

MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2013



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INTRODUCTION

This Annual Report highlights the main programmes, services and other activities undertaken by the Council in 2013.

Some of the highlights included are:

- The Gathering
- The Quiet Man Sculpture, Cong
- 4th Annual Mini Marathon with Sonia O’Sullivan
- Monsenior Horan Sculpture, IWAK
- Opening of Swinford Library
- Official opening of Jackie Clarke Library, Ballina
- Official opening of the N59 Westport to Mulranny Road
- Spirit of Place Project

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”.

MEMBERS OF MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL

Electoral Areas



Ballina Electoral Area



**Cllr. Gerry Ginty
(NP)**



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



**Cllr. Jarlath Munnelly
(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)**

STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES

SPC	COUNCILLORS	REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSING	Cllr. John Cribbin, Chair Cllr. Eddie Staunton Cllr. Gerry Coyle Cllr. Brendan Heneghan Cllr. Annie May Reape Cllr. Frank Durcan Cllr. Gerry Ginty	Kieran Mulhern, Community Forum Francis Brennan, Community Forum Pdraig 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 Munnelly, 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. Tom Connolly, Chair Cllr. Eugene Lavin 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. Eugene McCormack, Chair Cllr. John O’Hara 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 seven Councillors and four 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 its 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](#)

The Housing SPC comprises of the following members:

Cllr. John Cribben, Chairman, Cllr. Eddie Staunton, Cllr. Gerry Coyle,
Cllr. Brendan Heneghan, Cllr. Annie May Reape, Cllr. Frank Durcan, Cllr. Gerry Ginty.
Mr. Kieran Mulhern and Mr. Francis Brennan, Mayo County Community Forum
Mr. Padraig Heverin, Trade Union Pillar Representative
Ms. Helena McElmeel, Business Pillar Representative

The Housing SPC held a number of meetings throughout the year. Topics discussed included:

- Department Housing Policy Statement
- Housing Capital Allocation / Programme
- Voluntary Housing Code of Practice
- Mortgage Arrears Resolution Policy (MARP)

- Housing Grants Review
- Radon Testing
- Septic Tank Registration process
- Rural Housing Programme
- Housing Strategy 2014 – 2020
- Regional Homeless Plan
- Draft Traveller Accommodation Plan 2014-2018
- Housing Reform Programme

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 2013.

During 2013, the following issues were considered by the SPC members, including:-

- Update on implementation of actions on Heritage Plan 2011-2016.
- Recommendation to Mayo County Council that the Revised Draft Mayo Commemoration Strategy 2013-2023, be adopted, subject to inclusion of amendments.
- Recommendation to Mayo County Council that the series of activities for commemorating the 1913 Lockout in Mayo, be adopted, subject to the addition of one activity.
- Progress Report on the Council’s Walking Strategy and its priorities.
- Report / update on The Gathering – actions for the remainder of 2013.
- Work Plan 2013.
- Draft Public Libraries Strategy 2013-2017.
- Update on project “*That the latter half of the last century should be researched and recorded as a continuation of the 1940 schools research project for County Mayo*”.
- Update regarding Tóstal Mhaigh Eo – Céad Míle Fáilte roimh Gaeltacht Thuaisceart an Oileáin Úir.
- Update on adopted Mayo Commemoration Strategy 2013-2023.
- Recommendation to Mayo County Council that €30,000 be made available in Budget 2014, in order to undertake certain commemoration activities in 2014.

Road Transportation and Safety Strategic Policy Committee

The Roads Strategic Policy Committee comprises of the following members:

Cllr. Gerry Coyle [Chairman] Cllr. Jarlath Munnely, Cllr. Patsy O'Brien,
Cllr. Ollie Gannon, Cllr. Michael Holmes, Cllr. Jimmy Maloney, Cllr. Blackie Gavin.
Mr. Stephen Meenaghan, Mayo County Community Forum
Mr. Eddie Lavelle, Trade Union Pillar Representative
Ms. Margaret Tallot, Environmental Pillar Representative
Mr. Brian Bourke, Business Pillar Representative

During 2013, the Roads Transportation and Safety SPC met on 4 occasions.

The Committee considered and dealt with the following issues amongst others:

- National Roads Programme for the County
- Non National Roads Programme
- Road Safety
- Winter Service Plan
- Machinery Yard
- Community Involvement scheme
- Design manual for Urban Roads and Streets
- Public Lighting.

The Committee went on a delegation to the National Roads Authority in January 2013 to discuss:

- Major Routes in the County
- Low Volume Schemes
- Pavement and minor works
- Safety Schemes

Water Supply and Sewerage Strategic Policy Committee

Cllr. Tom Connolly, Chairperson, Cllr. Austin Francis O'Malley, Cllr. Eugene Lavin
Cllr. Blackie Gavin, Cllr. Johnny O'Malley, Cllr. John O'Malley, Cllr. Rose Conway
Walsh
Mr. Brendan O'Mahony, IFA Representative, Ms. Lucy Weir (Bingham McAndrew),
Environment Pillar, Mr. Darren McHugh, Construction Industry Federation

Four meetings of the Water and Sewerage Strategic Policy Committee were held during 2013.

The Committee considered and dealt with the following issues amongst others:

- Transfer of Water Services to Irish Water
- Water Services Investment Programme
- Rural Water Allocations
- Domestic Waste Water Treatment System registrations and standards.
- Water Fluoridation

Planning, Economic Development & Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee

The Planning & Economic Development Strategic Policy Committee SPC is made up of the following members:

Cllr. Eugene McCormack, Chairperson
 Cllr. Al McDonnell, Cllr. Michael Burke, Cllr. Damien Ryan, Cllr. Gerry Murray, Cllr. Ger Deere, Cllr. John O'Hara
 Mr. Seamus McCormack, Mayo County Community Forum.
 Ms. Mary Muldoon, Environmental Pillar Representative.
 Ms. Patricia Calleary, Business Pillar Representative.
 Mr. John O'Donnell, Agriculture/Farming Pillar Representative.

The SPC met three times during 2013, during which the following matters were considered:

- Catchment Flood Risk Assessment Management (CFRAM) – (OPW)
- Revision of Flood Risk Assessment Maps
- Grid West Development
- Unfinished Housing Estates
- Taking in Charge of Estates
- Draft County Development Plan 2014 – 2020
- Establishment of Irish Water & Implications for the planning Authority

Environment Strategic Policy Committee

This committee comprises of elected members and members of the business and farming communities.

The Committee met on 4 occasions in 2013 and discussed the following:

- Regional Waste Management Policy
- Draft Bye laws for regulation of Burial Grounds
- 'GridWest Project' update led by Eirgrid for development and operation of national electricity transmission system
- Community Gain Fund
- Nitrates Action Programme
- Blue Flag Beaches and resources for same.

**LIST OF EXTERNAL BODIES ON WHICH MAYO COUNTY
COUNCIL ARE FORMALLY REPRESENTED BY COUNCILLORS
IN 2013**

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. J. O'Hara and A.M. Reape</i>
Board of Ballina Arts Events Ltd.	<i>Cllr. S. Weir 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. M. Burke</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. Munnelly, E. McCormack, M. Burke, M. Adams and M. Holmes</i>
Ballycastle (Mayo) Enterprises Limited	<i>Cllrs. G. Coyle, J. Munnelly, M. McNamara and R. Conway-Walsh</i>
Louisburgh Holidays Plc.	<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>

Barnacarroil and Cuilthibo 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. Munnelly and A.M. Reape</i>
Aughagower Community Centre Limited	<i>Cllrs. John O'Malley and M. Adams</i>
Comhlucht Forbartha Bheal An Mhuirthid 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. Munnelly, E. Staunton, A.F. O'Malley, P. O'Brien, J. O'Hara, T. Connolly, M. McNamara, B.K. Gavin and R. Finn</i>
Governing Authority, National University of Galway, Ireland	<i>Cllr. M. Burke</i>
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. E. McCormack</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, E. Staunton 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	0
B. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of fire	6
C. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of all other emergency incidents	0
D. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of all other emergency incidents	5.73

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	30.76
B. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	44.43
C. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	24.81
D. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	38.49
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	53.56
F. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	7.95
- Total number of incidents in respect of fire	673
- Number of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	207
- Number of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	299
- Number of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	167
- Total number of incidents in respect of all other emergency incidents (i.e. not including fire)	239
- Number of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	92
- 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	128
- Number of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	19

F3: Fire Prevention

A. Total number of fire safety certificate applications received	93
B. Total number of fire safety certificate applications processed (including cases deemed invalid)	84
C. Total number of applications deemed invalid	1

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	80
- Total number of local schools and youth groups	100
- Number of local schools and youth groups involved in the local Youth Council/ Comhairle na n-Og scheme	80

CP2: Groups registered with the Community and Voluntary Forum

- Number of groups registered with the Community and Voluntary Forum	700
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Corporate Issues**C1: Working Days lost to Sickness**

A. Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through certified leave	4.15
B. Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through uncertified leave	0.26

- Number of working days lost to sickness absence through certified leave	9128
- Number of working days lost to sickness absence through uncertified leave	582
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	969.93

C2: Staff Training and Development

- Expenditure on Training and Development as a percentage of total payroll	4.45
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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	52.83
- Total volume of water supplied (m3/per day) under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for	55778
- Volume of unaccounted for water (m3/per day) under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for	29470

E.2 Drinking Water Analysis

A. Percentage of drinking water analysis results in compliance with statutory requirements with regard to public schemes	0
B. Percentage of drinking water analysis results in compliance with statutory requirements with regard to private schemes (where appropriate)	0

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	93.36
B. Percentage of households who receive a waste collection service and are provided with segregated waste collection for organics	17.66
- Total number of households provided with a waste collection service	28621
- Number of households provided with a segregated waste collection service for recyclables	27579
- Number of households provided with a segregated waste collection service for organics	5055

E4: Housing Waste Sent for Recycling

A. Percentage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling	31.61
B. Tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling	8646
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)	5463
- Total tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside	27356
- Tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling	8646

- 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)	5463
--	------

E5: Household Waste Sent for Landfill

A. The percentage of household waste collected which is sent to landfill	68.40
B. The tonnage of household waste collected which is sent to landfill	18711

- Total tonnage of household waste collected	27356
- Tonnage of household waste which is sent to landfill	18711

E6: Recycling Facilities

- The total number of Bring Sites in the local authority area	102
- 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	104
D. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	3.98

- 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	104
H. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	3.98

- 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	54
J. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	2

K. The total number of facilities for recycling	56
L. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	2.14

- The number of Bring Sites for recycling	54
- The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	2

Batteries

M. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	1
N. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	2
O. The total number of facilities for recycling	3
P. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	0.11

- The number of Bring Sites for recycling	1
- 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	0.50
D. Number of on-the-spot fines issued	99
E. Number of on-the-spot fines paid	37
F. Number of prosecution cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	2
G. Number of prosecutions secured in cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	1
H. Number of notices issued (under sections 9, 15, 16, 17 and 20 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997)	7
I. Total number of prosecutions taken (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	2
J. Total number of prosecutions secured (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	1
K. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are unpolluted (i.e. litter-free)	0
L. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are slightly polluted with litter	0
M. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are moderately polluted with litter	0
N. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are significantly polluted with litter	0
O. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are grossly polluted with litter	0

- Number of full-time litter wardens	1
- Number of part-time litter wardens	12
- Number of on-the-spot fines issued	99
- Number of on-the-spot fines paid	37
- Number of prosecution cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	2
- Number of prosecutions secured in cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	1
- Number of notices issued (under sections 9, 15, 16, 17 and 20 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997)	7
- Number of prosecutions taken (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	2
- Number of prosecutions secured (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	1

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)	986
B. Number of complaints investigated	596
C. Number of complaints resolved where no further action was necessary	1029
D. Number of enforcement procedures taken	442

E9: Percentage of schools participating in environmental campaigns

A. Percentage of primary schools participating in environmental campaigns	87.13
B. Percentage of secondary schools participating in environmental campaigns	92.59

- Total number of primary schools	171
- Number of primary schools participating in environmental campaigns	149
- Total number of secondary schools	27
- Number of secondary schools participating in environmental campaigns	25

H: Housing**H1: Housing Vacancies**

A. The total number of dwellings in local authority stock	2082
B. The total number of dwellings, excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects	2059
C. The overall percentage of dwellings that are empty (excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects)	7.63
D. The percentage of empty dwellings unavailable for letting	50.96
E. The percentage of empty dwellings available for letting	49.04

- The average number of dwellings in local authority stock	2082
- The average number of dwellings excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects	2059
- The average number of dwellings that are empty (excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects)	157
- The average number of empty dwellings unavailable for letting	80
- The average number of empty dwellings available for letting	77

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	38
- The average time taken (in weeks) from the works (above) being completed to the date of the first rent debit	23

H3: Housing Repairs

- Number of repairs completed as a percentage of the number of valid repair requests received	87.08
- The number of repairs completed	1516
- The number of valid repair requests received	1741

H4: Traveller Accommodation

- Total number of traveller families accommodated as a percentage of the targets set in the local traveller accommodation programme	105.63
- Number of Traveller families accommodated	75
- Target number of Traveller families to be accommodated in the year, as set out in the local Traveller accommodation programme	71

H5: Enforcement of standards in the private rented sector

A. Total number of registered tenancies	4023
B. Number of dwelling units inspected	306
C. Number of inspections carried out	306
D. Number of dwellings inspected as a percentage of registered tenancies i.e. B as percentage of A)	7.60

- Total number of registered tenancies	4023
- Number of dwelling units inspected	306
- Number of inspections carried out	306

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	6
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	7

H7: Pre-Tenancy Familiarisation Courses

A. Total number of new local authority tenants	81
B. Percentage of new local authority tenants who have been offered pre-tenancy familiarisation courses	100

- Total number of new local authority tenants	81
- Number of new local authority tenants who have been offered pre-tenancy familiarisation courses	100

L: Library Services

L1: Library Public Opening Hours

A. Average number of opening hours per week for full-time libraries	37.1
B. Average number of opening hours per week for part-time libraries (where applicable)	17.5
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	37.1
- Average number of opening hours per week for part-time libraries (where applicable)	17.5
- 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	2425.02
- Total number of visits to full-time libraries	316800

L3: Library Stock

A. Annual expenditure on stock per head of population (county/city wide)	1.03
B. Number of items issued per head of population (county/city wide) for books	4
C. Number of items issued per head of population (county/city wide) for other items	0.69

- Annual expenditure on stock	134342
- Total number of books issued	522810
- Total number of other items issued	89572

L4: Internet Access through Libraries

- Number of Internet sessions provided per 1,000 population	464.73
- Total number of Internet sessions provided	60712

M: Motor Taxation (Information is submitted directly to LGCSB)

M1: Number of Motor Tax Transactions

A. Number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with over the counter	88288
B. Number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with by post	11426
C. Number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with in other ways (e.g. online, by telephone)	57758
D. Percentage of motor tax transactions which are dealt with over the counter	56.07
E. Percentage of motor tax transactions which are dealt with by post	7.25
F. Percentage of motor tax transactions which are dealt with in other ways (e.g. online, by telephone)	36.68

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	4927
B. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the second or third day from receipt of the application	1688
C. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application	1759
D. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) in over five days from receipt of the application	3049
E. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the same day as receipt of the application	43.13
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	14.78
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	15.40
H. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) in over five days from receipt of the application	26.69

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	3374
B. Number of Driving License applications which are dealt with on the second or third day from receipt of the application	863
C. Number of Driving License applications which are dealt with on the Fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application	504

D. Number of Driving License applications which are dealt with in over five days from receipt of the application	9662
E. Percentage of overall driving License applications which are dealt with on the same day as receipt of the application	23.43
F. Percentage of overall driving License applications which are dealt with on the second or third day from receipt of the application	5.99
G. Percentage of overall driving License applications which are dealt with on the fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application	3.50
H. Percentage of overall driving License applications which are dealt with in over five days from receipt of the application	67.08

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	201
B. Number of decisions in Column A which were decided within 8 weeks	77
C. Number of decisions in Column A which required the submission of further information	117
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	7
E. Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	76
F. Percentage of applications granted	95.02
G. Percentage of applications refused	4.98
H. Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	77.78
I. Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	22.22

- Number of applications decided	201
- Number of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	77
- Number of decisions which required the submission of further information	117

- 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	7
- Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	76
- Number of applications granted	191
- Number of applications refused	10
- Number of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	7
- Number of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	2

New Housing Development

A. Number of applications decided	2
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	1
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	83
F. Percentage of applications granted	100
G. Percentage of applications refused	0
H. Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	50
I. Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	50

- Number of applications decided	2
- Number of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	1
- Number of decisions which required the submission of further information	1
- 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	83
- Number of applications granted	2
- Number of applications refused	0

- Number of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	0
- Number of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	0

Other: not requiring Environment Impact Assessment

A. Number of applications decided	433
B. Number of decisions in Column A which were decided within 8 weeks	254
C. Number of decisions in Column A which required the submission of further information	165
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	12
E. Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	71.9
F. Percentage of applications granted	94.92
G. Percentage of applications refused	5.08
H. Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	88.89
I. Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	11.11

- Number of applications decided	433
- Number of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	254
- Number of decisions which required the submission of further information	165
- 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	12
- Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	71.9
- Number of applications granted	411
- Number of applications refused	22
- Number of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	40
- Number of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	5

Other: requiring Environment Impact Assessment

A. Number of applications decided	6
B. Number of decisions in Column A which were decided within 8 weeks	4
C. Number of decisions in Column A which required the submission of further information	2

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	103.5
F. Percentage of applications granted	100
G. Percentage of applications refused	0
H. Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	75
I. Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	25

- Number of applications decided	6
- Number of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	4
- Number of decisions which required the submission of further information	2
- 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	103.5
- Number of applications granted	6
- Number of applications refused	0
- Number of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	3
- 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	157
B. Total number of cases subject to complaints that were dismissed	54
C. Total number of cases subject to complaints that were resolved through negotiations	24
D. Number of enforcement procedures taken through warning letters	89
E. Number of enforcement procedures taken through enforcement notices	21
F. Number of prosecutions	0

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	2067
B. Average length of time (in days) from request for consultation with local authority to actual formal meeting for pre-planning consultation	7.6

P5: New Buildings inspected

- Buildings inspected as a percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority	13.58
- Total number of new buildings notified to the local authority	265
- Number of new buildings notified to the local authority that were inspected	36

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	70
B- Number of estates that were taken in charge in the year in question	117
C- Number of dwellings in respect of column B	2893
D- Percentage of estates in column A not completed to satisfaction of the planning authority in line with the planning permission	20
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	1
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	70
- Number of estates that were taken in charge in the year in question	117
- Total number of dwellings in these estates	2893
- Number of estates in column A not completed to satisfaction of the planning authority in line with the planning permission	14
- 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	1
- 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	0.48
B. Number of children's playgrounds per 1,000 population facilitated by the local authority	0.49

A. Number of children's playgrounds directly provided by the local authority	63
B. Number of children's playgrounds facilitated by the local authority	64

Rec.2: Local Authority-Facilitated Leisure Facilities

- Number of visitors to local authority-facilitated leisure facilities per 1,000 population	1742.07
- Number of visitors to local authority-facilitated leisure facilities	227581

Rev: Revenue Collection

Rev.1: House Rent

A. Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due from House Rent	81.54
B. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are up to 1 month old	5.27
C. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are 1-2 months old	3.62
D. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are 2-3 months old	4.67
E. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are more than 3 months old	86.44

Amount due at year end from House Rent	6794013.52
Amount collected at year end from House Rent	5539987.81
Amount of arrears at year end from House Rent	1254025
Amount of arrears on Housing Rent that are up to 4 weeks old	66122
Number of arrears on Housing Rent that are 4-6 weeks old	45364
Number of arrears on Housing Rent that are 6-12 weeks old	58556
Number of arrears on Housing Rent that are more than 12 weeks old	1083983

Rev.2: Housing Loans

A. Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due from Housing Loans	59.71
B. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are up to 1 month old	1.53
C. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are 1-2 months old	1.30
D. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are 2-3 months old	0.91
E. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are more than 3 months old	96.26

- Amount due at year end from Housing Loans	5176635.79
- Amount collected at year end from Housing Loans	3091188.67
- Amount of arrears at year end from Housing Loans	2085447
- Amount of arrears on Housing Loans that are up to 1 month old	31889
- Amount of arrears on Housing Loans that are 1-2 months old	27020
- Amount of arrears on Housing Loans that are 2-3 months old	18982
- Amount of arrears on Housing Loans that are more than 3 months old	2007556

Rev.3: Commercial Rates

- Amount collected at year-end as a percentage of amount due from Commercial rates	70.54
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Rev.4: Refuse Charges

- Percentage of households paying refuse charges (including waivers) at year end	NA
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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	47.57
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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	383.2
- Number of kilometres of local and regional roads constructed under the specific improvement grants scheme per annum	1.5

MAYO ENTERPRISE AND INVESTMENT UNIT

2013 was a busy year at the Enterprise and Investment Unit. A wide range of activities were undertaken during the year, a number of which are highlighted below.

