



MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT UPDATE



Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo
Mayo County Council



OCTOBER 2024 MEETING



Directorate Highlights

Roads

N5 Swinford Bypass Safety Scheme – Technical & Environmental consultant to be appointed in October 2024

Ballina - Castlebar – Westport Ph 1 Concept & Feasibility Study finished.

N60 Pavement scheme at Balla completed & N84 pavement scheme at New Street, Ballinrobe complete.

Speed limit review 2023 – Rural Local Roads default of 60kph – to commence November 2024. N84 junction signalisation incl pedestrian crossing completed.

Architects

Lahardane Single Stage Submission (19) approved.

Ard Caher, Louisburgh Hsg Scheme (13) approved.

Design Build MMC Tenders returned for Kilbride Swinford (27)

Heritage: Conservation works on Talach Blast Furnace under Comm Monuments Fund.

Conservation: Applications received for the BIHS 2025 Commencement of Mayo Built Heritage Stocktake Survey Ph 2

Dates to Note

Housing

Official opening of 21 housing units Cloonkeadagh Road, Kiltimagh on Monday, 21st October 2024 by Minister Alan Dillon, T.D.

Workshop held on Affordable Housing Scheme with Councillors on 1st October 2024.

Roads

Mayo County Councils Winter Maintenance Plan has been updated 2024 / 2025.

Housing, Roads, Architectural Services & Services Development TOM GILLIGAN



Roads

- N59 Newport – Derrada: Assessment ongoing & approval to award the tender will be requested from TII on completion of assessment.
- N60 Breaffy Active Travel & Safety Scheme – Submission of ABP arising from CPO being assessed.
- Local Transport Plans for Ballina & Westport being progressed and finalised by mid Q4 2024.
- Active Travel Scheme Ballinrobe, Killala and Ballina progressing.
- Consultants appointed and design work ongoing in relation to Active Travel projects in Castlebar, Deerpark, Westport and a number of safe routes to schools' scheme.
- Ballina – Castlebar – Westport Interurban Greenway: Scheme at Phase 1 Concept and Feasibility which is nearing completion.
- Great Western Greenway Newport Town – Option selection process concluded - preparing for planning consent during Q4 2024
- Design works on – going for National Road safety projects with scheme on N59 Georges Street Newport on site and nearing completion.
- Proceeding with land acquisition and detailed design for R332 Kilmaine to Foxhall scheme.
- R313 Glencastle scheme currently at land acquisition stage with construction due to commence in Q4 2024.
- Consultants working on the preparation of a Natura Impact Statement for R312 Glenisland scheme. Submission to An Bord Pleanala in Q3 2024.
- Noise Action Plan submissions being assessed.
- N17 Lisduff, Claremorris – concrete post & rail fencing retrofit – Contractor appointed Q4 2024

Housing

HAP & RAS (September 2024)

8 no. properties delivered under HAP in September 2024.

0 No. property delivered under RAS in September 2024

Total of 1,851 active households supported by RAS/HAP in Mayo at the end Sept 2024.

Leasing (September 2024)

4 no. properties delivered under the Leasing Programme.

Homelessness

16 homeless presentations - September

Defective Concrete Blocks Grant Scheme

402 Stage 1 Confirmation of Eligibility Applications received.

343 Stage 1 Approved

213 Stage 2 Grant approval applications received.

211 Stage 2 Approved

31 Properties completed.

Vacant Homes

Croi Conaithe Grant – 387 approved (45 grants issued); 122 in progress.

Repair and Leasing – 27 active leases, 22 applications for 78 units.

Buy & Renew – 85 active applications;

URDF – 58 properties in the approved programme



Water Services, Environment, Climate Change & Emergency Services

JOHN CONDON



Directorate Highlights

Climate Action Updates:

- Seventeen Mayo groups receive over €640,000 from Community Climate Action Fund.
- Pathfinder energy efficiency projects design tender awarded to MosArt.
- The Climate Action team held a stand at 1.5Fest in Ballina on Sept 28th.
- Numerous events were held by Mayo Co. Co. as part of Sustainable Development Goal week, 20th-29th September.

Dog Control National Conference 2024 – 3rd 4th

October in Tullamore. Laura Mulligan, Dog Warden for Mayo County Council, is chairing the 2024 conference and topics covered will include items such as XL Bully Regulations, Dog Bite Prevention, DSPCA Animal Health and Welfare cases, DAFM welfare update, DRCD policies and legislative update, animal health and welfare and licensing.

