



Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo

Mayo County Council

Tuarascáil Bhliantúil 2014
Annual Report 2014



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Introduction

2014 was another busy and challenging year for Local Authorities and Mayo County Council in particular. The most notable event of the year was the Local Elections and the move from three Town Councils and six Electoral areas to four Municipal Districts, a transition which is ongoing.

Mayo County Council has completed the first series of re-structuring to deliver on our commitment to bettering our services to the people of Mayo. The Council now operates through four municipal districts structured within a unified local government organisation for the first time in over a century. We have thirty members elected until 2019 and the Council is chaired by the Cathaoirleach who is elected by the members annually. The Corporate Policy Group and the six Strategic Policy Committees initiate, develop and recommend policy to the Council. The day to day affairs of the Council is overseen by our Chief Executive who is supported by just under one thousand employees. Each Municipal District has a local office which delivers local services to the people in that district. Each is supported by the Council in cross county services and through the operational services of the Council.

The economic recovery continues to grow, particularly on the eastern seaboard and the challenges for this Local Authority are becoming increasingly complex and demanding.

The key significant changes during 2014 were :-

Municipalities... The dissolution of the Town Councils and the setting up of four Municipal Districts in Mayo, the realignment of staff and structures and the revisions required to continue the economic development of the County and the delivery of effective public services to our communities is one of the most significant changes of the year and will take some considerable time to fully work through and bed in.

Enterprise... The establishment of the Local Enterprise Office in Mayo, which is seen as a national leader in the sector, took place in May 2014. The ongoing work of the Enterprise and Investment Unit continues to point the direction towards significant economic growth for the County.

Irish Water... Irish Water was established formally on 1st January 2014 and the transition of operations to the new public utility is continuing. The new arrangements mean that almost 20% of our services are now delivered on an agency basis under a Service Level Agreement with the new utility.

Alignment... Mayo has been one of the ten frontrunner Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs) since January 2014. The new Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme is at procurement stage and will be rolled out through the LCDC. Discussions with the Local Development Companies on the proposed Rural Development Programme (LEADER) are progressing.

Tourism... 2014 was an extremely good year for Mayo tourism with increased visitor numbers generally. The move to establish the *Wild Atlantic Way* has already shown significant benefits and Mayo's effort to establish itself as "*Heartbeat of the Wild Atlantic Way*" as well as the adventure capital of Ireland is gaining traction.

A number of key events including the development of a Signature Discovery Point at Downpatrick Head and the Surf Summit, a spin off from the Web Summit, have garnered extensive promotional opportunities for the county.

These changes have been delivered in the context of increased pressure on resources and downsizing of staff.

Municipal Districts

County Mayo



Electoral Area	—
Electoral Division	—
Recommended LEA Name and Number of Members:	
Ballina	- 8
Castlebar	- 8
Claremorris	- 7
West Mayo	- 7
ED Names: TUMGESH	
Town Names: Castlebar ■	



Elected Members of Mayo County Council

Claremorris Municipal District



Cllr. Damien Ryan [Cathaoirleach]



Cllr. John Caulfield



Cllr. Tom Connolly



Cllr. John Cribbin



Cllr. Richard Finn



Cllr. Gerry Murray



Cllr. Patsy O'Brien

Ballina Municipal District



Cllr. Neil Cruise



Cllr. Gerry Ginty



Cllr. Michael Loftus



Cllr. Jarlath Munnelly



Cllr. John O'Hara



Cllr. Annie May Reape



Cllr. Michael Smyth



Cllr. Seamus Weir

Castlebar Municipal District



Cllr. Cyril Burke



Cllr. Lisa Chambers



Cllr. Frank Durcan



Cllr. Blackie K. Gavin



Cllr. Henry Kenny



Cllr. Michael Kilcoyne



Cllr. Al McDonnell



Cllr. Thérèse Ruane

West Mayo Municipal District



Cllr. Rose Conway-Walsh



Cllr. Gerry Coyle



Cllr. Michael Holmes



Cllr. Christy Hyland



Cllr. Tereasa McGuire



Cllr. Paul McNamara



Cllr. Brendan Mulroy

OIREACHTAS MEMBERS

Senator Paddy Burke, Annagh, Castlebar (Fine Gael)