The Gathering

Throughout 2013, Ireland opened its arms to hundreds of thousands of friends and family from all over the world, calling them home to gatherings in villages, towns and cities. The initiative, called The Gathering, was launched by the Irish Taoiseach, Tánaiste and Minister for Tourism in May 2012 and was supported by Fáilte Ireland and Tourism Ireland. This initiative was managed in Mayo by the Enterprise and Investment Unit. 307 gatherings took place in County Mayo in 2013. Events ranged from the three large scale flagship projects, 'Mayo North Welcome Home', 'In Humbert's Footsteps' and 'the Pirate Queen' Festival, to family, school, parish and neighbourhood reunions, sporting and cultural events in every part of Co Mayo.. One of our flagship events, In Humbert's Footsteps, was commended in the Excellence in Local Government Awards 2013. The flagship event also went on to win '*Best National Gathering Event*' at the 2014 LAMA awards.



National Geographic Event Gathering - The Mayo Genes

National Geographic's Genographic Project is a multiyear Global research initiative that uses DNA to map the history of human migration. The Enterprise and Investment Unit, together with National Geographic, hosted a public event at the National Museum of Ireland - Country Life on June 23rd, 2013 where 100 volunteers from around the County were given the opportunity to trace their family history as far back as 2,000 generations. The Genographic project scientists have travelled the globe to collaborate with tens of thousands of indigenous people, whose genetics are particularly significant in determining the path of human civilisation. This was the first time the genographic project visited Ireland for a sampling event of this kind to help the project gain a genetic snapshot of the Irish population.

In addition to the 100 volunteers, a select group of diverse Mayo residents participated in this important research including An Taoiseach Enda Kenny, Minister of State Michael Ring, Cora Staunton, Gavin Duffy, Aoibhinn Ní Shúilleabháin, Paul Claffey, Cathaoirleach of Mayo County Council Cllr Cyril Burke, and Commodore Mark Mellett among others.



[National Geographic Team Return to Mayo as Part of Mayo Science Week](#)

The Genographic team returned in November 2013 whereby project director and National Geographic Explorer-in-Residence Spencer Wells discussed the collective results revealing a new National Geographic Map showing maternal and paternal Geno 2.0 results at a National Science Week event held in Castlebar. The project has formed a strong link between Mayo and National Geographic and has given Mayo worldwide media exposure. Plans for future collaborations between Mayo and National Geographic are in discussion

[Cuyahoga Trade Delegation](#)

A visiting trade delegation from Cuyahoga County, Cleveland, Ohio to Dublin and Mayo was initiated, co-ordinated and hosted by the Enterprise and Investment Unit in October 2013. During the visit a Memorandum of Understanding between both Cuyahoga and Mayo was signed. The partnership sees both counties work together to further develop social, cultural and economic ties and work together for mutual benefit on both sides of the Atlantic. The delegation took part in a number of key events during their visit, including a series of networking meetings with local enterprises, presentations and engagements. The delegation visited Westport, Mulranny and Castlebar with a Homecoming Gathering dinner was held in Mulranny Park Hotel showcasing the best of 'All Things Mayo'. Special guest of Honour, An Taoiseach, Enda Kenny addressed those in attendance at the event, made up of the travelling delegation, tourism groups and business and community representatives from the region.



Brehon Law Symposium

The Enterprise and Investment Unit, in conjunction with the Western Development Commission and NUI Galway, facilitated the Brehon Law Society in hosting its third U.S./Ireland Legal Symposium in Westport in September 2013. The Symposium is designed to bring together internationally-minded in-house attorneys, private legal practitioners and business executives looking to invest in key sectors in Ireland, the U.S. and Europe. The two day event included a mix of Irish and American lawyers, business consultants, and businesses operating in both Ireland and the United States. Themes addressed import/export regulations, legal trends in the US and Ireland, and investing in energy. An Taoiseach, Enda Kenny was the guest of honour at the conference dinner.

Spirit of Place – Tale of the Tongs – Inishturk

The Spirit of Place - Tale of the Tongs project was a collaborative project between, The Inishturk Island Community, Professor Travis Price and a team of Student Architects from Catholic University, Washington and The Enterprise and Investment Unit at Mayo County Council.

The partnership to design and construct an Architectural installation on the Island of Inishturk off the Coast of Mayo was seen as an opportunity to commemorate those families who have resided on Inishturk for generations, those that inhabited the island for 6000 years, as well as those who emigrated from Inishturk and Ireland in general, and those who have returned in the year of the gathering.

The design process of the program took place over one college semester while the construction of the installation took place over a 10 day period in June 2013. The Community of Inishturk worked closely with a team from Mayo County Council in the planning and executing of this project.

The installation signifies our links to the Irish and Mayo Diaspora, the build itself serves into the future as a tourist attraction on the island and indeed may be a reason that many tourists into the future will visit Inishturk. The structure lends itself well to walkers/tourists/family/friends visiting the site and spending some time relaxing in a most tranquil location atop cliffs and hills that drop dramatically to the Atlantic Ocean.

The uniqueness of the Spirit of Place project on Inishturk did not go unrecognised nationally; as it went on to win ‘Most Innovative Local Authority’ at the National LAMA Awards in 2014.



[Ongoing work on Diaspora Relations and Promotion of Mayo.ie](#)

Ongoing work on the Mayo.ie website continued during 2013 with particular emphasis on the development of our social networks. With followers of just under 7000 on Facebook and an additional 2500 on Twitter, interaction with the global Mayo community is clearly evident. The Mayo.ie website continues to work closely with Mayo Communities at home and abroad and have created strong relationships with parishes and towns within the County in terms of the regular posting of news and information. The site is being widely used as a forum to push out information on ‘All things Mayo’ both at home and away.

Strengthening our relationships with the Mayo Associations and Irish Networks worldwide is a key objective in our work with the Diaspora at the Enterprise and Investment Unit. In 2013, representatives from the Enterprise and Investment Unit attended and supported Mayo Association events and projects in Galway, Dublin, London, Philadelphia, New-York, Boston, Cleveland, Manchester and Chicago. Our relationships with these Associations and Networks are particularly important in understanding our Mayo communities away.



[Mary Robinson Centre](#)

The Enterprise and Investment Unit, in conjunction with Ballina Town Council and NUI Galway, are working to establish the Mary Robinson Centre, Victoria House, Ballina (birthplace of the former President) which will incorporate a museum, archive, research facility, education centre and events venue. It will be the first Irish Presidential Library with the former President donating personal diaries, working files and records charting her career, along with speeches, manuscripts and items of note relating to her time as President of Ireland. Public funding has been secured for the centre and the Enterprise & Investment Unit in conjunction with its partners have commenced sourcing private funding to realise this project.

[Web Summit Delegation](#)

The Enterprise and Investment Unit facilitated the organisation of some of Silicon Valley's most innovative investors and CEOs from Ireland, France, Switzerland, UK, USA, United Arab Emirates, Russia, Holland, Italy, and Brazil to include a trip to Mayo as part of their attendance to the Web Summit held in Dublin, October 2013.

[Meetwest](#)

MeetWest, the largest business networking event in the West of Ireland, brought together a wide range of companies from the West of Ireland and further afield together to network and do business. Hosted in November 2013 by the Enterprise and Investment Unit in Westport, 279 Companies, totalling 440 delegates, attended. Over 5,000 one-to-one business meetings were facilitated at the event complimented by a conference and networking dinner with guest speaker, An Taoiseach, Enda Kenny.



Events

One of the key areas in communicating the corporate message of Mayo to the national and international business world, including our Diaspora, is through networking and organising and facilitating events. In this regard the Enterprise and Investment Unit organised and/or participated in a number of events, some of the events involved are listed below:

- Attendance and promotion of Mayo.ie at the Manchester Irish Festival
- A Mayo.ie evening organized to recognize the LAMA award received for the site and to recognize Mayo communities who contribute to the website
- Attendance at the Global Diaspora Conference
- Support of The IGTOA Killeen Trophy Event – Mount Falcon, Ballina
- Support of a Golfing Delegation from Philadelphia to Carne and Ballina
- Support of a Mayo Association London Golf Event in Mayo
- Support and co-ordination of the Spirit of Place Project on Inishturk
- The hosting of a National Geographic Event – Gathering the Mayo Genes
- Brehon Law Symposium
- Representation at the Ireland Canada Business Gathering in Dublin
- Events organized around the Cuyahoga Trade Delegation
 - Civic Reception
 - Business Breakfast
 - Homecoming Gathering Event with An Taoiseach Enda Kenny
- Attendance at the Annual IGTOA Event Conference for the announcement that Mayo would host the annual event in 2014
- The Hosting of a National Geographic Event to coincide with National Science Week
- MeetWest
- Gathering events

Submissions

A number of submissions were made by the Enterprise and Investment Unit to Government Departments and national and local agencies to help shape national and local economic development policy. Submissions were made to:

- Commission for Economic Development of Rural Areas (Research Report on Economic Development of Rural Areas)
- Eirgrid (GridWest Project)
- Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government (Maritime Area and Foreshore Licensing & General Scheme of a Marine Bill)
- Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (Marine Special Areas of Conservation)
- Department of Communications, Energy & Natural Resources (Renewable Energy Export Policy and Development Framework)
- Forward Planning Section, Mayo County Council (Mayo County Development Plan x2)
- West Regional Authority (West Region Outdoor Recreation Strategy)
- Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport (Tourism Policy Review)

Whats Ahead?

After a very active and productive first year, the Enterprise and Investment Unit intend to continue and progress with much of the foundation work laid in 2013. It is also intended to expand focus on additional sectors such as Agriculture, Food, and the Creative's including ICT; to launch an International Mayo Day and to facilitate the transition to the Local Enterprise Office, a position Mayo is well set up for and are looking forward to facilitating and growing. The Enterprise and Investment Unit will continue to develop and foster relationships with the wider global business community and look forward to the announcement of additional jobs in the County during 2014.

WALKING AND TRAILS DEVELOPMENT

Progress is ongoing in the whole area of walking and trails development, there are now in excess of over one hundred and thirty recreational trails developed throughout County Mayo. The ongoing development of same is being supported by the Mayo County Walking and Trails Partnership Group. This Group consists of representatives from Local Leader Companies, Fáilte Ireland, Mayo Sports Partnership, Coillte, Teagasc, Mayo County Council, Community Forum, HSE West and Údaras na Gaeltachta.

During 2013 a number of key activities took place, some of which include the development of trails at the following locations:

- Benwee Loop Walk – North Mayo Coast
- Cross Loop Walk – Belmullet Peninsula
- Raheen Wood - Castlebar
- Extension to the Keenagh - Drumleen Lough
- Cleggan Board Walk located near Ballycroy
- Ongoing upgrade to the Bangor Trail

National Museum Greenway

Funding of €725,000 was approved by the Department of Transport under the National Cycle Network to develop a Greenway trail to connect Castlebar Town with the National Museum of Country Life in Turlough. A Part 8 planning report was prepared and submitted to Mayo County Council for consideration. Approval was obtained and development work has commenced. This project is being supported by the local community at large but in particular by all of the twenty nine landowners who are allowing permissive access through their lands.

Progress is continuing to link this Greenway through Castlebar Town to Lough Lannagh and onwards to Rehins Wood near Islandeady. It is anticipated that this network will be officially opened in 2014.



Work in progress on the new National Museum Greenway

National Awards

The award winning Great Western Greenway, one of Mayo's flagship attractions, is continuing to grow hugely in popularity. During 2013, the Greenway was awarded first prize in the Exemplary Initiatives Category at the 6th European Greenway Awards ceremony.

The European Greenway Award promotes examples of best practice in greenway developments across Europe. This event was organised by the European Greenways Association as part of this year's international conference 'Greenways and Sustainable Tourism'.



Padraig Phiblin, Mayo County Council, Brian Quinn, Fáilte Ireland, Michael Ring T.D. and Anna Connor, Mayo County Council

Greenway Features on National Lottery Programme

In May 2013 the Great Western Greenway was featured on RTE's Winning Streak Programme. The Greenway got a total of 3 minutes of prime time television. It showcased the Greenway Product and it also highlighted how the Greenway has benefited both local community and local business. The short promotional clip can be viewed from the following link:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3a2Ho7VrObw>

National Print Media

A number of Mayo Trails have featured on many local and national publications, examples include walk of the week and the summer living series in the Irish Times. The following trails have been showcased, Ceathru Thaidhg, Inishturk and the Great Western Greenway



Promotion pieces on National Newspapers

Mayo in Motion

The Mayo Walking and Trails Partnership Group in association with Mayo Sports Partnership facilitated an initiative to promote walking as an enjoyable way towards a healthy and active lifestyle. Over 22 communities throughout the county participated in the project which proved to be an outstanding success with people of all ages participating. A total of forty nine scheduled walks were organised and listed by community groups, workplaces and other event organisers during the month of June, most of which took part on newly established trails. Bike Week also formed part of the promotion and in addition a total of nineteen cycling events took place. All of the events were highlighted by way of advertisement in all of the local press and websites such as www.mayotrails.ie www.mayosports.ie in 2014 it is anticipated that a similar promotion will be organised.



Walkers along the North Mayo Coast

Trade Shows

During 2013 Mayo Trails has actively participated at Trade Shows including the Holiday World Show, Europeade and the National Ploughing Championship.



Mayo Trails Promotional Stands

RTE Tracks & Trails

During 2013 recording for the popular Tracks and Trails programme took place in Ceathru Thaidhg.

The programme was aired on RTE1 in February 2014 and attracted in excess of 340,000 viewers. The Track and Trails programme was produced by Sherwin Media and was supported by Mayo County Council.



Tracks & Trails Camera Crew and Presenters

ROADS TRANSPORTATION AND SAFETY

Funding of €26m was received from the National Roads Authority and the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport for the National and Non-National Road network. The Council provided €3m for the road network in the year.

The following is the breakdown of the National Primary Improvement Works grant totaling €1,319,000:

National Primary – Major Schemes:		
N5	Charlestown By-Pass	€104,000
N5/ N26/ N58	Turlough to Bohola	€500,000
N5	Westport to Bohola	€700,000
		€1,304,000

National Primary – Safety Measures:		
N26	Foxford Town (Design)	€5,000
N17	N17/R320 Junction at Lisduff, Claremorris	€10,000
		€15,000

The grant for National Primary Maintenance totaling €603,021 was broken down as follows:

National Primary – Maintenance:	
Ordinary Maintenance	€382,604
Winter Maintenance	€130,000
Route Lighting	€90,417
€603,021	

The following is a summary of the position on major schemes on the National Roads in County Mayo:

✧ N5 Charlestown By-Pass

The allocation of €104,000 was in respect of payment of outstanding retention monies due on the contract and the settlement of some outstanding land acquisition Arbitration cases.

✧ N5 Westport - Bohola

The allocation of €700,000 is in respect of the payment of outstanding fees; additional site investigation; up-dating of CPO mapping and schedules, and subject to NRA approval, the publication of CPO and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

✧ N5/N26/N58 Turlough - Bohola

The allocation of €500,000 to this project allowed for the selection of the preferred route corridor for the N5 between Turlough and Bohola together with a connecting corridor and junction linking the N5 to the N58 and N26.

N5 WESTPORT TURLOUGH ROAD PROJECT

During 2013, Mayo County Council received the approval of the National Roads Authority to publish the Compulsory Purchase Order, the Environmental Impact Statement and Natura Impact Statement for the N5 Westport to Turlough Road Project.

The proposal will comprise a 27km Type 2 dual carriageway including a relief road around Westport connecting the N5 to the N59 at a cost of €200 million. The approval follows on from the completion of the Compulsory Purchase Documentation, Scheme Design, Environmental Impact Statement and Project Appraisal for the proposed project.

On 2nd August 2013 the Compulsory Purchase Order and Mapping were signed and sealed by the Council. All supporting documentation was submitted to An Bord Pleanala in September and acknowledged shortly afterwards.

During September some 547 notices were issued by registered post to landowners, lessees and reputed owners and nineteen notices were also issued to prescribed bodies. By the closing date of 23rd October, An Bord Pleanala had received a total of 106 submissions and observations in connection with the proposal. In December An Bord Pleanala gave notice of an Oral Hearing to be held in January 2014 relating to the proposal. Following submission of documentation, An Bord Pleanala's decision is expected by the end of 2014.

The 2013 National Secondary Improvement Grant of €3,695,000 was expended on pavement works, improvements to the N59 (Westport to Mulranny) and the provision of safety measures on the Secondary Road Network and grants were allocated in respect of the following:

National Secondary – Safety Measures:		
N59	Erris Road Crossmolina (Construction)	€15,000
N59	Kevin Barry Street, Ballina, (Design)	€30,000
N59	Moyna Junction / L5431 (Construction)	€80,000
N60	N60/ N83 at Devlis, Ballyhaunis (Design)	€10,000
N60	N60/R327 Cloonfad Junction, Claremorris	€15,000
N83	N83/R329 Kilmannin, Ballyhaunis (Design)	€10,000
		€160,000

National Secondary – Pavement & Minor Improvements:		
N58	Clooncondra	€165,000
N59	Carrowkilleen	€40,000
N59	Dooleeg	€40,000
N59	Mulranny-Bellaveeney Phase 1 (Design)	€40,000
N59	Bohea Repairs	€55,000
N59	Kilbride Road Improvements	€500,000
N59	Mulranny Footpaths	€300,000

N59	Rosow Bends	€200,000
N59	Westport Pavement & Overlay (Design)	€40,000
N60	Heathlawn	€320,000
N60	Lagnamuck	€160,000
N60	Manulla Cross	€420,000
N84	North of Kilmaine Repairs	€55,000
		€2,335,000

National Secondary – Majors:		
N59	Westport to Mulranny	€1,200,000

N60 HEATHLAWN

In November 2013 the National Roads Authority conveyed their approval to submit the Compulsory Purchase Order and Natura Impact Statement for the N60 Heathlawn Project to An Bord Pleanala.

The proposal will comprise a 3.6km Type 2 single carriageway on-line realignment of the existing road between Balla and Claremorris at an estimated cost of €10 million. The approval follows on from the completion of the Compulsory Purchase Documentation, Scheme Design, Natura Impact Statement and Project Appraisal for the proposal.

The Compulsory Purchase Order mapping and order were signed by the Cathaoirleach, Mayo County Council, and by the County Manager on 18th December 2013. The seal was affixed by the County Secretary on the same day. Following submission of documentation, An Bord Pleanala's decision is expected by the end of 2014.

N59 MULRANNY FOOTPATHS

Construction of the N59 Mulranny Footpaths commenced in 2013. The project is divided into three Areas and the progress through 2013 is outlined in the table below:

<p>Area 1 (Church to Hotel)</p>	<p>This area was substantially completed during 2013, consisting of the provision of two sections of new footpath: the section from the Church to the Hotel and a short section just to the east of the Hotel.</p>
<p>Area 2 (Moynish House to Tourist Office)</p>	<p>Land acquisition was agreed with the landowners in this section, and the front facades of two buildings were set back to accommodate the footpath construction. This section will be constructed before Summer 2014.</p>
<p>Area 3 (Village Core and the East End of Village)</p>	<p>A Compulsory Purchase Order was published for this area of the scheme in December 2013. It is expected that construction will commence on this section late in 2014.</p>

Before Construction



During Construction



After Construction



N59 WESTPORT TO MULRANNY PROJECT

Background Information

Mayo National Roads Design Office (NRDO), in consultation with the National Roads Authority (NRA), was requested to examine the issues relating to the feasibility of carrying out improvements schemes on Low Volume Tourist Routes on Coastal National Secondary Roads in Mayo.

In July 2009, Mayo NRDO produced a Feasibility Study – Mayo National Secondary Roads Study Low Volume (Type 3) Single Carriageway Routes, to investigate whether any sections of the National Secondary road network in Mayo were suitable for inclusion in the Low Volume Tourist Route Improvement Schemes.

The studies showed that upgrading works on the N59 at two locations were feasible, one of which was the N59 Westport to Mulranny National Secondary Road which is a key link on the tourist route between Westport, Mulranny, Achill and Erris.

Work progressed on this 24km route with Route Options presented to the public in December 2010 and the Emerging Preferred Route in April 2011.

An early construction section, the Kilbride Section, was identified in 2011 and all the land for this 2.8km section was acquired through 22 landowner agreements. Work commenced on this section in December 2011 and was substantially completed in October 2012.

On the 2nd July, 2012 An Bord Pleanála confirmed the Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) for the remainder 21.2 km of the N59 Westport to Mulranny Road Project.

The N59 Westport to Mulranny was officially opened by Michael Ring, TD, Minister of State at the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport on 27th September 2013.

Creation of Employment and Accessibility / Tourism

The Westport to Mulranny section of the N59 serves as the main access route for tourists visiting Westport, Newport, Mulranny, Achill Island and north to Belmullet, Erris and the Céide Fields in North Mayo. It serves the Gaeltacht areas of Acaill (Achill) and Iorrais (Erris).

Westport, Achill and the surrounding area of Mayo is a major attraction for visitors to Ireland. In 2011, the number of visitors to the West of Ireland was approximately 2,586,000 (Fáilte Ireland). These figures emphasise the region's importance as a visitor destination in Ireland.