Dates to Note

- National ISO 50001 Energy Management training to be held in Mayo County Council on Oct 16th and 17th.
- Crossmolina Energy Master Plan launch on Oct 3rd.
- Castlebar Energy Master Plan launch on Oct 10th.
- XL Bully Enhanced Regulations come into effect.

Environment - Waste Regulation and Enforcement:

The officers have been working on completing the 8 Projects undertaken as part of the Anti-Dumping Initiative, which were successfully granted funding of € 104,859. These projects included a clean-up of historical waste dumping and end-of-life vehicles from Inishbiggle island, the removal of asbestos from a bog, as well as remediation of a tyre dumping site. The officers are continuing to take part in multi-agency checkpoints. 1 new Certificate of Registration, 3 review Certificate of Registrations, 2 new Waste Facility Permits and 1 review Waste Facility Permit have been granted.

Derelict Sites: There are 261 sites on the Derelict Site Register.

In September, following remedial works 5 sites were removed from the register and 8 sites were added.

Dog Warden and Veterinary Services: XL Bully Identification

Training - Laura Mulligan, Dog Warden attended this training, in an advisory capacity in September 2024, prior to enhanced regulations being introduced on the 1st October, 2024. The new enhanced XL Bully regulations and application forms will be live on Mayo.ie.

Ex Gratia Funding - Since 2011 an allocation for animal welfare has been made available to animal welfare groups. Five applications have been received to seek funding.

Retained Fire Service

13 recent recruits to the Fire Service have successfully completed the Using Breathing Apparatus (Initial Wearers) training module held at Tullamore Fire Station. The course was delivered by Mayo Fire Service on behalf of the LASNTG.

Civil Defence - Training - Civil Defence in Mayo have completed training in the following areas in recent weeks:

Boat Crew refresher and upskilling

Instructor Recertification in the areas of Cardiac First Response, First Aid Responder and Emergency First Responder

Weekly training for all members including new recruits will recommence in October 2024 following the summer break.

Operations - Our Community Support Unit and Search and Rescue Units continue to attend and support emergency and non-emergency events across the county and region, attending 70 operations so far in 2024.

New Equipment - Mayo Civil Defence has taken delivery of a new Command and Support Unit which was funded by the Department of Defence (Civil Defence Branch) and Mayo Co. Co. This unit will be fully operational in early October 2024.



Directorate Highlights

Planning Data for September 2024

Applications Received:	109
E Planning Applications:	61
Hardcopy Applications:	48
Decisions to Grant:	76
Decisions to Refuse:	7
Formal Preplanning App:	12

Appointments at five Planning Clinics on the 11th of September and 25th September 2024: 47

Files appealed to An Bord Pleanála: 2

Governance & Customer Service

FOI Requests:	8
Insurance PL Claims:	10
Ombudsman Cases:	3 new cases, 2 closed cases
Total Calls Answered:	4608

Dates to Note

Planning, Human Resources, Communications, and Corporate Affairs

CATHERINE McCONNELL



Human Resources

New Appointments in September 2024 - 1 x Outdoor Recreation Officer, 1 x Clerical Officer, 1 x Executive Engineer

Promotions – 1 x Information Security Analyst, 1 x Civil Tech Grade 1, 1 x General Services Supervisor, 1 x Foreman, 1 x Ganger, 2 x Driver/Mechanic (Fire), 1 x Sub Station Officer

Competitions Advertised – Assistant Scientist

Shortlisted/Screened – Assistant Fire Officer

Interviews held – Assistant Staff Officer (Shortlisting), IS Project Leader

Retirements – 1 x Veterinary Inspector

Training Data for September 2024

111 indoor staff participated in: Phone Skills & Customer Service Training in Irish, Personal Safety at Work & Dealing with Difficult Customers, Fire Warden Training, First Aid Response – Library Staff, Cardiac First Response, Manual Handling Indoor, Online Time Management Training.

35 outdoor staff participated in the following training courses: Safe Loading & Cargo Securing, First Aid Response, Abrasive Wheels Consaw, Breathing Apparatus (Initial Wearer) Course, Road Opening & Reinstatement Basic.

54 outdoor staff participated in mandatory Delivering Action training. Training Centre Update

A total of 3,083 trainees' attendees have participated in Castlebar Regional Training Centre courses for the months from January 2024 with 4,808 training days.

