroen

(096) 24055/(096) 75959