This road project, in conjunction with the Great Western Greenway and the enhancements proposed under this project, will provide an improved transport link to this region and will enhance economic growth and employment, particularly in the area of tourism. The Greenway has two at-grade crossing points at Kilmeena (Clooneen townland) and Burrishoole (Kiltarnaght townland).

The N59 Westport to Mulranny project proposes to remove these conflicts which will greatly improve the tourist experience on the Greenway.

Road Safety

Road Safety is an important issue, particularly on National Secondary single carriageway roads. The existing N59 road has a sub-standard alignment and safety is compromised as a result. The narrow cross-section of the existing N59 route combined with sharp bends and steep gradients also makes it unsuitable for non-motorised users (pedestrians and cyclists).

The accident rate on the N59 is greater than the national average for a national road (RSA Road Collision Facts 2008). The proposed scheme will address the safety of this section of the national secondary route.

The provision of a consistent alignment and junctions designed to NRA DMRB (*Design Manual for Roads and Bridges*) standards will reduce driver confusion and error, while the provision of overtaking opportunities will reduce driver frustration. The percentage of overtaking currently available on the existing road is approximately 19%. The proposed scheme would increase those opportunities to 32%.

Visibility along the main road and at junctions will be improved considerably. These measures will have a beneficial effect on road safety.

As part of the scheme, a cycle track will be provided in certain areas in conjunction with the Great Western Greenway which will have a positive effect on both the quality and safety of the road for non-motorised users. Two at-grade crossings of the Great Western Greenway will be removed as part of the proposed scheme.



The official opening of the N59 Westport to Mulranny Road by Minister of State for Tourism and Sport, Michael Ring, T.D.



Minister of State for Tourism and Sport, Michael Ring, T.D. officially opened the N59 Westport to Mulranny Road on 27th September 2013 in the presence of the Cathaoirleach of Mayo County Council Councillor John O'Malley; Sean O'Neill, NRA Head of Communications; Peter Hynes, County Manager; Paddy Mahon, DOS; Charles Wills, Wills Brothers; Gerry Carty, Christy O'Sullivan and Declan Collins, RPS; staff from the National Roads Design Office and site staff.

The 2013 National Secondary Maintenance Grant of €730,693 was distributed as follows:

National Secondary – Maintenance:	
Ordinary Maintenance	€488,698
Winter Maintenance	€160,000
Route Lighting	€81,995
	€730,693

National Roads – Local Authority Support

There was a new allocation for Local Authority Engineering Support in 2013. These allocations are towards the running costs of the offices dealing with the improvement schemes and maintenance programmes on the National Road network in County Mayo and are broken down as follows:

National Roads – Local Authority Support	
Local Authority Support (Improvement)	€271,420
Project Office Support (Improvement)	€1,037,710
Local Authority Support (Maintenance)	€55,615
Local Authority Support (Winter Maintenance)	€10,000
	€1,374,745

Non-National Roads, Local Improvement Schemes, Regional and Local Roads

Regional Road Grants	
Regional Roads - Maintenance	€1,157,000
Regional Roads – Winter Maintenance	€475,065
Regional Roads - Surface Dressing	€1,010,565
Regional Roads – Other Works	€270,000
Regional Roads – Restoration Improvement Grant	€2,656,846

Low Cost Safety Improvement Grants–Regional Roads	€115,000
Bridge Inspections [NRA Grant]	€25,000
Drainage Grants	€18,395
	€5,727,871

Local Roads Grants	
Local Roads – Restoration Improvement Grant	€5,720,798
Local Roads – Surface Dressing	€2,677,985
International Roughness Index – IRI Survey	€20,000
Local Improvement Schemes	€255,000
Councillors N.O.M. Allocations (31 x €30,000)	€930,000
Local Roads Maintenance	€2,963,245
Verge Trimming/Hedgecutting	€100,000
Low Cost Safety Improvement Grants – Local Roads	€70,000
Regional & Local Roads – Training Grant	€90,000
Ineligible Expenditure [against grants]	€550,000
Drainage Works	€157,487
	€13,534,515

Specific Improvement Grants were allocated for the following schemes:

Specific Improvement Grants	
L57890 Gortnafolla Bridge:	€300,000
R311 Rehins, Newport Road, Castlebar:	€200,000
R335 Killala Streets	€400,000
R335 Bunowen Bridge, Louisburgh	€400,000
R319 Tonragee, Achill Sound	€460,000
	€1,760,000



Sustainable Travel

In June 2013, Mayo County Council were approved seed funding of €40,000 from the Sustainable Transport Division of the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport (DTTAS) to progress the planning of the proposed Monasteries of the Moy Greenway between Ballina and Killala.

In November 2013, Mayo County Council submitted an application to the DTTAS under the “Active Travel Town Programme” for Claremorris Town. It is proposed to install a traffic calming scheme in Claremorris Town Centre, the construction of a safe route to schools and road segregated walking and cycling facility to link St. Colmans College to the Town Centre. A grant of €431,500 is being sought for works to commence in 2014.

Cycle-to-Work Scheme

Mayo County Council continued the Cycle-to-Work Scheme during 2013. Since this scheme was introduced in April 2010, a total of 270 Staff have availed of this scheme. The total cost involved to date is €190,870 and this amount is fully recouped through salary deductions.

Community Involvement Scheme

In 2013, the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport introduced a revised Community Involvement Scheme. The scheme enabled local communities to carry out small road improvements with assistance from the Council who supplied plant and materials.

The scheme is based on community contributions within the range of 20% to 50% of the cost of the proposed works and are based on the following table:

Local Community Rate	Where Applicable
20%	All works carried out by the Council
30%	Most works are undertaken by the Council
40%	Most works are undertaken by the Community
50%	All works are undertaken by the Local Community – the Council contributes by way of materials or plant

In 2013, there were a total of 45 schemes approved and an expenditure of €232,000 was incurred by the Council during the year on the scheme with an equal contribution by local communities by way of labour input.

The types of works undertaken consisted of bend removals, drainage, footpaths and other minor type improvements.

ROAD SAFETY

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 will also be working 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.

The following areas were targeted by the Road Safety Officer in 2013:

- 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
- The use of such mediums as Facebook and You Tube to deliver the road safety message to a wider audience

Road Accident Statistics - Mayo

<i>Year</i>	Fatalities
2002	14
2003	10
2004	13
2005	14
2006	11
2007	9
2008	10
2009	10
2010	8
2011	12
2012	7
2013	6

MOTOR TAX

The Motor Taxation Office deals with the administration of the Vehicle Licensing Legislation in County Mayo.

The Council is no longer involved in Driver Licensing. This function was transferred to the Road Safety Authority in 2013.

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, goods vehicles, motor cycles and agricultural tractors.

A new system of declaring vehicles off the road in advance was introduced in 2013. This replaced the old system whereby a person could declare a vehicle off the road retrospectively at a Garda station. The new system was introduced in July 2013 and 6790 vehicles were declared off the road up to 31st December 2013.

The total income for motor taxation collected locally through the Councils network of Motor Tax Offices in the county for 2013 was €19,535,500, an increase of €685,000 or almost 4% over 2012. The total number of transactions handled by the local motor tax offices in 2013 was 121,511, an increase of 2917 over 2012.

The use of the online motor tax facility continues to grow year on year which reflects the user friendly nature of the service. In 2013, the total number of online transactions was 64,653 with an associated income of €13,838,226. This compares with 55,961 online transactions in 2012 and an income of €11,778,600.

The total income for motor taxation for County Mayo in 2013 was €33,373,711. The income for 2012 was €30,629,272, an increase of 9% in 2013.

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.

GROUP WATER SCHEMES

The Rural Water Programme is administered by Local Authorities and is comprised of a number of measures to address deficiencies in:-

- Group Water Schemes
- Small Public Water & Sewerage Schemes
- Private supplies where no alternative group or public scheme is available.

Expenditure under the Rural Water Programme for Group Water Schemes falls under the following general headings:-

- (i) Quality deficient schemes
- (ii) Network upgrades – Water Conservation
- (iii) Takeover by Local Authority
- (iv) Connection to Public Main
- (v) New Group Water Schemes
- (vi) New Group Sewerage Schemes

The Rural Water Monitoring Committee oversees the operation of the Rural Water Programme locally.

Mayo County Council are the supervisory Authority for Group Water Schemes under the Drinking Water Regulations, 2007. The Council are required to monitor (sample and analyse) group water supplies through their monitoring programmes. The HSE carry out the sampling on behalf of Mayo County Council.

Schemes Taken-Over In 2013

Corlummin Lower	Mountbrown
Tourmakeady	Slaughter Hill
Ramolin/Brodella	Caherduff/The Neale
Carranurlaur (A)	Cloongowla
Shammer	Ballindrehid
Thornhill	Rathduff
Glan West	Ardboley
Cortoon	Lacken North
Cashel	Carrowreagh
Mayo Abbey Villages	Carha
Ballymartin	Castleconnor/Corrimbla
Cahermaculick	Carrowcubic
Logboy	

Schemes upgraded in 2013

Attymass
Loughanemon
Barnacorroll

WATER SERVICES

In 2013, Mayo County Council continued to ensure that the quality of drinking water and the quality of waste water discharging into our waterways was of the highest possible standard and in compliance with the appropriate regulations.

Investment in 2013 focused on:

- Water Conservation
- Upgrade works at Tourmakeady for the Lough Mask Regional water supply scheme.
- Progressing the Charlestown/Belmullet/Foxford sewerage scheme(as a Bundle)
- Progressing solutions for Westport and Kilmaine water schemes.
- Dealing with a Remedial Action List in respect of specific water schemes.
- Killala Sewerage Scheme.

Irish Water

A new company, Irish Water (An Bord Uisce) has been established under the auspices of An Bord Gais. This new company will effectively take over the delivery of the water services investment programme from Local Authorities. It's envisaged that local authorities will act as agents of Irish water under Water Service Level Agreements for the delivery of water services. The new company will see:

- the introduction of a sustainable funding model to support increased investment in the sector , to underpin job creation and statutory compliance.
- the introduction of independent economic regulation of the water sector under the Commission of Energy Regulation.

The year 2013 marked the last year in which the Council would have direct responsibility for the provision and maintenance of water services. With effect from the 1st January 2014 the Council will act as agent to Irish water in accordance with an agreed Service Level Agreement.

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 which will incorporate source protection, risk management taking of supplies, and publishing details of water quality. A draft Drinking Water Incident Response Plan (DWIRP) has been prepared.

In 2013, water quality results were 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 audits many public water supplies in Mayo. In 2013 there were 4 public water schemes on the EPA Remedial Action List. The Council are actively pursuing solutions in each case.

Countywide Water Conservation Project

The Countywide Water conservation project commenced in 2004, and comprises of 3 distinct stages:

- Stage 1: Mapping the pipeline networks, and setting up District Metering Area's (DMA's)
- Stage 2: Leak detection and repair.
- Stage 3: Mains Rehabilitation works.

To-date stage 1 & 2 works have been completed, for a total cost of €6 million. There are now 201 DMA's monitoring approx. 2,500 km of water mains within 31 water supply schemes. (See *Fig.1*) The DMA meters are linked to an asset management system via telemetry. This provides vital information, on water flows within the DMA's, to staff working in the Area Offices and the Water Treatment plants. Water consumption across the county is now monitored on a daily basis.

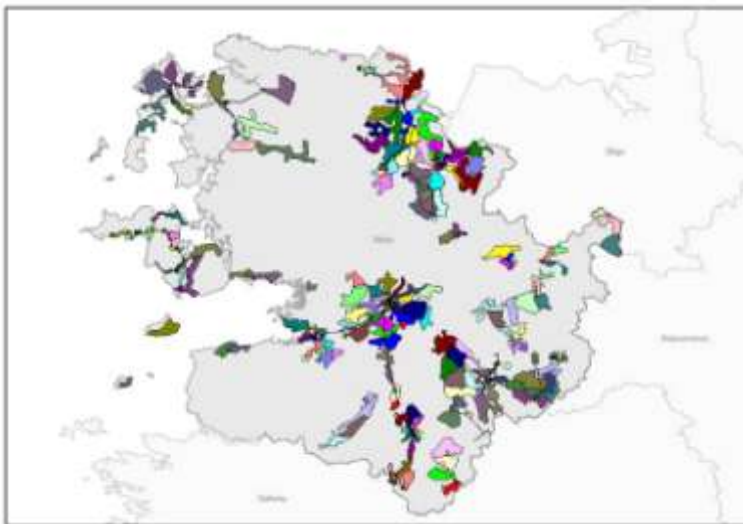


Fig. 1: District Metering Areas (DMA's) within Mayo

Water audits are carried out on a weekly basis and the information gathered is used to prioritise the workload of the counties 4 waste water inspectors. Typically 731 leaks are repaired annually across the entire network. When the project commenced in 2004 it was estimated that countywide consumption was almost 68,000m³ per day. In 2006 the total countywide consumption for our Public water supply schemes was recorded as 64,000m³ per day. Today the consumption is 56,000m³ per day (12.54 million Gallons per day) with further savings expected when Stage 3 rehabilitation works are completed. (See Fig. 2)

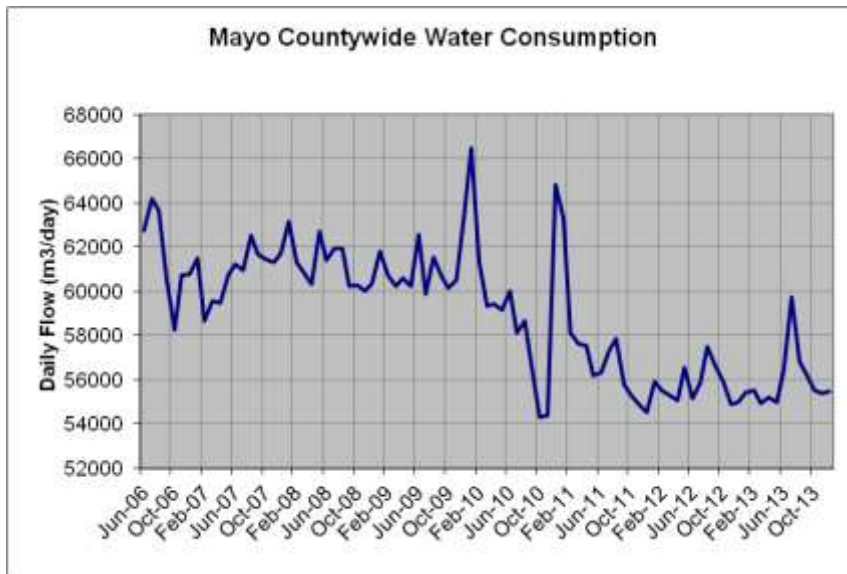


Fig. 2: Graph of Water Consumption within Mayo

To date 6.5km of mains have been replaced under stage 3 works. A number of further schemes are progressing with 3 contracts expected to start in 2014 resulting in almost 50km of mains replacement. A number of additional contracts are progressing through the planning process.

Waste Water Discharge Licences

Mayo County Council have applied to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for Waste Water Discharge Authorisations for the Waste Water Treatment Plants in the county under legislation introduced in 2007.

Five new licences were granted in 2013. These licence applications were withdrawn and will be re-submitted as applications for Certificates of Authorisation.

The current status of the application process is as follows:

Capacity of Waste Water Treatment Plant (population equivalent)	Waste Water Discharge Applications Submitted	Number of Licences / Certificates Granted to date
Greater than 10,000	3	3 Licences
2,001 to 10,000	10	3 Licences
1,001 to 2,000	8	3 Licences
500 to 1,000	10	8 Licences
Below 500	12	12 Certificates

[Water Services Investment Programme](#)

Schemes Completed in 2013

Water Conservation: Kiltimagh Rehabilitation Works	€1m
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Schemes in Progress in 2013

Lough Mask Regional Water Supply Scheme - Upgrade works at Tourmakeady	€8m
Water Conservation Stage 3 Rehab Works	€6m
Lough Mask Regional Water Supply Scheme – Ballinrobe to Kilmaine	€1.7m

Schemes to Commence in 2014

The Council are actively pursuing commencement of the following schemes with Irish Water.

Srah to Westport Ext from Lough Mask	€10.0m
Ballina RWSS – Extension to Bonniclonlon	€1m
Water Conservation Stage 3 - Rehab Work	€3m

Schemes to be advanced through Planning

Belmullet , Foxford and Charlestown Waste Water Treatment Plants (as a bundled scheme)
Killala Sewerage scheme
Water Conservation Stage 3 Rehabilitation Works
Breaffy Village Sewerage Scheme

Small Schemes

The Following Small Schemes were commenced during the year:

- Cross Waste Water Treatment Plant
- The Neale Waste Water Treatment Plant
- Newport Water Mains Replacement

Treatment Plants for Mayo Abbey and Turlough were completed in 2013.

Water Metering / Water Charges

Water and Sewerage charges, for Non-Domestic customers, have been linked to volumetric usage since 2008. A dedicated team is in place which deals with Water Services charges and Water Conservation issues.

At present there are 11,775 water flowmeters in operation across the county. Out of this number 2,192 customers have more than 1 meter registered on their account.

During 2013, invoices were issued on a monthly, three monthly or six monthly basis depending on the consumption of the customer. This equates to over 2,000 bills being processed per month. Advice on managing your water supply is issued to customers along with their invoices. An emphasis is placed on encouraging customers to prioritize the repair of any leakage they may have within their own water supply system.

Customers can now pay their Water Services Charges in any Mayo County Council office or online at www.mayococo.ie/epayments

The charges for 2013 were €0.97/m³ for water and €1.43/m³ for sewerage.

WATER SAFETY

A total of 24 lifeguards were employed by Mayo County Council during the period June – September 2013 and they were located at the most popular areas for outdoor water based activities in the county. They were as follows:

Bertra, Westport	Keem, Achill
Old Head, Louisburgh	Keel, Achill
Carramore, Louisburgh	Silver Strand, Dugort, Achill
Carrowniskey, Louisburgh	Ross, Killala
Belmullet Shore Rd. Pool	Mulranny



Mayo County Council Beach Lifeguard on patrol on Keel beach, Achill in August 2013

The provision of the lifeguard service ensures the safety of all those who visit Mayo's waterways where there has an impeccable safety record since the inception of the service back in the mid 70's.

Mayo County Council is very proud of it's lifeguard service and provides the highest standard of non mechanical rescue equipment at all lifeguard stations throughout the county. Defibrillators are also on site and all lifeguards employed in 2013 qualified as Cardiac First Responders (CFR) at induction training prior to employment.

Besides the employment of lifeguards and the provision of equipment the Water Safety function also involves the promotion of awareness and this is done primarily by organising water safety courses in the public pools (Castlebar, Ballina, Claremorris & Westport) during the winter months and at numerous outdoor locations during the summer.

This extensive programme of courses included the following locations in 2013:

Ballyhaunis, Belmullet, Charlestown and Kilmovee Pools
Clare Island, Inishturk and Lacken Pier

1584 certificates issued in 2013 to both children and adults from County Mayo for participation in these water safety courses.

These courses are the breeding ground for the next generation of lifeguards, swim teachers and water safety instructors who will be employed by Local Authorities and the private leisure industry into the future.

The replacement of ringbuoys, which are vandalised, damaged or stolen, is a continuous problem for local authorities. Irish Water Safety developed a website www.ringbuoys.ie where any member of the public can report missing or damaged ringbuoys to any Local Authority. An e-mail is sent to the Water Safety Officer in the relevant Local Authority, who will then ensure that the lifesaving equipment is replaced without delay.



Beach Lifeguards employed by Mayo Council Council during the Summer of 2013

PIERS AND HARBOURS 2013

Funding of €427,500 was received from the Department of the Agriculture, Food and the Marine for the following piers. The Council provided a further €142,500 contribution towards those works.

Piers & Harbours	Description of Works	Total Cost	Grant	MCC Contribution
Bundorragha Pier	Widen and extend existing pier and construct new slipway	€150,000	€112,500	€37,500
Newport Quay Wall	Repair sea wall	€150,000	€112,500	€37,500
Killala Main Pier	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension of existing slipway to facilitate expeditious launch of Irish Coast Guard craft • Upgrading of aids to navigation on the approach to harbour • Surface repairs to harbour deck 	€120,000	€90,000	€30,000
Saleen, Belmullet	Reconstruct pier walls and resurface deck	€150,000	€112,500	€37,500
		€570,000	€427,500	€142,500

Westport Harbour

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine provided grant aid of €150,000 towards new marine tourism/leisure infrastructure for Westport Harbour. This funding was provided under the “Marine Leisure & Marine Tourism Capital Infrastructure Development Programme 2013”. Mayo County Council supplemented this grant with a 25% contribution i.e. €50,000.

The work involved the construction of a boat hardstand area and associated services including a carpark, tourism amenity park and general services. The development significantly benefitted the tourism amenity in this area.

Killala Harbour

Under the “Fishery Harbours and Coastal Infrastructure Development Programme 2013” the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine provided a grant of €112,500 towards the reconstruction of the harbour walls & safety works at Killala Harbour. Mayo County Council provided a further €37,500 contribution towards those works.