Corporate Communications / Diaspora / Social Media/Publicity Campaigns

- Public information
- Website planning

Oifig na Gaeilge

- Oonagh Bean Uí Shúilleabháin (Ní Chéileachair) scholarship launched to support third-level students active in the promotion of the Irish Language or Irish-Language Arts
- Event, translation and compliance support provided to Corporate, Library, Tourism, Planning, Regional Training Centre and MD offices.

Road Safety

- Road Safety Talk to the Ukrainian Community based in Claremorris.
- Older Persons Road Safety Seminar, Breaffy House Hotel, Castlebar
- Make Way Day – Promoted through social media and Web news on 27/09/24.

Publicity Campaigns (Press & Social Media)

- Planning Application Information – Mayo Vacant Homes Matchmaker Scheme
- Make Way Day – Missing/Stray Dogs
- Sustainable Development Goals Week
- Sinking of the MV Shingle -
- Architecture at the Edge – Built Heritage Investment Scheme
- Hedge Cutting Season Now Open
- Irish Language Scholarship Launched in memory of Oonagh Uí Shúilleabháin
- National Breastfeeding Week
- Outreach Events for Stakeholders in Multiuse Developments
- Affordable Housing Contractors Expressions of Interest
- Owenwinny Wind Farm



Directorate Highlights

- Club Cúpla Focal back in Castlebar Library after summer break .
- 28 Sept-National libraries open day.
- Almost 2000 children took part in Summer Stars reading programme during July & August.
- ‘Supporting anxious children and teens in an anxious world’, a talk by Dr. Mary O’Kane attracted a large audience in Castlebar Library.
- The LA Integration Team delivered 89 clinics supporting 334 people and 444 queries since roll out.
- Sláinte Care Healthy Communities Literacy Report produced by DCU in conjunction with MCC launched by Minister Colm Burke.
- “Valentines Vitality” event, a joint initiative between Sláintecare Healthy Communities and Age Friendly Mayo shortlisted for the Age Friendly Ireland Recognition and Achievement Awards 2024.
- Culture Night 2024 took place on 20 Sept with an audience of approx. 3500 people attending 36 events.
- 30 events took place for European Week in Mayo.
- Over 20 locations participating in the new Autumn 2024 Activator Walking with Poles Programme
- A talk by archaeologist Tamlyn McHugh on Mayo Holy Wells held in Castlebar Library.

Dates to Note

- Mayo Science and Technology Festival 2024 from 10 -17 Nov
- MSP Autumn 2024 Calendar of Events available at <https://www.mayo.ie/Admin/Mayo/media/Mayo/MSP-Programme-Events-Autumn-2024-011024.pdf>
- Mayo Sports Partnership Autumn Newsletter see MSP Newsletter Autumn 2024 (newsweaver.com)
- Seeking proposals from qualified consultants to support the development of a new strategic Arts Plan for Mayo for 2025-2030 details available at [Provision of Services for Development of Mayo County Council Strategic Arts Plan](https://www.mayo.ie/ProvisionofServicesforDevelopmentofMayoCountyCouncilStrategicArtsPlan)

Enterprise, Community, Economic Development & Tourism

JOANNE GREHAN



Enterprise & Economic Development Unit

- Business Advisory Clinics held in Ballina, Claremorris and Westport during September.
- Mark Birrane of NutriJellies exhibited at the National Ploughing Championships.
- A LEO Evaluation & Approvals Committee took place with 3 projects supported. Plans advanced to roll out the annual Mayo Ideas Month in Oct. 1st event saw the LEOs in Mayo, Roscommon, and Galway collaborate to celebrate 10 years of client successes marking LEO’s 10-year anniversary. ‘Meet Mayo’, @Ballinrobe Racecourse, 18 October

Ireland West Strategic Development Zone (SDZ)

- First meeting with SDZ PM & Steering Committee held 27 Sept. Overview of the SDZ was presented & member feedback will be incorporated into the SDZ delivery Roadmap.

Community, Arts, Sports and Childcare

- CRF application submitted to DRCD for a range of projects across Mayo valued at €1.8m.
- Mayo Artsquad currently has vacancies for Arts Worker Positions.
- 56 Sports Clubs/Groups in Mayo allocated over €9m through the Community Sport Facilities Fund, formerly the Sports Capital and Equipment Programme.
- €116,100 Dormant Account 2024 funding allocated to local sports projects.
- Mayo County Childcare are rolling out a programme of training which includes Always Children First Child Safeguarding training for 16 early years services and Equality and Diversity Inclusion training for all services.