The works involved the reconstruction of approximately 50 metres of existing quay wall with a new reinforced concrete retaining wall on a mass concrete base. Provision of new ladders/steps for access to boats and provision of mooring rings and bollards construct a deck alongside newly constructed wall and develop amenity and parking areas.

The works completed a deeper inner dock area for small craft separated from larger fishing vessels and also provided additional berthage (as this area was unusable previously) thereby facilitating easier access and mooring for smaller vessels. The leisure/amenity area is located directly adjacent to harbour



OUR ENVIRONMENT AWARENESS...ENFORCEMENT...PROTECTION

Environment Awareness

Environmental Awareness is an integral part of environment protection and conservation in Mayo. Environmental awareness is focused on all sectors of the community – school children, young adults, householders, businesses and community groups. Each year new campaigns are developed while the long standing programmes such as Green Schools continue to grow.

Schools Environment Awareness Programme

Mayo County Council has continued to promote environmental awareness on the issues of litter, waste, recycling, composting, energy and water conservation with our pre-school, primary and secondary schools. Information and awareness visits were carried out in schools throughout 2013. Schools are offered compost bins and other promotional and awareness information free of charge, and they are actively encouraged to avail of the tours to the recycling/landfill centres.

Several school based programmes were held in 2013 including the ‘Food We Eat’ programme, biodiversity awareness workshops and workshops on the protection of water, waste and energy all with the specific aim of increasing awareness on environmental issues among young people.



Green Schools Programme

The Green School's Programme is an international programme designed to encourage and acknowledge whole school action for the environment. This programme is run in co-operation with Local Authorities throughout Ireland and is managed by An Taisce – The National Trust for Ireland. Green Schools offers a well-defined controllable way for the schools to take environmental issues from their curriculum and apply them to the day-to-day running of their school. This process helps the pupils recognise the importance of environmental issues. Green Schools is both a programme and an award scheme.

The award is given to schools that complete the seven steps of the programme and has to be renewed every two years. To date, in Mayo there are 188 schools registered for the Green Schools Programme and of these 155 have been awarded Green Flag status.

Pre-schools, primary and secondary schools can participate in the Green Schools programme and a Green Centre and Campus programme is open to other educational centres and third level colleges. Six green teacher seminars were hosted by Mayo County Council in 2013 to reflect the six themes of the Green Schools themes.



St. Tiernan's College Crossmolina is awarded with their First Green Flag in May 2013

Community Groups Awareness Programme

The partnership between Mayo County Council and community groups continued to strengthen and grow in 2013 in the area of Environment Awareness. As well as the ongoing programmes on litter, waste reduction, composting and recycling a focus in 2013 has been raising awareness to the new septic tank inspections and encouraging greater care and maintenance of septic tanks. This year a number of events were organised in partnership with the local tidy towns committees and community groups. Information stands were placed at the Swinford Agricultural Show, Belmullet Heritage Day and in Allergan Pharmaceuticals while environmental awareness workshops were held in Cong, Kilmaine, Clogher and Castlebar.



Mayo County Council Environment awareness stand at Swinford Agricultural Show with support of Swinford Tidy Towns Committee



Official opening of Ballina Composting Site in October 2013



Master composting workshop with Castlebar Scouts at Lough Lannagh Holiday Village in May 2013

Gather for the Gathering

In February 2013, Mayo County Council in partnership with Ireland West Airport Knock and Kilmaine Tidy Towns Committee held a major litter clean up event whereby the approach roads to the Airport were cleaned in preparation for visitors to the County in the year of the Gathering. The litter clean up took place on Sunday morning February 24th and volunteers from across the county joined in the event. A 10 mile radius of the airport was cleaned completely of litter.



Gather for the Gathering litter clean up event is launched at Ireland West Airport Knock. Pictured are Sharon Cameron, Environment Awareness Officer, Mayo County Council; Kevin Sheridan, Kilmaine Tidy Towns Committee, Trina Donohue, HR Manager, IWAK; Ann Walsh and Marian Sheridan, Kilmaine Tidy Towns Committee; Bridie Moran and Pamela Flanagan, Westport Tidy Towns Committee



Volunteers busy at work in the ‘Gather for the Gathering’ event



Two large skips of litter are collected in two hours in the ‘Gather for the Gathering’ event



In November 2013, Mayo County Council ran a successful anti litter campaign with i102 radio in which responsible bin users were rewarded with cash by the undercover i102 team.

Local Authority Prevention Network

In 2013 as part of the EPA's Local Authority Prevention Network (LAPN) Mayo County Council ran a programme to 'Green' the Westport Festival of Music and Food. The programme was co-ordinated by the Environment Awareness Officer and involved participation from volunteers from local schools, community groups and tidy towns committees. The programme was a tremendous success with 3.6 tonne of waste collected - an increase of 44% on the previous year.



Volunteers who took place in the 'Green your Festival event'



WEEE Recycling day at Belmullet Civic Offices

FREE Electrical Recycling Days for Householders

During 2013, Mayo County Council in association with WEEE Ireland carried out FREE Electrical Recycling Days in 33 locations

People can recycle anything with a plug or a battery for free at these events as well as all types of waste batteries. Our strong links with community contacts and voluntary groups proved very effective in communicating and publicising these events in the various towns.

WEEE Cages - In 2013, Mayo Council promoted the uptake of the new WEEE Ireland recycling cage which offers a year round solution to communities and business for electrical recycling.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Derrinnumera and Rathroeen Civic Amenity Centres provide a drop-off service for household hazardous waste such as old paints, pesticides and medicines. There is a need to provide this service to other areas of the County. In May, 2013, Mayo County Council provided for a mobile household hazardous waste collection in Claremorris. This “Chemcar” event was very successful with householders throughout the region using the service. Over ten tonne of household hazardous waste was collected at this event.



Support to Business

In 2013 Mayo County Council offered practical support to business in the form of energy/water/food waste audits. This was supported by the EPA, LAPN programme. Two businesses were offered audits and follow-up support on managing their environmental impact and costs.



Food waste audit in a busy restaurant

National Spring Clean

National Spring Clean is Ireland’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. 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.

Christmas Campaign

In January 2013, a Christmas Card Recycling Campaign was held to coincide with the Christmas Tree Recycling campaign. The annual Christmas Decoration Competition for Primary Schools takes place annually in December. The challenge is to encourage children to make Christmas decorations for Mayo County Council's Christmas Tree from everyday waste materials. All decorations are displayed the Reception Area of Aras an Chontae, Castlebar.

Anti-Litter & Anti Graffiti Grants 2013

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. Funding has been allocated to seven organisations for Anti-Litter and Anti-Graffiti projects in 2013.

Local Agenda 21 Environmental Partnership Fund 2013

Local Agenda 21 is a process which facilitates sustainable development at community level. Fifteen projects taking place throughout Mayo have been awarded funding in 2013. Eligible projects under this scheme support and complement national environmental policies such as those on waste, biodiversity, climate change, air, water, sustainable development etc. Funding has been allocated to seventeen organisations for the Local Agenda 21 Environmental Partnership Fund 2013.

HOUSING AND BUILDING

2013 has been another challenging but successful year for Mayo County Council in delivery of the Housing Service. The major issues during the year included:

Capital Programme 2013

As part of the Annual Housing Action Plan review process Mayo County Council meets with the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government twice a year to discuss the Housing Capital programme.

The primary purpose of these meetings is to:

- confirm the financial and physical output for the year, including progress under RAS and SHLI
- to outline the parameters within which the Housing Investment Programme should be prepared, for the coming year
- consider the resources to be made available for the year.

The Housing Construction Programme delivered during 2013 was a reduced programme of prioritised works in line with Mayo County Council's Housing Capital Allocation for the year.

This reduced programme saw a further significant reduction in the level of 'new-build' activity throughout the County. Housing Capital Allocations for 2013 were only adequate to meet existing construction commitments carried forward from 2012 and the start of a small number of rurals, extensions and special house improvement loans.

Within the capital allocation for 2013, funding was prioritised by the department under the Energy Efficiency Programme (EEP). The Mayo Local Authorities did very well under this programme and got department approval to overspend its original allocation of €380,656 by €75,000 with more work being completed than originally budgeted for. The programme resulted in 200 houses being upgraded with enhanced insulation, both cavity wall and roof, draughtproofing and BER certification. The houses to benefit were located in Achill, Bangor Erris, Belmullet, Geesala, Ballycroy, Ballina, Crossmolina, Castlebar and Balla,

In terms of future social housing supply, the Departments policy and focus continues to be centred on a suite of non-construction supply options, including the Social Housing Leasing Initiative, and the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS). Engagement with the Voluntary/Co-operative and Private sectors in terms of meeting future social housing need is also being strongly promoted. There are however some indications from the department that a move back to construction may be possible, albeit in a small way, in 2014.



Before and after Energy Efficiency Programme Works

A total of 14 units were completed in 2013, including scheme and rural housing units, extensions, special works and acquisitions.



Completed New Rural House Types in Swinford EA

The very limited housing construction allocation is reflected in the fact that only 7 construction projects and 3 acquisitions commenced in 2013. The construction projects were 2 Rural Houses, 3 Special House Improvement Loans and 2 Extensions.

Grant Schemes

The Council received an allocation of €2,700,505 for Housing Grants. As can be seen from the table below, a total of 559 grants were approved during the year and 547 grants were paid to date at a value of €2,697,791. The scheme is monitored closely in order to ensure that approvals and payments are kept in line with the allocation received.

	Grants Approved	Grants Paid	Value €
Housing Aid for Older People	286	280	1,391,932
Mobility Aids Grant	60	54	512,360
Housing Adaptation Grant	213	213	793,469
TOTAL	559	547	2,697,791

Voluntary Housing

During 2013 approval was received to progress the 7 unit Irish Wheelchair Association Scheme at Logmore, Belmullet and for a single house acquisition by Cluid Housing Association in Ballina



St Patricks Estate, Ballina – CLSS – Cluid Housing Association

Schemes at Planning Stage/Awaiting Funding Approval

	Units
Glenamoy VHA	10
Foxford Vincent De Paul	12
Ballinrobe Vincent De Paul	14
Ballina Mayo Mental Health	12
Swinford Mayo Mental Health	12
Breaffy, Castlebar Irish Wheelchair Ass.	4
Attymass, Ballina	7
Westport Road, Castlebar, Castlebar Social Services	10
Tulrahan, Claremorris, Brickens HA	1
Total	82

Refurbishment Programme

In 2013, a special provision was made for dealing with casual vacancies in the housing stock during the course of the year. A total of €510,710 was invested throughout the County. This will continue in 2014 in an attempt to reduce the number of vacant houses throughout the county awaiting pre-letting repairs.



Long term Voids – Pre letting repairs

[Refurbishment Programme 2000 – 2013](#)

This Programme, though constrained at the moment for financial reasons, will ensure when completed 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 now 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.



Housing Refurbishment Programme - Before and after

[Rental Accommodation Scheme \(RAS\)](#)

At 31st December, 2013 Mayo County Council have assumed responsibility for 1,363 units (460 from the Voluntary Sector & 903 from the Private Sector). At 31st December, 2013 there are currently 1,333 long-term recipients of rent supplement within Mayo, all of whom are eligible for accommodation under RAS. This continues to represent a significant challenge for Mayo County Council, who will have responsibility for all of these clients.

Following a change in the assessment procedures (in April 2012) all potential clients must now make an application for Social Housing Support to their local Housing Department. If an applicant is deemed eligible the Housing Authority will decide how that need is to be met. If RAS is the identified solution then the file will be referred to the RAS unit and arrangements will be made to source suitable accommodation. All clients rent contribution will be calculated in accordance with the Differential Rents Scheme.

RAS clients who transferred before 13th June, 2011 can be considered for a transfer to Social Housing, if a suitable vacancy becomes available if they had notified their local housing department within the specified time period.

Social Housing Leasing Initiative (SHLI)

At 31st December 2013 Mayo County Council has assumed responsibility for 88 units. Mayo County Council has focused SHLI on clients who are deemed eligible for Social Housing Support but who are not in receipt of Rent Supplement and are in many cases under financial strain.

Following the introduction of new assessment guidelines (in April 2011) all potential clients must make an application for Social Housing Support to their local Housing Department. If an applicant is deemed eligible the Housing Authority will decide how that need is to be met. If SHLI is the identified solution then the file will be referred to the RAS/SHLI unit and arrangements will be made to source suitable accommodation. All clients rent contribution will be calculated in accordance with the Differential Rents Scheme.

The scheme has been very successful in meeting the needs of those with specific needs as the private rented sector has given Mayo Local Authorities access to a more diverse range of properties than we have within our stock - i.e. ground floor accommodation or larger properties. SHLI has been also been used to facilitate transfers from Local Authority Accommodation due to unforeseen circumstances resulting in casual vacancies for other approved applicants for Social Housing Support.

Traveller Accommodation

The 2009-2013 programme has been the most successful to date with the target accommodation figures exceeded year on year.



Roadside



Temporary Site



Group Housing Scheme

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Planning & Economic Development

Since the beginning of the economic downturn in 2006, the Planning & Economic Development Section has had to adapt and react to the changing economic conditions that prevailed in the County.

It is very evident that the emphasis within the department has dramatically changed from the Planning Control function (processing of planning applications) to Economic Development and to assisting development throughout every town in the county, by working closely with developers, receivers and liquidators and by agreeing programmes of work to secure the satisfactory completion of estates through the release of cash deposits, held as security on behalf of developers.

This release of cash back into the economy at a time when developers are unable to secure finance from the banks has ensured that many developers are able to continue giving employment in their local areas, and at the same time, bring their estates up to a satisfactory standard to have them taken in charge by the Council.

In order to manage this change of emphasis and ensure that the cash deposits released were being used to the best advantage of the residents of the estates and to the Councils satisfaction, a team consisting of eleven key staff with appropriate required expertise, was established in April 2013. The team consists of staff from the Planning & Economic Development Section, Enforcement Section and Senior Engineering staff from Ballina, Castlebar and Westport Areas.

The success of this team can be measured by the fact that during 2013, the Council have taken in charge 130 estates throughout the county. This has improved the standard of housing estates throughout the county and also improved the local environment of very many residents. It has also eliminated many health and safety risks on sites, through the reduction in the number of unfinished estates from 129 at beginning of the year to approximately 45 at the end of 2013.

Planning Applications

While the number of planning applications received has continued to decline, the number of applications for extension of duration of the effective time period has continued to increase, as applicants are unable to secure finance to commence or complete developments for which planning permission has already been obtained.

Over the past 3 years, the type of work carried out in the Planning & Economic Development Section has changed considerably, and it is now much more complicated than heretofore, with less standard planning applications being received and a huge

increase in very difficult, unique and time consuming cases needing to be considered and dealt with on an individual basis in a consistent manner, as no two cases are the same.

Walk-in Planning Clinics

Walk-in Planning Clinics continue to be held each Wednesday morning at seven Council Area Offices. The Clinics are administered on a first come - first served basis, and they have eliminated waiting times for consultations with planners. They also reduce the number of telephone and written queries to the Planning Office as the planners are available for consultations with the public on a weekly basis.

Computerisation

Substantial investment in computerisation has continued over the past four to five years. Submissions on Planning Applications can now be made on-line 24 hours per day 7 days per week and some Planning Agents are now lodging Planning Applications on-line, thereby reducing the amount of paper generated and eliminating the need to visit the Planning Office. Staff have been trained to manage on-line applications, submissions and referrals. Planning Applications are scanned and are available in all area offices and on the internet to be viewed at any time. The Planning Register has also been computerised and the old Planning Register Maps were digitised during 2013.

Forward Planning

Since the beginning of 2013, the Forward Planning Section has undertaken a wide range of projects in the area of land use planning and policy formulation both in fulfilment of its statutory obligations as well as non-statutory projects; the overall aim being to support and facilitate proper planning and sustainable development throughout the county.

Statutory Development Plans and other Policies

A significant part of the work undertaken during 2013 was related to the on-going review of the Mayo County Development Plan 2008 – 2014 and the preparation of a new Plan which commenced in 2012. A new Draft Plan for the period 2014-2020 was put on public display for public consultation in 2013. For the first time, this included individual plans and detailed land use zoning for 11 towns, five of which did not previously have zoning.

The Manager's Report on submissions/observations received was submitted to the members in August 2013. The members resolved to amend the Draft Plan and a SEA, AA and SFRA were carried out in respect of said amendments which were put on public display in January 2014.

Environmental assessments required in respect of the above and other projects i.e. Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Appropriate Assessment and Strategic Flood Risk Assessment are now an integral part of the Forward Planning workload. A dedicated SEA officer is now located in the Forward Planning Section.

Part 8 proposals and planning applications which may have implications for the 2000 Natura network, are also submitted to the SAE officer for assessment and reports.

A Draft Interim Housing Strategy was prepared and submitted to the members in August 2013. This will be put on public display as part of the Proposed Amendments to the Draft Plan.

The Manager's Report on submissions/observations received on the Draft Policy document "Community Benefit Contributions Required for certain major developments" was submitted to the members in September 2013 and an Audit on Vacant Industrial Units was undertaken in February/March 2013 in conjunction with the Enterprise and Investment Unit of Community and Enterprise.

FIRE SERVICE

Fire Prevention

The number of Fire Safety Certificate applications received in 2013 was 93, up 22% from the previous year. The number of Fire Safety Certificate Applications processed annually for the period 2009 to 2013 is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Summary of Fire Safety Certificates Processed (2009 to 2013)

Fire Safety Certificates Detail	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Applications Received	172	137	109	76	93
% Annual Change	-28.9%	-20.3%	-20.4%	-30.3%	22.4%
Applications Invalid	2	0	0	3	1
Decisions Made	139*	118	93	68	83
Granted (With conditions)	134	118	71	68	63
Granted (Without conditions)	5	0	22	0	20
Applications Refused	0	0	0	0	0

* 4 Local Authority developments included in this figure.

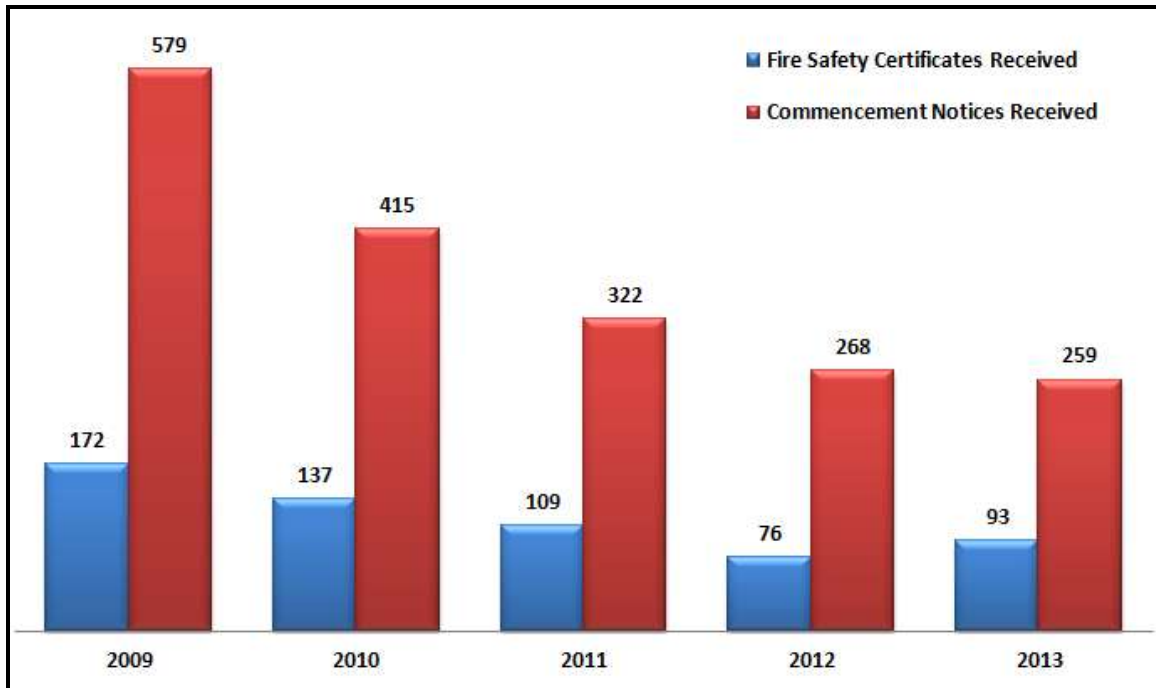
The Council also process Commencement Notice Applications, under of the Building Control Acts 1990 and 2007, within the Fire Service. The number of Commencement Notice Applications received in 2013 was 259, down 3.4% from the previous year. The number of Commencement Notice Applications processed annually over the period 2009 to 2013 is shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Summary of Commencement Notices Processed (2009 to 2013)

Applications Detail	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Applications Received	579	415	322	268	259
% Annual Change	- 41.8%	-28.3%	-22.4%	-16.8%	-3.4%
Applications Valid	565	410	318	265	251
Applications Invalid	14	5	4	3	8

A summary of Fire Safety Certificate and Commencement Notice Applications received annually over the period 2009 to 2013 is shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Fire Safety Certificates & Commencement Notices Received (2009 to 2013)



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 Table 3.

Table 3: Summary of Inspection carried by Fire Prevention Officers (2009 to 2013)

Inspection Description	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Section 24 Inspection (Licensing Applications)	255	271	235	308	192
Section 13 Inspection (Planning Applications)	17	11	6	8	5
Other Inspections	107	77	34	114	92
Total Inspections	379	359	275	430	289

Community Fire Safety

Fire Service personnel were actively involved in the following activities / events in 2013:

- Mayo Road Safety Roadshow in the Royal Theatre Castlebar (February)
- HSA / Junior Achievement Ireland ‘Keep Safe Castlebar’ in McHale Park (April)
- Mayo Science & Technology Festival in GMIT Castlebar (November)
- School visits of fire stations; 545 students/teachers/parents from 17 schools visited fire stations in Mayo

Fire Service Operations

In 2013, Mayo County Fire Service attended 945 incidents, up 23.5% from 2012.

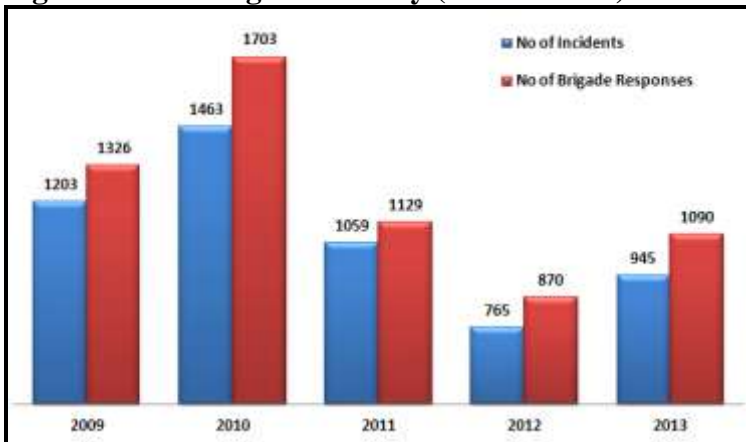
The 945 incidents in 2013 resulted in 1090 fire brigade responses, i.e. actual fire brigades attending incidents. The 2013 figure represented an increase of 25.3% from that recorded in 2012, as shown in the Table 5 and Figure 2.



Table 5: Summary of Fire Brigade Activity from 2009 to 2013

Fire Brigade Activity	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total no. of Incidents	1203	1463	1059	765	945
Total no. of Attendances	1326	1703	1129	870	1090
Change from Previous Year	- 10	+377	-574	-259	+220
% Annual Change	-0.7%	+28.4%	-33.7%	-22.9%	+25.3%
Ratio of Attendances / Incidents	1.102	1.164	1.066	1.137	1.153

Figure 2: Fire Brigade Activity (2009 to 2013)



Fire Service Appliances

During 2013, the Fire Service took delivery of one new class B Fire Appliance and one number second hand Incident Command Unit. The expenditure for both vehicles was fully funded by capital grant aid from the Department of The Environment, Community and Local Government. The standard Class B appliance is stationed at Ballina Fire Station while the Incident Command Unit is stationed at Castlebar Fire Station.

The Incident Command Unit is a specialised vehicle equipped with up to date technology and will assist in the on site management of serious/ large scale incidents and Major Emergencies.

Major Emergency Management

The Major Emergency Plan was reviewed/updated during 2013 and the new plan issued in July 2013. A Major Emergency Exercise, in conjunction with the HSE and An Garda Siochana, was carried out at Ireland West Airport Knock in November 2013.

Fire Service Retirements / Resignations

Three members of Mayo Fire Service retired in 2013, details of which are as follows:

- **James Marren** - Station Officer with Charlestown Fire Brigade, retired 13th January 2013 with over 27 years of service
- **Tommy Gallager** - Driver/Mechanic with Crossmolina Fire Brigade, retired 12th June 2013 with over 28 years of service
- **Kieran O’Hora** – Firefighter with Westport Fire Brigade, resigned 29th March 2013 with over 17 years of service

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 2009. A summary of activity for Planning Enforcement Section for the period 2010 to 2013 is shown in Table 7.

Table 7: Planning Enforcement Activity from 2010 to 2013

Description of Activity	2010	2011	2012	2013
Number of new complaints received	175	110	168	135
Number of complaints that were dismissed	87	70	52	50
Number of complaints that were resolved through negotiations	63	56	36	22
Number of enforcement procedures taken through Warning Letters	139	82	83	80
Number of enforcement procedures taken through Enforcement Notices	12	34	15	13
Number of files with the County Council's Solicitor	35	46	38	32
Number of prosecutions	5	2	1	0

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. A summary of activity in relation to Disability Access Certificates is shown in Table 8.

Table 8: Disability Access Certificates Processed from 2011 to 2013

Description of Activity	2011	2012	2013
No. of valid Disability Access Certificates (DAC) applications	60	34	63
No. of DAC Applications Rejected as Invalid	2	3	1
No. of cases where the applicant was invited to submit Additional Information	36	19	21
No. of DAC applications where prescribed maximum period of time for considering applications was extended	12	10	14
Disability Access Certificates issued: -	52	37	56
Within 2 months	41	29	42
Greater than 2 months	11	8	14
Granted with conditions	49	34	36
Granted without conditions	3	3	20
No. of Disability Access Certificates refused	4	1	4

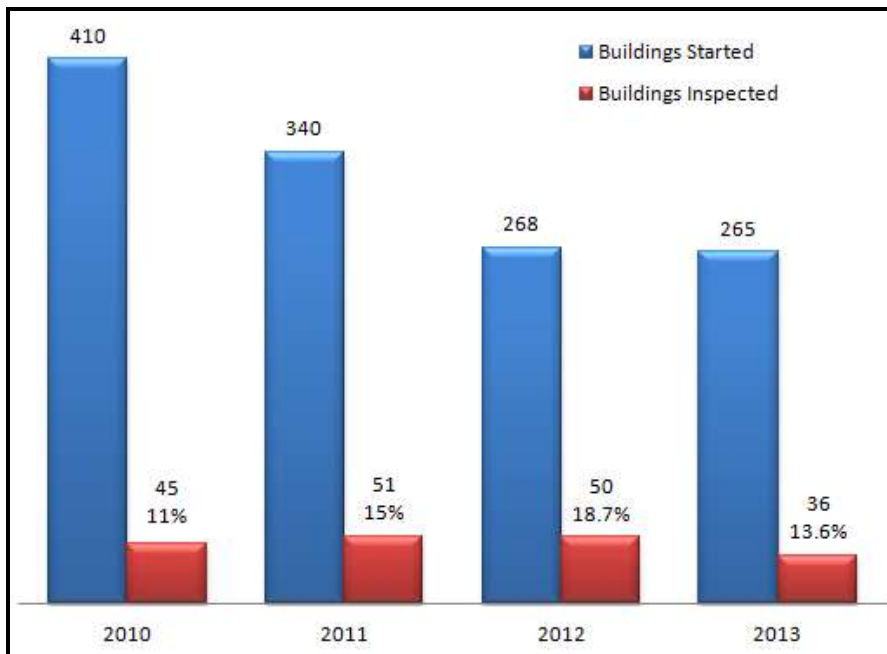
Building Regulations are made for specific purposes, e.g. to provide, in relation to buildings, for the health, safety and welfare of persons, the conservation of energy and access for all. Technical Specifications are relevant to the extent that they relate to these considerations. Building Control inspections are carried out on a limited number of new buildings as identified by valid commencement notices lodged, the purpose of which is to

perform spot checks on compliance with the building regulations. In most instances breaches in the regulations are addressed through protracted negotiations. On occasion it is necessary to instigate legal enforcement proceedings. A summary of activity in relation to Building Control is shown in Table 9 and in Figure 3.

Table 9: Building Control Inspections from 2010 to 2013

Description of Activity	2010	2011	2012	2013
No. of building starts	410	340	268	265
No. of buildings where documents were requested	51	7	2	0
No. of new buildings inspected	45	51	50	36
% of new buildings inspected	11.0%	15.0%	18.7%	13.6%
No. of inspections carried out, including multiple inspections of the same building	243	232	178	176
No. of applications for relaxations & dispensations to the building regulations	5	3	3	0
No. of applications for relaxations & dispensations to the building regulations granted	5	3	0	3
No. of enforcement notices served	0	1	2	2

Figure 3: Summary of Building Starts and Buildings Inspected from 2009 to 2013



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 and there has been an increase in the necessity to issue enforcement notices and proceed to action by the Solicitor.

West Region Fire Control

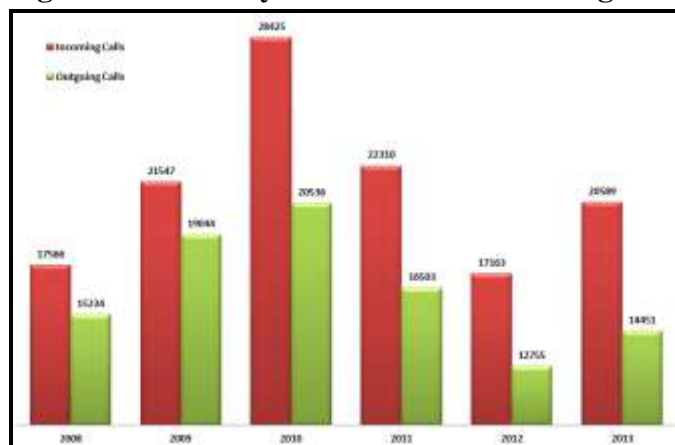
Mayo County Council operates the West Region Fire Control (WRFC) on behalf of the local authorities of Connacht and County Donegal. WRFC provides the 112/999 emergency call answering and mobilising service for these Fire Authorities. CAMP West also provides the mobilising ICT application and regional communications system/network for the Ambulance Control Centre located in St Mary’s Hospital, Castlebar.

Table 10 and Figure 4 summarises the call volume activity of CAMP West for the period 2008 to 2013. Incoming call volume activity was up almost 20% on 2012 activity. This means that call volumes are back to typical annual average activity after an unusually quiet year in 2012.

Table 10: WRFC Call Activity from 2008 to 2013

Call Description	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Incoming Calls	17566	21547	28425	22310	17163	23589
Outgoing Calls	15234	19044	20536	16503	12755	14451
Total no. of Calls	32800	40591	48961	38813	29918	35040
% Change		+28.67%	+20.62%	-20.73%	-22.92%	+17.12%

Figure 4: Summary of WRFC Call-handling Activities from 2008 to 2013

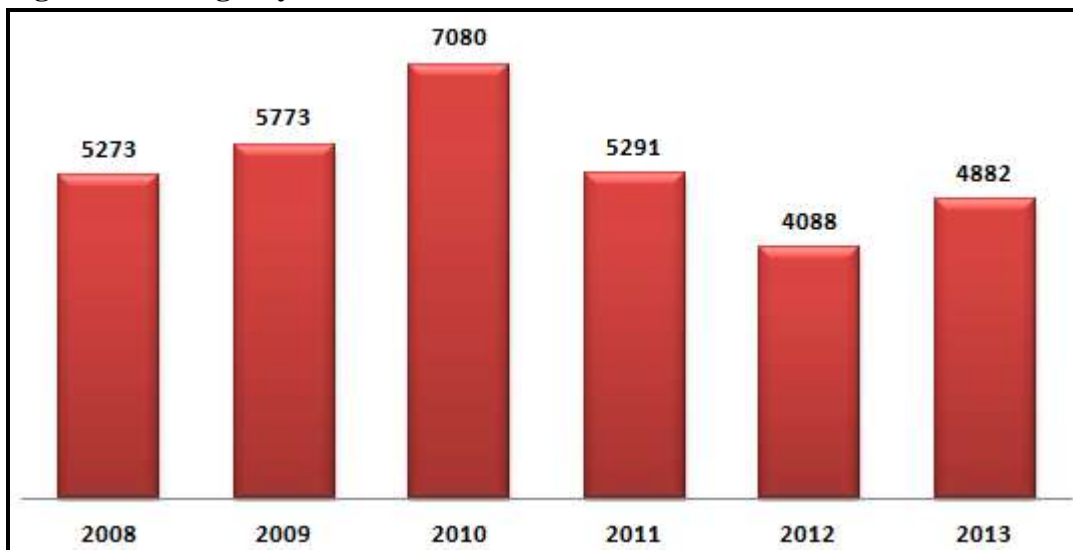


This call activity resulted in 4,882 fire brigade emergency incidents throughout the region in 2013. This represents an increase of 19.42% in fire emergency activity compared with 2012, as shown in the Table 11 and Figure 5 below.

Table 11: Emergency Incidents from 2008 to 2013

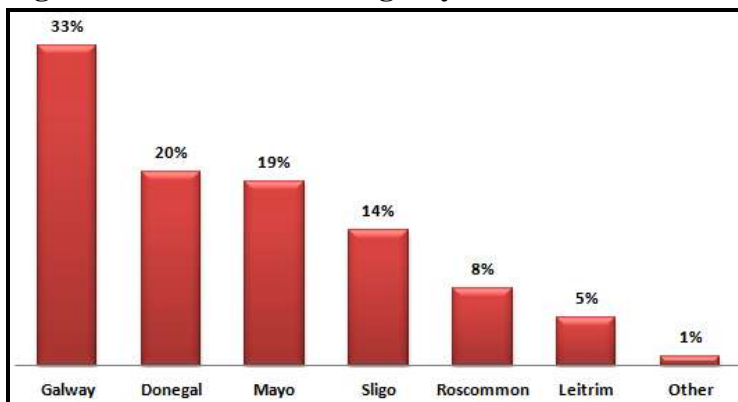
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<i>Total no. of Incidents</i>	5273	5773	7080	5291	4088	4882
<i>% Change</i>		+9.48%	+22.64%	-25.27%	-22.74%	+19.42%

Figure 5: Emergency Incidents from 2008 to 2013



Of the 4882 incidents recorded by WRFC, Mayo County Fire Service accounted for 19% of the regions activity. The breakdown for each of the six counties is shown in Figure 6 below.

Figure 6: Location of Emergency Incidents in 2013



FINANCE

Commercial Rates

In 2013, 2676 rate demands were issued with €11.13 million collected. Approximately 10% of Mayo County Council's revenue expenditure is raised through rate charges.

Water Charges

Total amount of billed customers in 2013 was 8326 approx. Water Charges collected in 2013 amounted to €4.83 million

Housing Rents

Mayo County Council has approximately 2493 housing rent accounts. The total amount of rents collected in 2013 amounted to €4.39 million.

Housing Loans

The total amount of housing loan charges collected in 2013 amounted to €3.06 million. The total number of redeemed and expired accounts in 2013 was 57.

Non Principal Private Residence (NPPR) Charge

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. Approximately €3 million was collected in Mayo (including Town Council areas) in respect of this charge for 2013.

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

Procurement at Local Government has undergone an enormous re-alignment in recent years. It has been recognised that local authorities have made an extraordinary journey to achieve high levels of efficiency and savings, and have also made a strong contribution to the adjustments necessary to restore our economy. The Procurement section of Mayo County Council has been to the forefront in ensuring that the procurement of Goods & Services is secured in a fair and equal manner.

Arising from the national eProcurement strategy for the public sector, the local government sector initiated a project to develop a sector-level eProcurement strategy. The purpose of the strategy was to provide a set of recommendations for change and an implementation plan to guide the development of procurement in the sector so that significant savings could be achieved by exploiting the opportunities for improving procurement performance. It was recognised that the existing approach was not always the most effective in terms of leveraging buying power and ensuring adequate competition in the supply market and that a technology based system was required.

In more recent times the public sector reform agenda has identified procurement as a function that is common to all public sector bodies and that therefore offers considerable scope for efficiencies. In particular the LGER Report 2010 identified potential savings of €70 million in the local government sector through enhanced collaboration between local authorities at regional and sector-wide levels.

Public Sector Reform Plan November 2011

The Public Service Reform Plan identified procurement reform as one of a number of major projects. Its aim is to deliver greater value for money through increased use of common procurement frameworks, increased professionalism and more innovative use of technology.

The Procurement section works closely with our colleagues in local government, particularly in the western region where we have collaborated on a number of procurement initiatives, resulting in significant savings. We are very conscious of the extent of change that has already taken place, and also recognise that enormous savings have already been achieved through shared services, rationalisation and centralised procurement.

The Local Government Reform Oversight Group, under the leadership of the Programme Management Office has placed an onus on every local authority to support the drive to deliver an efficient and effective procurement section. It is critical that the PMO is well supported to drive delivery of cross-sectoral shared services, and partner Government Departments on other aspects of the reform agenda, notably in the area of public procurement.

It is vital that we build on the excellent work carried out to date and maintain the momentum created. Local government has shown that major change can be implemented to consolidate efficiency without reduction in service quality. The procurement sections success to date has been achieved through teamwork and partnership.

National Procurement Office

The National Procurement Office continues to assist the Local Authority sector in achieving procurement savings. As part of its work plan, the NPO will be exploring opportunities for achieving savings and identifying local, regional and national procurement opportunities.

Amongst other activities, the office will also explore national procurement opportunities in cooperation with the Office of Government Procurement.

There are also plans to develop and deliver a standardised procurement training programme targeting all local authorities.

Office of Government Procurement

The Office of Government Procurement (“OGP”) was officially launched in 2013. OGP is led by the Government's Chief Procurement Officer (“CPO”), Mr Paul Quinn, who is leading on the reform of procurement in the public sector.

Leaving aside the Government's spending on capital works and infrastructure projects, the public service spends in the order of €9bn every year on goods and services – that is roughly €25m every day. This spend is funded by the Irish taxpayer and represents a very significant portion of overall Government expenditure.

The Government has set the procurement reform programme a cash savings target of up to €500m over 3 years. This target was set following careful analysis of current procurement spend and discussion with sectors. Strengthening procurement capability in the public sector will improve the value for money that is got from procurement spend and will make a significant contribution to our deficit reduction targets and enable the State to deliver much needed services more efficiently.

Everybody will have easy access to high quality procurement services that they have confidence in and procurement staff are proud to provide:

- A key public service reform programme
- A significant enabler to hitting the deficit reduction targets.
- Government decided a centre-led procurement model and approved an implementation plan
- Savings target of €500m over 3 years on a €6.6bn addressable spend per annum
- A strong governance model
- Public procurement will be accessible by all vendors, including SME's

- The Board of the OGP will provide Government oversight and leadership for procurement reform
- The Procurement Steering Group will represent the customer Departments and Agencies and provide leadership and sponsorship for procurement across the Civil and Public Service
- The Executive will be responsible for, operational management of procurement across the Civil and Public Service, the delivery of the transformation programme and the savings plan
- The Executive will be responsible for operational management of procurement across the public sector and, the delivery of the transformation programme and the savings plan.
- The Executive will include the Chief Procurement Officer and his direct reports, legal support and the leads responsible for management of the sector sourcing teams. The Executive will meet on a bi-weekly basis and will:
 - Develop and implement the policy framework for procurement
 - Set the standards for procurement and communicate them across the Public Service
 - Ensure the delivery of compliant sourcing processes at Centre and Sector Level
 - Manage the delivery of the transformation and savings programmes
 - Manage the delivery of Customer Service for procurement
- The Board of the Office of Government Procurement will provide Government oversight to the OGP and leadership for procurement reform across the Public Services. The Board will be chaired by the Minister of State at the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform. The Chief Procurement Officer will represent the Executive of the OGP and will report in to the Board.

The Board will meet on a quarterly basis and will:

- Provide oversight and guidance for the Office of Government Procurement
- Sign off on procurement policy
- Sign off on the Vision, Mission, Business Plan, and Objectives for the OGP and the Sector Led Procurement Teams
- Oversee performance and compliance

CCMA Initiative

The CCMA immediately recognised that developing a sector wide approach to procurement was vital in order to deliver the sector's savings and efficiencies targets. The CCMA agreed to strengthen the governance structure on procurement and deliver a coordinated coherent response to ensure procurement reform delivered the maximum amount of savings in the shortest space.

Kerry County Council was tasked with the establishment of a National Procurement Office, based on their previous extensive experience of delivering procurement initiatives on behalf of the sector. The NPO is staffed by people from the sector and comprised of experienced procurement, admin and ICT support staff.

The sector has made a commitment to provide ongoing support to the NPO in order to allow it to carry out its mandate as set out below:

- Be the first point of contact for the Office of Government Procurement.
- Putting processes in place to ensure compliance in the use of National Frameworks.
- Agreeing appropriate procurement processes for national, regional and local procurement.
- Delivering a network of regional and local fulltime specialist procurement officers.
- Sector wide use of low cost value purchase cards.
- Grow the use of national frameworks to deliver savings and efficiencies.

Procurement at Regional level

The emerging number of regional procurement networks has been reduced from 8 to 4 with a view to ensuring that each region can avail of the benefits that critical mass brings to the procurement process. Each of the new regions is required to appoint a full-time dedicated procurement specialist. These procurement specialists will report directly to the National Procurement Office.