Tourism, Recreation & Amenity

Funding: Sports Capital Funding of €351,100 allocated to Lough Lannagh Climbing the Wall project with the funding for this project now up to just over €950K. **Great Western Greenway Award** GWG shortlisted in two awards categories in the Ireland’s Climate Change Leadership Awards:- Sustainable Transport Award & Urban Greening Project of the year. The completion of the greenway through Achill Sound village has transformed the urban realm and significantly increased vulnerable road user and safety. This coupled with the 5km extension of the GWG has also resulted in the local job creation through a new bike hire hub, food and coffee offerings along the newly TII funded sections.

Achill Island Greenway - Phase 3 Landowner consultations progressed on phase 3 of the Achill Island Greenway between Cashel and Bunacurry, majority of landowners contacted. **Tender** for Achill Sound Trailhead accessibility parking & associated works published. Water station/bike repair & solar charger station form part of the design.

Town Regeneration

- Town Team Supports 2024: Procurement and further engagement with MDs to progress Town Team Capacity Building in Balla, Crossmolina and Swinford.
- Continuing development and engagement for Ballyhaunis TCF plan.
- Continuing support for Killala to deliver TCF plan.

Library Services

- **Comic Fest** took place in Castlebar with 1042 attendees on Saturday 21 September taking part in Virtual Reality, Gaming, Lego, painting and writing workshops.
- Over 40 Mayo schools & individuals are using the library’s **TTRS licences (Touch, Type, Read and Spell)** for those with neurodiverse needs or English as a second language. **The Banks of the Moy his Heaven**, a publication coordinated by Writer in Residence Martin Dyar was launched on Culture Night at The Jackie Clarke Collection.
- The Jackie Clarke Collection had **1862 visitors** in Sep. Almost 2000 students are booked in to the JCC education prog Sep & Dec 2024. 1,160 students already booked for 2025. Over 800 children, teenagers & adults from local schools and community groups enjoyed magical story telling of **Niall de Búrca** in Aras Inis Gluaire and Belmullet Library.



Directorate Highlights



Dates to Note



Financial Management, Information
Systems & Motor Taxation

PETER DUGGAN



Mayo County Council

1. Major Expenditure and Income by Division with 2024 Adopted Budget
Eight months ended 31st August 2024

Service Division	Description	EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
		Exp. To Date Aug-24	Budget 2024	Remising 2024	% Spent 2024	Inc. To Date Aug-24	Budget 2024	Net Rec'd 2024	% Rec'd 2024
A	Housing and Building	22,358,443	28,725,722	6,367,280	78%	21,502,447	27,450,543	5,948,096	79%
B	Roads Transport and Safety	29,615,793	54,151,004	24,535,211	55%	23,945,961	21,678,225	2,267,736	52%
C	Water Services	10,542,392	19,437,281	8,894,889	54%	13,245,983	10,244,272	3,001,711	56%
D	Development Management	19,646,342	18,605,758	-1,040,584	108%	12,697,277	8,156,620	4,540,657	155%
E	Environmental Services	16,522,385	41,803,717	7,268,921	65%	3,204,107	1,292,293	1,911,814	76%
F	Recreation and Amenity	7,140,822	1,803,177	4,726,602	65%	4,462,369	741,721	3,720,648	62%
G	Health and Social Welfare	1,336,727	2,063,389	5,246,383	67%	9,315,428	13,946,899	4,631,473	62%
H	Miscellaneous Services	10,545,752	15,792,135	5,246,383	67%	1,221,075	13,946,899	4,631,473	62%
J	Central Management Charges	17,705,533	26,382,836	8,677,303	67%	29,728,882	44,660,815	14,932,933	74%
	Local Government Fund	-	-	-	-	14,820,129	22,230,186	7,410,061	67%
GRAND TOTAL		136,180,380	201,537,376	65,357,016	68%	136,526,589	201,537,376	65,010,287	68%

2. Performance of Local Authority Revenue Collection Levels

	Total for Aug-24	Collected Aug-24	Arrears Aug-24	Collected %
Rents	6,839,819	5,908,836	630,983	86%
Rates	42,724,191	32,122,339	10,601,852	75%
Housing Loans	2,758,327	2,139,131	619,196	78%

3. Recourse to Overdraft Facility

	Number of days in overdraft	Estimated interest incurred
	16	6,743

4. Significant Variance against Budget

	€'000
Housing Rent/Leasing	166
Leisure Facilities (Lough Lannagh)	-130
Swimming Pool	475
Payroll	1,675
Other	51

APPENDIX A

FINANCIAL REVIEW OCTOBER 2024