- To act as a centre of expertise through the provision of relevant advise on best practice procurement
- To act as a point of contact for local procurement officers
- Advise and assist local procurement officers including providing expertise and knowledge on procurement
- Promote procurement awareness with suppliers
- Co-ordinate regional and national tenders
- Review regional spend and identify opportunities for new regional aggregated tenders
- Establish a Procurement network to deliver best practice in procurement
- Liaise with the National Procurement Office.
- Provide training to local procurement officers in:
 - Use of contracts
 - Common practices and procedures
 - Procurement issues

MAYO COUNTY CHILDCARE COMMITTEE (MAYO CCC)

During 2013, Mayo County Childcare Committee (Mayo CCC) continued to provide training, information, support and guidance to childcare services, parents and agencies to develop and sustain quality early years education and care programmes in the county, including the Early Childhood Care & Education Programme (i.e. the Free Pre School Year), Community Childcare Subvention Programme (CCS), Childcare Education Training & Support programme (CETS), and the two national quality frameworks (Siolta & Aistear).

During 2013, 24 childcare services in Mayo were successful in attaining small scale capital funding. The total amount of funding received for childcare services in Mayo amounted to €100,417.85.

In relation to provision of information to parents, childcare services and the general public Mayo CCC produced 3 Newsletters which we distribute to all parents who have children attending pre schools. We do this by distributing the Mayo CCC newsletter through the 120 childcare services in the county. Mayo CCC is also happy to report a wide usage of our web site www.mayochildcare.ie. There were 6,607 visits from 3,605 unique visitors to Mayo CCC web site during 2013 accessing information about the national childcare funding programmes, childcare issues and general childcare information. Mayo CCC would like to acknowledge all the support and expert guidance we have received from the IT section of Mayo County Council in helping us develop and maintain our web site.

Mayo CCC would also like to acknowledge the level and spirit of collaboration which exists in the county. Without this collaboration the quality of early childhood care & education experienced by children in the county would be greatly reduced. There were many examples of collaboration during 2013 such as the collaborating with Inspiration Station to deliver an innovative training programme called 'Developing Critical Thinking in Pre Schools'. This work culminated in a week long exhibition in the Ballina Civic Offices. Also Mayo CCC collaborated with the Road Safety Authority to engage childcare services in the road safety pre school programme 'Simon & Friends'. Incidentally this national programme was originally developed in Mayo by Mayo County Council, the Road Safety Authority & Mayo CCC. Mayo CCC also engaged with the Science week fair, where we worked with services to introduce 'science' into pre schools. Mayo CCC also collaborated with the local Education & Training Board to deliver equality & diversity training. Mayo CCC continues to engage on an ongoing basis with groups such as the Mayo Travellers Support Group, Mayo Integration Forum, and Mayo Children's Initiative to ensure that Mayo CCC's work reaches all children in the county. These collaborations are a very important and valued element of our work and Mayo CCC looks forward to continued positive collaboration during 2014.

Another new dimension to the work of Mayo CCC was added during 2013. Mayo CCC has now been directed by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs to deliver the new Child Protection training programme for all childcare services in the county.

During 2013, Mayo CCC delegated 2 staff members to receive intensive 'training of trainers' to enable them to deliver the national child protection programme to childcare services in Mayo. This training of trainers is now complete and Mayo CCC look forward to implementing this national programme in Mayo during 2014.

Some facts and figures for the National Childcare Funding Programmes in Mayo (September 2013)

Early Childhood Care & Education Programme

Total number of ECCE Children registered in County Mayo for preschool year Sept 2013 to June 2014	1,600	
Number of Community Facilities	53	
Number of Private Facilities	65	
Total number of ECCE Children in Community Facilities (Enrolled in a total of 53 Community Facilities)	674	42%
Total number of ECCE Children in Private Facilities (Enrolled in a total of 65 Private Facilities)	926	58%
Total Amount of Funding Childcare Facilities have received for the first 13 weeks of the ECCE scheme 26/08/13 to 08/12/13	€1,335,565	

Childcare Service in Mayo engaged in the ECCE programme will receive just under €4 million in ECCE funding for the September 2013 to June 2014 preschool year.

Community Childcare Subvention (CCS) Programme

Figures for the current CCS year are not yet available. However, the CCS figures for Sept 2012 to August 2013 CCS year show that €1.3 million was approved for 50 Community Childcare Facilities in County Mayo. This funding is provided to facilities to pass on directly to qualifying parents in the form of a reduction in their childcare fees.

The Childcare Education and Training Support (CETS) Programme

41 parents have been approved for a total of 62 childcare places under the CETS Programme since September. Childcare under this Programme is heavily subsidised by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs. 11 private childcare facilities and 9 community childcare facilities are currently providing childcare places for these children.

The training courses that parents are undertaking as a result of being able to avail subsidised childcare include Health Care Support, Business Administration & IT and Professional Cookery.

With all of the above in mind Mayo CCC look forward to another busy yet effective year implementing the national early childhood care & education programmes during 2014. For further information about any of the national childcare programmes, or Mayo CCC or indeed childcare in general please do not hesitate to contact us or check out our web site www.mayochildcare.ie

Below are some photographs from Snugboro Playschool. The outdoor play area was made possible from funding provided under the small capital grants scheme 2013.



The inclusion of a tunnel using recycled tyres as well as a large climbing frame offers challenge, risk, adventure and a sense of accomplishment. The climbing frame also doubles up as a hut which encourages imaginary and role play and is used by the children as a cave, a house, a tent and a castle etc.



The raised wooden planting boxes inform children how to grow vegetable and plants and the importance of caring for what we grow. It connects the children to nature by exploring and thinking about the environment.



A large sand and water feature which is soothing, sensory and tactile and affords the children the opportunities for open-ended and messy play.

MAYO SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

In 2013 some 15,000 people participated in 90 locally delivered programmes across the county. Some of our major projects and initiatives included:

Mayo Operation Transformation Walks and Programmes

In good weather conditions approximately 1,000 people turned out for the Mayo Operation Transformation walks in Belmullet, Castlebar and Westport. Over 500 alone participated in the Castlebar Lough Lannagh event which was attended by An Taoiseach Enda Kenny, Mayor of Castlebar, Brendan Heneghan and CEO Irish Sports Council John Treacy.

In the afternoon Treacy joined Minister of State for Sport and Tourism Michael Ring and Caitheoirleach of Westport Town Council Ollie Gannon in leading approximately 350 people through the grounds of Westport House and linking up with the town Greenway.

Not to be outdone over 100 people participated in the Belmullet 5K walk which took in some of the breathtaking scenery in the area.

All events were co-organised by Mayo Sports Partnership, Mayo Walking Partnership, Westport Leisure Park and The Erris Community Health Forum.



A large number of events take place during Bike Week 2013. Over 20 different events took place in Mayo from the 15th – 23rd June. The week began with a Group and Family Cycle in Tourmakeady on Sunday 16th June. A whole host of other events took place throughout the county including family cycles in Ballina, Currane Achill, Ardagh, Kilmovee and Westport. Smart Travel Castlebar organised a free bike check in Castlebar on Monday 17th June. Wednesday 19th June was national “Cycle to Work” (COW) day and Green Schools Travel Officer with An Taisce, Eva Gannon was instrumental in getting all to get on their bikes and make an effort to cycle to school or work.

Bike Week culminated in a showcase event titled “Bike Fest” which took place at Lough Lannagh Castlebar on Sunday 23rd June 2.15pm – 4.30pm.

A free event families, individuals etc were invited to participate in a host of events including free bike / helmet check by local bike shops, family treasure hunt, Bike Buddy (cycle with an experienced cyclist), Lookalikes on Bikes (dress like your idol) and Slow Bicycle / Obstacle Courses.



Castlebar Sports Forum

As part of the Castlebar Sports Weekend organised by Castlebar Sports Forum a Women in Sport Seminar was held at GMT on May 3rd. Topics included Equality in Sport, Participation, Teenage Girls Active, Success, Benefits of Sport, Barriers and Opportunities.

Sporting legends Sonia O’Sullivan, Olive Loughnane, Cora Staunton, Breege Walsh and Carol Staunton were all speakers on the day which was attended by over 300 schoolgirls and their teachers.

Michael Gallagher, Western People Newspaper correspondent was the MC for the afternoon. There was a strong message from all speakers about the importance of ‘participation in sport and how sport plays a very important part in helping to live an active and healthy lifestyle. Sonia spoke about how she prepared for events and how important preparation such as nutrition and hydration were key elements to an athlete’s success. Sonia encouraged all girls to take up some type of sport in order to live a balanced and healthy life.



[4th West of Ireland Womens Mini Marathon](#)

The Mall in Castlebar was a sea of colour of Sunday 5th May 2013 as thousands turned out for the fourth annual Western People West of Ireland Womens Mini Marathon. Olympic medallist, Sonia O Sullivan was a popular special guest on the day and, true to form, she made time to stand and chat to her fellow competitors and pose for several hundred photographs, much to the delight of her many, many fans. Minister for Sport, Michael Ring was also a guest on the day and praised the Western People, Mayo Sports Partnership and main sponsors Connacht Gold for coming together to organise such a wonderful event in the county town. Large crowds gathered at the finish line on The Mall to cheer on the participants and it was European cross country gold medallist Lizzie Lee who was first to cross the finish line in a time of 37.32. Lizzie was followed soon after by European cross country silver medallist Rosemary Ryan, who came home in a time of 38.18. Mayos Colette Tuohy was third across the line in 39.11, with Maura Ginty fourth in 39.46. Ann Lennon was fifth in 39.46, with Sarah Syron finishing sixth in a time of 39.58.



[Moy Sports Forum Ballina](#)

[GAA Outreach Programme](#)

Ballina Stephenites GAA along with Moy Sports Forum worked together over Spring/Summer 2013 to develop an outreach GAA programme for children living in the Parkside Area.

On average 20 children came to the weekly sessions and since the completion of the outreach programme over 10 children are now registered and are playing with a number of teams at the Stephenites club.

One success stories is of a 16 year old Parkside lad now plays Minor Football with the club and who hopes to go forward for Mayo minor trails next year.

Moy Sports Forum would like to thank Ballina Stephenites for their cooperation in developing this programme and recognise the very positive and innovative initiative that addresses the area of inclusion and integration in the Parkside area.

Moy Sports Forum is a multi agency forum comprising Mayo Sports Partnership, Mayo North East, Mayo Traveller Support Group, INVOLVE, FAI, Sean Duffy Centre, Moy Valley Resource Centre, Ballina Town Council and Resident Representatives.

Westport Sports Forum

Westport Get Out There Action Plan 2013

Get Out There! Action Plan has been developed by Westport Town Council and Mayo Sports Partnership. The actions resulted from a combination of research reviews and consultation with sports clubs, community organisations and tourist bodies in the town and environs.

The dual aims of the Get Out There 2013! initiative are:

- to positively contribute to activity tourism in the town.
- to increase physical activity levels of residents of the town and particularly those of low-participation groupings.

Westport Activity Ambassador Programme

The Activity Ambassador programme has been developed by Westport Town Council in association with the Mayo Sports Partnership and Westport Tourism Organisation in an effort to increase participation in sport and recreation for both visitor and resident. They will actively engage with recreation providers in the creation of complimentary programmes and also with Westport Tourism Organisation, Westport Leisure Park and Accommodation providers. It is envisaged that the Activity Ambassadors will develop and promote a weekly activity list in association with local sporting, cultural & visitor attractions and also provide for delivery of activity programmes for specific groups/families.

Westport Park Run

Not considered a race Westport Park Run is free to attend, weekly and is a timed 5km run. Results are presented in time order however there are no performance related prizes or medals and the first person across the line is termed the 'first finisher' not the winner. Westport Park Run takes place every Saturday Morning at 9.30am from the Mill St / High St Car Park. All participants are invited to mingle in the Mill Times Hotel for a cup of tea/coffee afterwards.

Parkrun events look to support rather than compete with paid races and although runners of all abilities are welcome, the focus is on recreational running and increasing participation. Currently approximately 250 people are registered to participate. Westport Park Run is supported by Westport Town Council, Westport Leisure Park,

Erris “Goal to Work” Sports Coach Training Programme

A group of jobseekers from the Erris area in North Mayo have just completed a 14 week long specialised sports coaching course which it is hoped will provide them with the tools to obtain employment. The “Goal to Work” Sports Coach Training Programme which is run 2 days each week allowed trainees to become fully qualified G.A.A., Rugby and Soccer coaches with additional sports modules in child protection, first aid, disability awareness, physical activity leader and active leadership completed. Trainee coaches also honed their skills organising several community events and coaching in local national schools giving many school children some quality participation experiences. 46 sports coaches / leaders have now received training under the Goal to Work programme and are available to assist communities, sports clubs and schools throughout the county.

Some participants have gained employment as a Sports Co-ordinator under the Rural and Social Services Scheme, others have progressed on to further training and some have gained some part time employment as sports coaches with local schools etc.



Goal to Work Sports Coach Programme receives National Awards

In February 2013 the Goal to Work Sports Coach Training Programme won an Aontas Adult Learners STAR Award at a presentation function in the Burlington Hotel Dublin. This award was presented to Siobhán Carroll-Webb Mayo North East LEADER Partnership Co, Charlie Lambert Mayo Sports Partnership Co and John Magee Mayo County Development Board by Minister of Training and Skills Ciarán Canon and John Lonergan former Governor of Mountjoy Prison.



Former Irish international rugby manager Eddie O’Sullivan and Sunday Game analyst Kevin McStay led out a strong team of sports men and women at a special seminar to explore what it takes to succeed in sport in today’s world where injuries, heartache losses and set-backs have to be overcome and where the lure of an easier life is never too far away.

The Seminar, titled Success in Sport – What Does it Take? took place on Tuesday, November 12th at The Breaffy House Hotel. Chaired by Ballinrobe native and well known GAA commentator Liam Horan the panel included local Ladies GAA football star Cora Staunton and 2013 FAI Cup Winner Alan Keane from Sligo Rovers. Mayo GAA Team Doctor Sean Moffatt also attended and gave an insight in to the health and wellbeing of current day high performance sportspeople.

The event was organized by the Mayo Sports Partnership in association with the Western Region Drugs Task Force (WRDTF) and South West Mayo Development Company.



[People With A Disability](#)

[Para Cycling a huge success in Claremorris](#)

The Hand Cycling programme that was set up by Mayo Sports Partnership in conjunction with Claremorris Athletes Track is proving to be a very popular programme. The programme is run by Gerry Towey. A hand cycling programme will continue every second Monday at 5.30pm at Claremorris athletics club.



[Connacht Wheelchair Hurling](#)

The Connacht Wheelchair hurling team have got off to a flying start and played their first blitz in Athlone on the 2nd November. The team trains in Barnacarroll hall under the coaching of Adrian Hession with support from John Hopkins Mayo GAA and Ray McNamara Mayo Sports Partnership.

Special Participation Grant Scheme 2013

The Mayo Sports Partnership Board allocated €18,000 to 32 clubs/organisations in Mayo through both the Partnerships 2013 special participation grant scheme. This year the scheme has funded initiatives including the further development of Basketball in Mayo, junior angling participation in Newport, underage cycling section in Ballina Cycling Club, start up of new clubs in weightlifting and athletics, recreational GAA and walking groups with the Mayo Branch of Arthritis Ireland.

ARTS

Mayo Arts Squad

In April 2013, Artsquad delivered the “I Could Read the Sky” project set in the natural landscape of Ballycroy National Park in conjunction with a team of UK Artists.

This European funded project was a great success.

<http://www.icouldreadthesky.com/gallery.html>

<http://www.irishtv.ie/ballycroy-i-could-read-the-sky-art-exhibit>



‘I Could Read the Sky’ Artworks, Ballycroy National Park, Ballycroy

In collaboration with Artist Gareth Kennedy, and Castlebar Mens Club, Mayo Artsquad produced ‘The great wheel of Mayo’ project, based at the Museum of Country Life, Turlough. The project deconstructed an Ikea table and reinvented the material into a spinning wheel inspired by the Museum collection.



Working on Humbert Pagent backdrop Artsquad Banner for International Choral Festival

Other highlights included producing backdrops for the Humbert Pagent Castlebar, hosting a Culture Night event and youth workshops for TY students during the EXCEL Youth Arts Programme. In October Artsquad again facilitated the “Scary Walks” at Beleek Woods for the Samhain Abhainn Halloween festival, Ballina; over four nights up to 2000 people attended the event.

[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. Specially designed education packs are available for teachers and pupils. In 2013, the exhibitions went to four schools.

[Writer-In-Residence Programme](#)

In 2013, Mayo County Council's writer-in-residence was well known travel documentary maker and writer Manchán Magan, who carried out an extensive programme of workshops and readings throughout the county. He worked intensively with writer's groups and in schools and his tour included Belmullet, Castlebar, Erris, Ballina, Westport, Ballinrobe, Ballycastle, Claremorris and Ballavary. He also gave well received workshops in writing bilingually and travel writing in Lough Lannagh.



Manchán Magan reading in Ballina



Artist Louisa Sloan with Poetry Tree Book, Achill

[All-Ireland Poetry Day](#)

Mayo County Council's Arts Office & Library Service again engaged fully with All-Ireland Poetry Day in 2013. Mayo's Inspirational Poetry Tree completed its tour to major libraries throughout the county and artist, Louisa Sloan collated all the contributions into a unique book. Louisa brought the book to Coláiste Pobal in Achill, where students who had submitted poetry, saw their work in the book. Louisburgh-based poet, Geraldine Mitchell also conducted workshops and readings at the school.

[Intercultural Arts](#)

In 2012, Mayo and Leitrim County Councils' Arts Offices secured funding from the Arts Council under their Local Partnership Scheme. The INTERLAND project focused on the area of Intercultural arts and delivered Cultural Diversity Training to Mayo Artsquad artists as well as Arts venue staff in Mayo & Leitrim. The training was followed by a series of workshops with master potter Henri Hedou at the O'Dwyer Arts Centre. Henri worked with 12 women who have/had experience of the direct provision accommodation centre in Ballyhaunis and an exhibition of the work is planned for February 2014 in the National Museum of Ireland – Country Life.



Interland workshops in Lismirrane with Henri Hedou

Bealtaine

An extensive, interactive programme for older people is run throughout the county during the month of May. A major event, Blossoms in May, open to all Active Retirement Groups and older people was run again in Lough Lannagh and featured workshops (Visual Art & fabric, signing and creative writing) a theatre performance of ‘Music Hall’ by Carnation Theatre Company. Other projects included an intergenerational community weave in Doohooma and Music/ Theatre in Care Settings throughout the county. Workshops included batik and paper-making and Ted Courtney gave choral workshops with the Mayo Male Voice Choir and Rocks & Roses Choir. Approximately 1,000 older people benefitted from the Bealtaine Programme.



Blossoms in May workshop



Doohooma Community Weave



Launch of 'Instinct', Ballina

'Monseigneur Horan' sculpture, by Barry Linnane, Knock Airport Approach Road, Knock. A bronze figurative sculpture of Monsignor James Horan was launched in May at a special event at the airport. At one and half times life size and installed on a high plinth it is highly visible making a big impact for visitors and locals using Knock Airport.



Launch of 'The Quiet Man' sculpture, Cong

Launched in Cong during the October Gathering celebrations, this bronze sculpture depicts the two main characters (played by John Wayne and Maureen O'Hara) from the film 'The Quiet Man'.

[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 2013 exhibitions from the collection took place in Charlestown and in schools throughout the county.

Whistleblast Quartet

This partnership project (funded by the Arts Council, National Concert Hall and Mayo County Council), successfully completed a series of 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.

Music Generation MAYO

Mayo MEP is a non-profit, non-political partnership which consists of the following organizations: Mayo County Development Board, Mayo VEC (Lead partner), Mayo Education Centre, Mayo Community Forum and Mayo County Council Arts Department and Department of Community and Integrated Development. The partnership exists to co-ordinate music services within the county, to ensure equity of access and to develop music education opportunities for all young people.



Launch of the County Community Forum Instrument Bank, Castlebar

Music Generation Mayo has had another extremely busy year. In April, the first phase of a music instrument resource bank, the County Community Forum Instrument Bank, was launched by An Taoiseach, Enda Kenny, in Castlebar Library. This was funded by LEADER (through the County Community Forum) and Music Generation Mayo. The instrument bank is managed by senior library staff with support from the Arts Office and Music Generation Mayo. A number of extremely successful residencies took place with young musicians in the county. An exceptional student's bursary was advertised and 21 young musicians have benefited from this scheme. A new tuition centre opened in Louisburgh, bringing the total number of centers to 4 (Rossport, Crossmolina & Ballinrobe). Planning for the transition from philanthropic to exchequer funding also got underway in 2013.



RTE NSO musicians working with members of Mayo Youth Orchestra

UPSTART

The Arts Office funds quality projects with arts/ disability organisations to celebrate International Day for Persons with Disabilities, which is on December 3rd annually. To date, 20 partnership projects have been supported, employing 43 artists/facilitators, working with 256 disabled participants, in 156 workshops to create 17 exhibitions/performances, with over 1,000 audience members. This year, four projects received funding and lead to exceptional events in and around December 3rd.

IGNITE!

Initiated in 2012, the IGNITE! partnership consists of: The Arts Council, Arts & Disability Ireland, Mayo County Council, Galway City and County Councils and Cork County Council. Three collaborative commissions (one each in Cork, Galway and Mayo) are being developed to profile excellent arts and disability practice while working inclusively at local level. Led by internationally recognised artists with disabilities, all of the projects aim to build capacity and develop arts & disability locally. The Mayo Commission was awarded to Ballina Arts Centre with Artist Aideen Barry, who will work with two Ballina-based disability groups, Western Care Ridgpool Training Centre and members of the Scannán Technologies group in the delivery of a collaborative film-based artwork. This will also involve collaboration with Dance artist and choreographer Emma O’Kane.



IGNITE! workshop in Ballina Arts Centre



LUISNE artists at KCAT symposium

Culture Night

Mayo Arts Office has been participating in Culture Night since 2009, and, in a unique take on the event, Culture Night in Mayo has been delivered county wide. On Friday 20th September 2013, one hundred free events were programmed in 28 participating venues/groups in Achill, Ballina, Ballinrobe, Ballintubber, Ballycastle, Ballycroy, Belmullet, Ceathrú Thaidhg, Castlebar, Claremorris, Charlestown, Foxford, Laherdane, Newport, Tuar Mhic Éadaigh, Turlough and Westport to showcase Mayo's unique cultural life on the night. This was Mayo's fifth Culture Night and almost 2000 people turned out on the evening.



Culture Night, Ballina Library



Culture Night, Ballinglen Arts Foundation, Ballycastle



Mayo County Council Arts Staff and presenters at 3D Printing event in Ballina

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 fulfilment of our commitments under the National Heritage Plan, the National Biodiversity Plan and the National Climate Change Strategy. In addition to the ongoing work of the Heritage Office, a number of key Heritage Plan Projects were undertaken in 2012, with support from The Heritage Council.

The County Mayo Heritage Plan 2011–2016 was launched by Mayo County Council in November 2012. The County Mayo Heritage Plan is a strategic document, dealing with heritage issues at a countywide level. It aims to build on the achievements of the first plan. The broad objectives of the plan are to identify, raise awareness of and promote the conservation of the built, natural and cultural heritage of the county. The plan contains almost 60 actions, which aim to achieve these objectives. Each year an annual work programme is developed, setting out the actions/projects to be undertaken in order to meet the objectives of the five-year strategic Plan. The Heritage Plan projects undertaken in 2013 are outlined below.



Biodiversity Training for communities

A programme of biodiversity training for communities was developed in 2013. The aim of this programme is to facilitate the development of Local Biodiversity Action Plans for towns/villages in Mayo, with the aim of promoting whole community involvement in the process. This programme is to be piloted with a number of community groups in Mayo in 2013 and 2014. The communities chosen to take part in the pilot are Cong, Louisburgh, Ballinrobe, Kilkelly, Knock, Killala and Ballycastle. The strategic plans will identify actions or community projects that will be carried out over the next five years for the benefit of the local community and biodiversity.

Care and Conservation of Historic Graveyards Seminar

A seminar on historic graveyards was held on Thursday 21st November. The aim of the seminar was to highlight the importance of historic graveyards and to raise awareness of the rich and diverse heritage found in our historic graveyards; to provide useful help and advice to those who care for or work in historic graveyards; and to promote best conservation practice. The seminar was attended by over 100 people from burial ground committees, Tidy Towns committees, heritage groups, Tús and Rural Social Scheme participants, local authority staff, and individuals with an interest in local heritage and history.



Speakers and Participants at the Care and Conservation of Historic Graveyards Seminar

Publication on Mayo's Geological Heritage

A publication on Mayo's Geological heritage has been prepared based on the results of the Mayo Geological Audit, undertaken in 2011 and 2012. This richly-illustrated book, written in an accessible style, highlights a selection of the significant geological and geomorphological sites throughout the county, and their importance. The book which is aimed at residents and visitors alike will raise awareness of this important aspect of our heritage.

Reprint of Wild Mayo

In 2009, the Mayo Heritage Office published '*Wild Mayo*' by Michael Viney. *Wild Mayo* is a celebration of Mayo's natural heritage. It is an informative and beautifully illustrated account of our wild places and species. The book takes the reader on a wonderful journey of discovery through the county. It explains how Mayo's landscape came to be and what makes it special; it outlines how the various habitats were formed; describes and illustrates the diverse flora and fauna which inhabit these places and the interactions between them. This book proved to be very popular and it has been out of print since 2011. In 2014, *Wild Mayo* was reprinted and is available in local bookshops.

Reviewing the book, Paul Durcan poet said "*Wild Mayo is a gem of a book, brilliant and beautifully written and one which I constantly consult for reference*". Colin Stafford Johnson said "*A wonderful read, penned by someone who has both an intimate knowledge and great empathy for Mayo and its wild places. A terrific overview of this corner of Ireland for both visitors and residents alike. A book that deserves a place in every home in the county.*"

[Heritage Week 2013](#)

Funding was obtained from the Heritage Council in 2013, under the County Mayo Heritage Plan, to organise and promote a programme of events for Heritage Week. The aim of this project was to work with community and heritage groups in the county to provide advice, assistance and support to them, to develop a programme of events for Heritage Week 2013. A fund was made available to which community groups could apply for funding to organize and host a Heritage Week event. A total of 16 community groups from all over the county were awarded funding towards their Heritage Week events.

Over 80 heritage events were held throughout the county to celebrate Heritage Week 2013, which ran from 17th to the 25th August. A diverse and eclectic programme of events including heritage walks, talks, demonstrations, many of which were organised by communities, with the support of Mayo County Council, showcased the rich and diverse built, natural and cultural heritage of the county.

[Talk on swifts](#)

In association with GMIT Green Campus and BirdWatch Mayo, Mayo County Council held a talk on swifts by Eric Dempsey, one of Ireland's leading bird experts, in the Regional Training Centre. The aim of this talk was to raise awareness of the swift, which is a bird of conservation concern in Ireland due to loss of breeding sites. Over 60 people attended this most informative and interesting talk.



L-R: Lynda Huxley, GMIT Green Campus, Deirdre Cunningham, Eric Dempsey and Mick Hogan, BirdWatch Mayo

[Heritage Map Viewer](#)

The aim of this project is to develop a GIS based approach to enable the comprehensive audit and assessment of the heritage in a number of Irish counties. Mayo County Council is a partner in this project which is led by The Heritage Council. The overall purpose of the Map Viewer is to provide clearer understanding of the heritage and its significance, and to provide a service for spatially enabling government to exercise better management in the future.

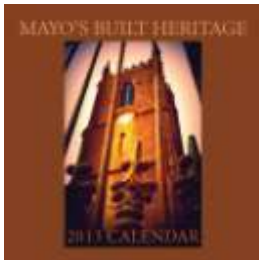
The project demonstrates how multiple data sources covering disparate themes, from different data owners, and crossing local and regional (county) boundaries, can be integrated to aid conveying information to the public and decision makers at different levels of government. Based on web services standards, the resulting web viewer can be multi-purposed and readily expanded in the future to accommodate new data sources, providing new functionality for different applications and users. The viewer will aid decision makers in preparing various types of assessment reports.

[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 2013](#)

A Mayo Built Heritage Calendar was published in 2013. Mayo has a diverse built heritage, including large country houses vernacular buildings, including thatch cottages, farm buildings, granaries, gate posts, milestones, bridges etc. A Built Heritage Photographic competition was organised, with the support of the Heritage Council, to raise awareness of the diversity of built heritage in the county, and to encourage children and adults to explore and engage with their built heritage in a meaningful way. Over 200 entries were received into the competition in three categories (Junior, Youth and Adult). The winning entries, along with other images of built heritage were included the Mayo Built Heritage Calendar 2013.



[Historic Towns Initiative](#)

Ireland has a rich legacy of historic towns and villages ranging from medieval towns, estate villages, canal and port towns to centres of administration. The historic character of these towns can be seen as a valuable asset, providing the potential for them to become vibrant, multi-functional places to live, work and visit. We need to protect the heritage of these towns in order to safeguard their distinctive character. The Historic Towns Initiative is a new pilot initiative between the Heritage Council, the Department of Arts, Heritage & the Gaeltacht (DAHG) and Fáilte Ireland. Three historic towns have been chosen for this pilot initiative, of which Westport is one. As part of its participation in this initiative, a Heritage and Conservation Plan for Westport must be prepared. The Heritage Office is involved in the preparation of this plan.

Mayo Commemoration Strategy

In 2013 Mayo County Council established a Mayo Commemoration Strategy Committee. The aim of the committee was to consider the most appropriate manner to mark the centenaries of the major historical events which occurred from 1913-1923 locally, and to devise a series of cultural, historical and educational events accordingly. In this regard, the council began the preparation of a Commemoration Strategy, co-ordinated by the Heritage Office and the County Library. Public consultation was undertaken to inform the strategy. The *Mayo Commemoration Strategy 2013–2023* sets out a list of actions that will be undertaken over the 10 year period to commemorate the events of the decade 1913–1923. The *Mayo Commemoration Strategy 2013–2023* was adopted by Mayo County Council in July 2013.

Control of *Gunnera tinctoria*

Mayo County Council has been involved in research on the control of *Gunnera tinctoria*, or giant rhubarb as it is commonly known, since 2006. Each year, different areas within the county are targeted for treatment control measures. One of the main areas targeted for treatment in 2013 was Achill. Mayo County Council, in partnership with local communities undertook an intensive programme of control in locations on the island.

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

- Input into the preparation of the County Development Plan, 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
- 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

VETS

Food Safety

The aim of Mayo County Council Veterinary Department is to work with local Food Business Operators to help them achieve and maintain the highest standards of food safety. We are actively involved in combating zoonotic diseases i.e. diseases transmittable between animals and humans. We also have a direct input into the elimination of notifiable diseases.

The food safety work is carried out under a Service Contract with the Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI), with particular emphasis on hygiene and traceability.

There are 16 abattoirs in the County and they employ 33 licenced slaughtermen. The veterinary staff carries out ante-mortem and post-mortem inspections on every animal slaughtered in these abattoirs in Co. Mayo, as well as overseeing general conditions of operational and structural hygiene.

In 2013 there were 1491 cattle, 13707 sheep, and 19 goats slaughtered in those Mayo abattoirs.

Dog/Horse Warden Service

In 2013 there was 96 dogs taken into the Dog pound. Under the Dog Breeding Establishment Act 2010, there are six establishments registered. In 2013 there was 202 horses seized under the Control of Horses Act.

It is our policy to rehome as many dogs as is possible. The dogs are vaccinated, micro-chipped and temperament tested before going to their new owner. The Council provide a Dog Shelter at Murneen, Claremorris.

Every dog over four months has to have a dog licence. Licences can be purchased on line at www.mayococo.ie or from any Post Office.

Cost

- Annual Licence €20
- Lifetime licence €140

MAYO COUNTY LIBRARY

In 2013, Mayo County Library lent 610,000 books to 26,000 members. A new library and cultural centre opened in Swinford in April which greatly enhanced the council's services in the area. Mayo Library also provides a local history service, a genealogy service, and a wide ranging programme of cultural events every year. In addition new services such as downloadable books, a smart phone service, online newspapers and social networking are now provided. Mayo libraries attracted 357,000 visits in 2013 which is far in excess of any other cultural or heritage organisation in the county.



New Swinford Library and Cultural centre

Castlebar Library

Over 100 events are held in the library throughout the year including:

- The Famine Plot, a talk by Tim Pat Coogan as part of the Heart of Castlebar Festival.
- The Famine in Mayo Exhibition as part of the Heart of Castlebar Festival.
- Almost 100 visits by primary, secondary and third level classes and special needs groups Literacy workshops held in collaboration with the HSE.
- Carnival fun time for kids
- Eurochild Poetry workshops for children
- Michael Davitt Exhibition
- Old postcards of Castlebar Exhibition
- 1798 Exhibition in conjunction with In Humbert's Footsteps Festival
- Enable Ireland volunteer programme information session
- Heritage Week archaeological talks
- CBI Book of the Year shadowing scheme with local school children
- Castlebar Library Book Club meets every month in the library and a weekly story time for younger children is held on Wednesday afternoons.
- Regular computer sessions for the Adult Learning Network, the elderly, teacher's groups, Irish Rural Link and REHAB students are held in the library.

Ballina Library

Over 100 events are held in the library throughout the year including:

- Numerous Arts exhibitions
- Mayo Author in Residence Manchan Mangan lecture
- Mayo North Garden and Flower Club –open evening
- International Day against Homophobia & Transphobia information display
- Moy Valley Young Mothers Group -launch of the ‘Mind Gym’ programme
- Free Craft workshops for Children
- National Literacy Strategy Summer camps
- Engineering as a career- presentations for Engineers Week
- Ballina ICA – federation days in the library
- Mayo Volunteer Centre - Community Outreach days and exhibition.
- Enable Ireland a volunteer programme day
- Ballina Music Circle meets monthly in the library
- Free computer courses for Over 55’s
- Mayo North East Leader – regular workshops on re-skilling for business
- Peace Education Programme -10 week course on developing your inner resources
- The Time to Read Programme workshops
- Grow it Yourself Ireland -meet every month in Library.
- Beehive Drama Group - a group of adults with learning difficulties who visit Ballina Library weekly for drama workshops.

The Library is a venue for numerous community based groups e.g. Irish Wheelchair Association, Ballina Chamber of Commerce, Mayo Volunteer Centre, Moy Community Development Board, Ballina Writers & Artists Group, Ballina Youthreach Club, Vibe Youth Club etc.



Ballina Library Book festival event



Libraries Help My Kid Learn Day. Preschoolers from the Mulberry Centre took part in activities on the theme of ‘The Very Hungry Caterpillar’



The Changing Face of Mayo Photography Exhibition – Ballina Library, Culture Night

Claremorris Library

- Launch of CD “Silver Threads” by Yvonne Bolton and Alan Jordan
- Book launch “The Peoples Courts: Ireland’s Dail Courts, 1920-1924” by Deputy Eamonn O’Cuiv
- Launch of the “Delia Murphy Festival” with accompanying National Library of Ireland exhibition on the singer’s life.
- Reading by Ms Carmen Cullen and performance of a number of songs from Delia Murphy’s repertoire.
- Launch of Claremorris Gathering DVD

Westport Library

- An afternoon with author international best-selling Karen McCombie in Library as part of The Rolling Sun Festival
- Mayo Volunteer Centre - Information Day
- Age Action Computer classes
- IDAHO -by John Doherty and Westport Family and Community Resource Centre
- Mixed Media Art exhibition by Carrowbeg College
- Woodland Park pre-school art exhibition
- Like a Tree Photographic Exhibition by Luc Teper of The Paul Hankar Institute, Brussels
- 'Old Westport People and Places ' Photographic exhibition – for Covie Festival
- Westport Stitch Club display
- National Heritage Week – exhibition by Shirley Piggins
- Westport Arts Festival -Exhibitions
- Smarter Travel Exhibition -Westport Town Council

Other Events

- Michael Longely, one of Ireland's most distinguished poets, read in Louisburg Library.
- Bestselling author Kate Kerrigan read in Belmullet Library.
- Ballinrobe market was held in the library and grounds throughout the year with a big Christmas market in December.



Visit by Ballycroby National Park staff to Crossmolina Library

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 numerous events for children including:

- Pet care demonstrations
- An on-line short story competition
- Library Quizzes
- Talks by local Gardai
- Talks on the environment
- Spooky Story-time for Halloween
- Design a bookmark workshop

Other children's events include:

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. In 2013 the Ballyhaunis Library recorded the highest participation in the event as 190 children completed the Challenge and had Mayo footballer Keith Higgins to present medals and certificates to the participants.



ICT Initiatives

- Access to online library services via smartphones
- Library members can access Mayo County Library services via their smart phones.
- Members can search the catalogue, view books, check their accounts and reserve items.

Audiobook Download Service

Over 1,000 audiobooks can be downloaded free to member's computer, phones or mp3 players

[Mayo Newspapers On-Line](#)

The following papers are all available online in the library: The Western People, The Mayo News, The Ballina Herald, The Connaught Telegraph, The Mayo Examiner The Ballinrobe Chronicle and The Western Journal.

[Facebook, Twitter And Ezine](#)

Mayo Library provides up-to-the minute information on its events and services on Facebook and Twitter. The library also produces an electronic magazine which is sent to over 3000 homes on a regular basis. SMS Messaging is used to notify borrowers about overdue books, requested items and library events via text message.

[WIFI](#)

Wifi access is now available in Castlebar, Ballina, Westport, Claremorris, Ballyhaunis, and Swinford libraries.

[Mayo Genealogy Online](#)

Mayo County Library, in conjunction with the Mayo Family History centres, 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.

[BorrowBooks](#)

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

[Mayo Maps Online](#)

Mayo Maps Online provides access to the 1838 Ordnance Survey maps, Bald's map of Mayo and maps of the Lynch-Blosse estates with links to additional information including the 1901 Census data, Griffith's Valuation, Tourism Survey from the 1940's and place name information.

[Postcards of Mayo](#)

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

[Historical Newspaper Illustrations](#)

This facility on the library website provides a contemporary pictorial view of some of the most significant episodes in Irish history from illustrations from the 19th newspapers.

Other Online Services

- Irish Tourist Association Survey (1940s)
- The Famine in Mayo: a portrait from contemporary sources online
- In Humbert's Footsteps: 1798 & the Year of the French,
- Mayo People – lives of famous people from the county
- Map of The Clans of Mayo
- Book Review section - updated monthly

New Music Libraries

Mayo got two new music libraries and an instrument lending scheme thanks to Music Generation, the U2 and Ireland Funds. Mayo was one of three counties selected for participation in Music Generation with the aim of helping children and young people access vocal and instrumental tuition. As part of the project Mayo library has received funding to provide music libraries in Ballina and Castlebar which contain material on all aspects of music from tuition to recordings and performances. The library has also worked with Music Generation Mayo to create a musical instrument lending scheme which allows people from all over the county to borrow instruments through their local library.



Jackie Clarke Library

The Jackie Clarke Collection was officially opened by An Taoiseach Enda Kenny on 15 June 2013. It is comprised of three elements: The Exhibition Centre in the completely renovated and restored bank building, the Urban Walled Garden, and the Repository & Education Centre. This €5 million project was developed by Mayo County Council in conjunction with Fáilte Ireland, the BMW Assembly administering EU regional funds, and with the support of the National Spatial Strategy Gateways, and HUBS ERDF funding(2002-2020).

A very successful Heritage Council funded Community Focus Programme was run throughout the year in partnership with numerous local organisations.

A Docent/Volunteer Programme in partnership with Volunteers Ireland has been set up with seventeen Volunteers giving their time each week to the Collection.

Exhibitions at the Collection: Crossings was exhibited at the JCC for the month of August as part of the Mayo North Gathering. The theme was the cultural influences of the Irish in the world of literature and drama as the result of emigration. The key exhibit was Mary Robinson's Light in the Window. The official opening was attended by US Embassy's Deputy Director of Public Diplomacy Angie Smith and The American Irish Historical Society Bill Hurley brought material from the AIHS collection to put on display for the first international exhibition at the collection.

The Jackie Clarke Collection assisted with the setting up of the Pearse Street Reunion and hosted an exhibition on the history of the street during July. Material was also provided for a specially commissioned film on the history of the street with its focus on the Rouse Family.

Irish language activities will be held in the JCC every Saturday during the academic year 2013/2014.

An Education Programme has been put in place with assistance from the Community Focus Teacher's Advisory Group targeted at local school children

The Collection has been nominated by the US Embassy to take part in the Museum Connect Programme –it is partnered with the Everhart Museum, Scranton.

An Edu-tourism Programme for National and International Scholars is currently underway. The Collection is attracting individual scholars and university & group tours from the United States. Talks are underway with US universities about sending interns and doctoral students to spend periods of time studying Irish history in Ballina.

The Director of the Collection gave a lecture on the collection and its artefacts dealing with the Famine at the Ireland's Great Hunger Museum, at Quinnipiac University, Connecticut in October.

Items from the Collection were given on loan to the exhibition Dance! Moves that Move Us at the Deutsches Hygiene Museum, Germany in October.

925 visitors from the US came to the Collection in the summer of 2013, many in response to the huge profile of an article in The New York Times. This was a three page article that ran on March 17th which was seen by 3 million people on line and in print (said to be worth \$120,000 in advertising space). RTE's Nationwide also did a ten minute piece on the collection in September and the opening featured on the RTE Six One news. The Collection won an Institute of Designers Award in November for its audio visual facilities

INFORMATION COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES (ICTS)

2013 was another busy year in the IS Department.

In association with CMoD and the National Framework Agreements we went to tender in April for our Fixed communication requirements and we expect to achieve significant savings in this area with effective from October 2013.

We retained our ISO 27001 IT Security accreditation in 2013 and still remain the only Local Authority in Ireland to hold such a distinction.

Large sections of the wireless infrastructure was upgraded during 2013, we are now delivering 110mb of connectivity to our area office network.

The IS Department supported more than 27 Council websites with total traffic of nearly 1.6 million visitors between them, with more than 220,000 visits to Mayococo.ie alone.

Main developments in 2013

- New look & feel for www.mayococo.ie with photos of beauty spots around the county
- Development of new websites for Mayo swimming pools & leisure centres
- Continued work on www.mayo.ie
- Additional online services/payments including Fire Callout Charges and rollout of CRM to all Council Sections to support www.FixYourStreet.ie
- Work began on a number of projects which will be deployed in 2014 including Online Parking Permits, Online Housing Rent Payments.

RETIREMENTS IN 2013

There were 19 recruitment competitions held in 2013.

The number of men on the Interview Boards was 29 and the number of women on the Interview Boards was 15.

The following employees retired in 2013.

Paul Cafferkey	General Operative
James Dempsey	General Operative
Margaret McHugh	Senior Library Assistant
Joseph Keane	Ganger
Henry P. Flanagan	Ganger
Martin Lally	Light Equipment Operator
Ron Burnside	General Operative
Patrick Garvin	Ganger
John Oldham	Light Equipment Operator
Jimmy Maloney	Waterworks Caretaker Grade 3
Michael O'Connor	General Operative
Michael Mongan	Senior Engineer
Thomas Joyce	Ganger
Brendan Murphy	Driver/Plant Operator B
Michael Hough	Driver/Plant Operator B
Gráinne De Paor	Senior Emergency Control Operator
Thomas Elliot	General Operative
John O'Brien	Waterworks Caretaker Grade 3
Joseph Lyons	Light Equipment Operator
John Coll	Director of Services
Eugene Carey	Station Officer

A Voluntary Redundancy Scheme for Local Authorities was introduced in 2013. 11 staff resigned from Mayo County Council under this Scheme in 2013. 5 more will avail of the redundancy scheme in 2014.

CORPORATE

Freedom of Information

The total number of requests under the Freedom of Information Act for 2013 was 52. Amendment to the Freedom of Information Acts is imminent and proceedings for the Houses of the Oireachtas.

Higher Education Grants

Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI) are processing all new Student Grant applications, including applications from existing students changing their courses or progressing to new courses (be they add-on courses or otherwise), from the 2012/13 academic year onwards. SUSI are also paying Student Grants to all new applicants who are awarded grants from the 2012/13 academic year onwards, subject to confirmation and verification of attendance.

Mayo County Council continue to process Student Grant renewal applications for students to whom they have already awarded grants until such time as those students have completed their current course and will continue to pay these renewal students in the normal manner subject to confirmation and verification of attendance.

The Student Grant Scheme 2013 was released to Mayo County Council by the Department of Education and Skills on 16 May, 2013.

The total number of Student Grant renewal applications received to-date in the 2013/14 academic year is 652. The current number of renewal students receiving grants from Mayo County Council is 526.

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.

REGISTER OF ELECTORS/EDITED REGISTER 2013/2014

Registration Authority: **Mayo County Council**

Part I		
2013 Dáil Constituency	Presidential Electors	Dáil Electors
Galway West (2013)	7,242	7,441
Mayo (2013)	87,896	90,125
Total	95,138	97,566

Part II – Postal Voters							Part III – Special Voters
2013 Dáil Constituency	Gardaí	Defence Forces	Diplomats	Physically Disabled	Occupation etc.	Prisoners	Special Voters
Galway West (2013)	0	6	0	8	0	0	19
Mayo (2013)	3	68	1	90	1	0	209
Total	3	74	1	98	1	0	228

Part IV - Edited Register		
2013 Dáil Constituency	Presidential Electors	Dáil Electors
Galway West (2013)	876	933
Mayo (2013)	10,854	11,489
Total	11,730	12,422

Part V - Postal Voters on Edited Register							Part VI – Special Voters on Edited Register
2013 Dáil Constituency	Gardaí	Defence Forces	Diplomats	Physically Disabled	Occupation etc.	Prisoners	Special Voters
Galway West (2013)	0	0	0	2	0	0	1
Mayo (2013)	0	11	0	4	0	0	16
TOTAL	0	11	0	6	0	0	17

Supplement to Register of Electors

Referendums on 4th October 2013

Supplement to Register

Total number of applications received by closing date	429
Total number of these applications approved	424
Total number of these applications rejected	5
Total number of applications received after closing date	10

Supplement to Postal Voters List

Total number of applicants included on Supplement	15
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Supplement to Special Voters List

Total number of applicants included on Supplement	27
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OIFIG NA GAELIGE

Oifig na Gaeilge seeks to sustain and promote the use of Irish in County Mayo and it aids in developing and implementing the Irish Language Policy of Mayo's Local Authority.

Mayo is a Gaeltacht county, with a vibrant Irish speaking community. The Gaeltacht regions of Iorras, Acaill and Tuar Mhic Éadaigh are rich in oral traditions, literature, music, historical and archaeological sites and most importantly of all, they are all Irish speaking regions.

The latest census figures (2011) show that 45.5% of the county's population can speak Irish. In addition to that, County Mayo has the fourth largest number of people who speak Irish outside of the education system and Castlebar ranks fourth amongst towns outside of the Gaeltacht where Irish is used regularly outside of the education system.

Acht na Gaeltachta, 2012

The Gaeltacht Act was published earlier in the year, and as a result of it the people of Mayo will be faced with both challenges and opportunities. It sets out that Gaeltacht status will in future be defined by linguistic criteria as opposed to geographical locations as was the case until now. Language planning on a community basis will play an integral part in this new defining of the Gaeltacht. Areas outside of the Gaeltacht, however, will also be able to obtain legal recognition as Irish Language Networks or as Gaeltacht Service towns should they fulfill the necessary criteria.

The Act also included a provision to significantly reduce the number of members on the board of the Údarás and to suspend the requirement of an election for the board of the Údarás. Mayo now has only one representative on the board of the Údarás, Ian Mac Aindriú.

Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla, 2003

Whilst continuing to improve the level of service available through Irish, the Council continued to implement the Official Languages Act 2003, and the Mayo Local Authorities' Language Scheme. This included informing staff of the Council's obligations regarding the language, undertaking translation work, advising on forms of placenames to be used on road signage, and ensuring the websites and certain publications, forms, information leaflets etc. are available in both official languages.

This year a number of classes were organised in conjunction with GMIT and Mayo VEC to ensure the widest variety of classes on different levels were available and as affordable as possible.



Talk on Placenames in Claremorris Library

A series of lectures were organised in Castlebar, Ballina, Partry and Charlestown in conjunction with the Mayo Placenames Committee and funded by Togra Mhaigh Eo and Conradh na Gaeilge.

Dr. Fiachra Mac Gabhann has spent 10 years studying the placenames of Mayo, culminating in a 10 volume work of Mayo Placename research. This is the first time that the toponymy of an entire county has been detailed in published form. It is hoped that this volume of work will be published in 2014. It is an extraordinary linguistic-historical project that will provide an outstanding resource for schools, academics, County Council functionality, communities and interested individuals.

Grúpaí Pobail agus Féilte



'An tSeanscoil' built by Nephin View Restoration Group, received funding from Foras na Gaeilge's Scéim na bhFéilte

Oifig na Gaeilge provided help and support to many community groups and festivals throughout 2013, and succeeded in accessing funding through Foras na Gaeilge's Scéim na nImeachtaí Óige (€20,000) for 4 youth clubs in Mayo, two of which were established in 2013. Oifig na Gaeilge also worked alongside community groups and festivals throughout the county helping them secure €10,000 through Foras na Gaeilge's Scéim na bhFéilte.

Oifig na Gaeilge works actively with a number of language, cultural and Gaeltacht groups in Mayo:

- Togra Mhaigh Eo
- Conradh na Gaeilge
- Muintir Chathair na Mart
- Club Cúpla Focal, Béal an Átha
- Ciorcal Comhrá, Béal Átha na Muice
- Cúpla Focal 's Cupán Tae, Coillte Mach
- Coiste Chultúr 's Teanga Thuar Mhic Éadaigh
- Comharchumann Deirbhile
- Áras Inis Gluaire
- Comharcumann Dhún Chaocháin
- Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann

Gnó Mhaigh Eo



Gnó Mhaigh Eo continued to work in close partnership with the business community and festival committees in 2013 and organised a wide variety of projects, which included:

- Déanta i Maigh Eo (Irish language products & packaging - 30 businesses participating)
- Gradam Gnó Mhaigh Eo (80 businesses nominated)
- Bronntanas na Teanga (Social Media Campaign held during Seachtain na Gaeilge)
- Féile Bia Chathair na Mart (Westport Food Festival)
- Féile Ealaíon Chathair na Mart (Westport Arts Festival)
- Córthéile Idirnáisiúnta Mhaigh Eo (Mayo International Choral Festival)
- An Flóta is Fearr (Best Bilingual Float Competition on St. Patrick's Day, 50 groups participated)

Seachtain na Gaeilge 2013



Clár Imeachtaí le haghaidh Seachtain na Gaeilge i mBéal an Átha

Mayo's Seachtain na Gaeilge was launched in Castlebar this year, and among the events organised throughout the county were storytelling evenings, drama workshops, film screenings, treasure hunts and the first of the Jackie Clarke Collection's Book of the Month was held during Seachtain na Gaeilge with 30 participants discussing Micheál Ó Tiománaidhe's collection of 'Western Folk Tales.'

Bliain na Gaeilge 2013 - Seimineár



www.gaeilge2013.ie

Bliain na Gaeilge 2013 was launched in Belmullet on Sunday 25th November 2012. The revival of the Irish language was begun in 1893 with the foundation of Conradh na Gaeilge, and the aim of Bliain na Gaeilge is to give the 2 million people on the island today who have Irish a chance to use the language.

Worked with Conradh na Gaeilge and The Museum of Country Life to organise two key seminars to mark, Bliain na Gaeilge. The first seminar 'Todhchaí na Gaeilge i Maigh Eo' held in conjunction with Conradh na Gaeilge in May of this year, coincided with the Gradam na Gaeilge award ceremony.

The second seminar 'Gaeltachtaí Mhaigh Eo - Bás nó Fás' was held in conjunction with The Museum of Country Life on Saturday 30 November.

Tóstal Éireann 2013 - The North American Gaeltacht



Oifig Gaeilge Mhaigh Eo and the North American Gaeltacht have been working closely together for years, with Mayo teachers teaching there for the past three years and members of their Gaeltacht community attending events in Mayo. Oifig na Gaeilge, Conradh na Gaeilge, Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann organised Tóstal Mhaigh Eo to celebrate Bliain na Gaeilge and the year of the Gathering.



Tóstal Mhaigh Eo, held in October 2013, was a five day tour of the Mayo Gaeltacht areas covering Tuar Mhic Éadaigh, Acaill, Eachléim and Ceathrú Thaidhg. 25 American and Canadian Gaeilgeoirs from Gaeltacht Thuaisceart an Oileáin Úir - The North American Gaeltacht, enjoyed a five-day programme of immersive and interactive events including drama workshops, talks on indigenous dialects, guided walks focusing on placenames, flora and fauna, history and mythology, aswell as music and storytelling evenings. The five day programme culminated with Mayo County Council welcoming the group at a Civic Reception in their honour.



Lón Gaeilge

Oifig na Gaeilge continued to provide and promote opportunities for people to meet and speak Irish with the intention of developing a network of Irish speakers throughout the county. A series of monthly ‘Irish Lunches’ were arranged in Castlebar, Ballinrobe, Kiltimagh and Ballina, and in Claremorris. These lunches have proven very successful in providing Irish speakers, those learning the language, and to those who only rarely use Irish, a chance to come and use their ‘cúpla focal’ in an informal, relaxed atmosphere.

Seirbhís Eolais

Oifig na Gaeilge compile and distribute a monthly e-newsletter to keep people informed about Irish language and cultural events throughout the county, events such as conversation groups, music sessions, guided walks, film nights, summer camps for children, Gaeltacht courses for adults, as well as other stories which may be of interest such as employment and funding opportunities.



Both a Facebook and Twitter account under the title ‘Gaeilge Mhaigh Eo’ have been developed to provide information about events and stories on a continuous and pro-active basis.

The Gaeilge Mhaigh Eo Facebook page has over 5,200 followers, while the Twitter account has over 2,100 followers.

MAYO CIVIL DEFENCE

Mayo Civil Defence expenditure budget for 2013 was €125,000.00. This is part Grant Aided by the Civil Defence Board / Department of Defence. The Budget for 2013 has been reduced in line with overall budgetary requirements and Mayo Civil Defence will continue to provide services to the public as in previous years.

Mayo Civil Defence Resources

Volunteers	95
Vehicles	15
Boats	3
Command and Control Unit	1
Flood Response Boat	1



Highlights of 2013

Civil Defence hosted a Gathering/Awards night on Friday 20th September, 2013 in the Welcome Inn Hotel which was attended by the Cathaoirleach of Mayo County Council, Councillor John O'Malley, Civil Defence College Principal, Roisin McGuire and County Manager, Peter Hynes.





Certificates presented on the night included:

- Cardiac First Responder
- Emergency First Responder
- Radio Operator Level 2
- Food Safety and You
- Manual Handling
- National Power Boat
- Search Management
- Critical Incident Stress Management - Facilitator

A number of Volunteer Officer Promotions were announced by Civil Defence Officer Rose Doherty.

Civil Defence National Training Seminar

5 Members of the organization attended Civil Defence Education and Training Seminar in The Heritage Resort Hotel, Killenard, County Laois. Many interesting presentations were delivered by the Guest speakers and a Large Trade show was evident showcasing the most up to date Emergency equipment available

Community Support

Mayo Civil defence attended over 90 community support duties throughout the year. These included – Adventures races, Community festivals, Charity and Sports events



Reek Sunday



Ladies Mini Marathon



Road Safety Show

Emergency Planning

Civil Defence continues to participate actively in all aspects of Emergency planning on a Local, Regional and National level.

Missing Persons National Exercise
6th & 7th December 2013

A National Exercise took place in the environs of the Garda Training Centre, Templemore from 6th – 7th December 2013.

A number of scenarios were posed for Civil Defence and An Garda Siochana Search Responders and Managers which displayed the capabilities of both organisations in such events.



Multi Agency Maritime Exercise



Mayo Civil Defence took part in an Irish Coast Guard co-ordinated exercise at Keem Bay Achill on 1st June 2013. The organisations involved were - Irish Coast Guard, Irish Navy - LE Aoife, Irish Air Corp, RNLI, Civil Defence Irish Customs and Excise and Order of Malta Ireland. The participants took part in a number of exercises and displays.



Garda Search Instructors, in consultation with Civil Defence College Instructors have developed and planned a number of ‘missing person’ scenarios for the Exercise.

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Road Traffic Exercise - Ballina Fire Station

Mayo Civil Defence last evening Monday 18th Feb 2013 conducted a joint exercise with Ballina Fire Service. The exercise involved a Road Traffic Accident Scenario. Civil Defence Teams worked alongside Mayo Fire Service Members to rescue 2 casualties from the crashed car.



New Ambulance

Mayo Civil Defence took delivery in December 2013 of a 2008 Vauxhall Ambulance, this vehicle was previously in service with the NHS in the UK. It is fully CEN compliant and will take up service with the Civil Defence Casualty Service and will be based in Castlebar



ENERGY USAGE IN 2013

The main energy users at Mayo County Council are Water and Waste Treatment services accounting for approx 75% of total Consumption. All other regional services including administration buildings account for the balance 25% of consumption. In general consumption trends are downwards due to reduced activity and therefore a reduction in demand. Improved efficiency initiatives in social housing upgrades & the completion of Leisure facility upgrades started in 2012 and completion in 2013 also contributed to reducing energy demand.

In 2013, Mayo County Council consumed in the region of 30,450 MWh of energy, consisting of:

- 23,822 MWh of electricity; (No change in Demand Electricity & Natural Gas NPS Tendering in 2012 risk management price issues still under resolution in 2013)
- 6,393 MWh of fossil fuels, including (Reduced Demand Natural Gas, LPG, Heating Oil & Transport fuels – Reduced activity & improved efficiency)
- 266 MWh of renewable fuels (Reduced Demand for wood Pellet due to Boiler Service operator issues during 2013).

Actions Undertaken in 2013

In 2013, Mayo County Council undertook a range of initiatives to improve our energy performance, including:

- Combined Heat and Power (CHP) Natural Gas unit Installed in Westport Leisure Centre proposed in 2012 & completed in 2013 will save an estimated 5.2MWh.
- Insulation & Heating Upgrades to housing stock (Bangor Erris, Springfield Estate 17 units & Honors Grove 3 units) under the seai “Area Based Warmer Homes scheme” with CLAR ICH Claremorris which will save an estimated 648MWh annually
- Regional Water services Monitoring & Metering proposed upgrade under the WARES projects under evaluation with estimated 100MWh savings. Review upgrades proposals with Irish Water in 2014.
- Public Lighting Contract awarded to Electric Skyline Ltd for the installation and monitoring of 200 Energy efficient light units in Crossmolina, Co Mayo. Public lighting outages and/or faults can be reported by phone or online direct to Electric Skyline. Monitoring data available in 2014

Altogether, these and other energy saving measures will provide Mayo County Council with approximately 10% energy savings annually.

Actions Planned for 2014

In 2014 and beyond, Mayo County Council intends to further improve our energy performance by undertaking the following initiatives:

- Tender secured for Display Energy Certificates (DEC's) on all public buildings in the county with floor area greater than 500m². Reports from these DEC's will provide recommendations for possible Energy Upgrades that will improve the Energy Performance of each Building and an opportunity to apply to Better Energy Communities support funding Programme provided by SEAI in 2015. The public buildings under the SEAI Better Energy Community Scheme is dependent on other agencies and service/energy providers participating and estimated 30% saving on Energy consumption or greater is required to qualify.
- Funding secured by MEAL under the CGIF to investigate the Feasibility of District Heating (Biomass) system for Belmullet Regional office & urban environs by end of 2014.
- Insulation & Heating Upgrades to housing stock (County wide basis) under Department support funding for council housing upgrades programme estimated 300MWh annually.
- Feasibility study for installation of Water pumping systems to improve efficiency in conjunction with Irish Water.
- Review Public Lighting data recorded from projects based on energy savings recorded from Crossmolina installation & Monitoring contract awarded in 2013.

CONTACT DETAILS

Headquarters

Áras an Chontae
The Mall
Castlebar
County Mayo

Tel: (094) 9024444
Fax: (094) 9023937
Email: secretar@mayococo.ie
Website: www.mayococo.ie

Area offices

Mayo Motor Tax Office	(094) 9047600	Swinford	(094) 9251132 / (094) 9251495
Castlebar	(094) 9024444	Claremorris	(094) 9371508 / (094) 9371285
Westport	(098) 50400	Ballinrobe	(094) 9541029
Newport	(098) 41456	Ballinrobe Housing Office	(094) 9541111
Ballina	(096) 76100	Béal an Mhuirthead	(097) 81004

Fire Brigade and Services

Fire Brigade Headquarters
Humbert Way
Castlebar
County Mayo

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
County Mayo

Tel: (094) 9047922
Fax: (094) 9026491
E-Mail: librarymayo@mayococo.ie
Web: www.mayolibrary.ie

Branch Libraries

Castlebar Library	(094) 9047959	Crossmolina Library	(096) 31939
Acaill	(098) 20910	Kiltimagh Library	(094) 9381786
Ballina Library	(096) 22180	Louisburgh	(098) 66658
Ballinrobe Library	(094) 9541896	Swinford Library	(094) 9252065
Ballyhaunis Library	(094) 9630161	Westport Library	(098) 25747
Béal an Mhuirthead Library	(097) 82374	Foxford Library	(094) 9256040
Charlestown Library	(094) 9255934	Clare Island	(098) 29838
Claremorris Library	(094) 9371666	Kilkelly Library	(094) 9367758

Mayo Childcare Committee

Chambers House, Ellison Street, Castlebar, County Mayo (094) 9047010

Swimming Pools

Castlebar Swimming Pool (094) 9021357
Ballina Swimming Pool (096) 70506
Claremorris Swimming Pool (094) 9371313

Waterworks Caretakers

Acaill	(098) 45185	Crossmolina	(096) 31396
Balla	(094) 9365008	Cong	(094) 9546068
Ballina	(096) 32313	Foxford	(094) 9256333
Ballindine	(094) 9364276	Kilkelly	(094) 9367071
Ballinrobe	(094) 9541029	Kilmaine/Shrute	(093) 33436
Ballycastle	(096) 43106	Kiltimagh	(094) 9381392
Ballyhaunis	(094) 9649026	Knock	(094) 9381742
Bangor Erris	(097) 83436	Lough Mask / Treatment Plant	(094) 9544029
Béal an Mhuirthead	(097) 84646	Louisburgh	(098) 66266
Bonniconlon	(096) 71146	Newport/Mulranny	(098) 36181
Charlestown	(094) 9254633	Swinford	(094) 9251898
Claremorris	(094) 9362416	Westport	(098) 21295

Town Councils

Ballina (096) 76100
Castlebar (094) 9023350
Westport (098) 50400

Civic Amenity Sites

Derrinnumera (098) 41632
Rathroon (096) 24055/(096) 75959

APPENDIX 1

Payment to Members of Mayo County Council
and
Non-Members of Mayo County Council in 2013

APPENDIX 2

Donation Statements by Members of Local Authority
1st January 2013 – 31st December 2013