Mr. Dara Calleary, T.D., Quignalecka, Ballina (Fianna Fáil)

Mr. Enda Kenny, T.D., Tucker Street, Castlebar (Fine Gael)

Ms. Michelle Mulherin, T.D., 47, MoyHeights, Ballina (Fine Gael)

Mr. John O'Mahony, T.D., D'Alton Street, Claremorris (Fine Gael)

Mr. Michael Ring, T.D., Quay Street, Westport, (Fine Gael)

Mission Statement



"Promote the well-being and quality of life of our citizens and communities in Mayo and to enhance the attractiveness of the County as a place in which to live, work, visit, invest in and enjoy".

AND OUR VISION FOR MAYO IS

"A County that is Sustainable, Inclusive, Prosperous and Proud".

ENTERPRISE AND INVESTMENT UNIT



The following is a report on the principle activities of The Enterprise and Investment Unit of Mayo County Council for 2014 :-

The Enterprise and Investment Unit of Mayo County Council (**EIU**) established in December 2012, is working to develop an enterprise-friendly environment in County Mayo which promotes and supports job creation.

The Strategic Framework of the Unit is heavily influenced by the recently appointed Economic Development and Enterprise Support and Tourism and Food Strategic Policy Committees (2014).

The key objectives for the Department in 2014 included, facilitating access to enterprise services and supports, identifying and advocating for essential infrastructure, co-ordinating initiatives in key economic sectors, managing the transition to the new 'Local Enterprise Office' and promoting the 'MAYO' message globally.

The EIU continues to prioritise key sectors including Micro Enterprise, Inward Investment, Tourism, Renewable Energy, Marine, and development of Diaspora relations. Significant progress has been made in each of these specific areas throughout 2014. Our 2014 report encapsulates all activities delivered by our Unit under the following sections:

- ❖ Local Enterprise Office
- ❖ **VISIT** – Many Places
- ❖ **CONNECT** – Many People
- ❖ **INVEST** – Many Parts





Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil Local Enterprise Office

Local Enterprise Office Mayo

The Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Mayo was established in April 2014, replacing the former Mayo County Enterprise Board. Formed on the basis of a Service Level Agreement with Enterprise Ireland, the LEO has 4 key functions:

1. Business Information & Advice – providing advice and guidance to early stage entrepreneurs and those who wish to grow and develop existing businesses;
2. Enterprise Support Services – including financial support to eligible businesses in the Manufacturing or Internationally Trading Services sectors;
3. Entrepreneurship Support Services – growing a culture of entrepreneurship in Mayo, with a specific focus on working with schools and young people;
4. Local Enterprise Development Services – positioning the Local Authority as the go-to body for enterprise and economic development in Mayo.



Pictured at the launch of the Mayo Local Enterprise Office were Peter Hynes, Chief Executive, Joanne Grehan, Head of Mayo Enterprise, Minister Phil Hogan, An Taoiseach Enda Kenny and Cathaoirleach Johnny O'Malley.

Review of 2014 Activity

The main activity of the LEO in 2014 involved the provision of an integrated range of supports to small and micro-enterprises. Key supports included financial support (mostly in the form of grants) and a wide variety of soft support interventions. Central to the work of the LEO was the objective of providing tailored support to meet the needs of clients at various stages of their development and introducing new programmes in response to the changing needs of the LEO client base.

2014 Highlights

- A total of **€454,506** of grant aid was provided to 30 small businesses in 2014;
- **53 new jobs** were supported by the Local Enterprise Office through working with a client base of 182 businesses;
- There were a total of **227 mentoring sessions** provided to small businesses in Mayo;
- The roll out of the Mayo **Best Young Entrepreneur** competition saw 55 entrants under the age of 30. The competition had a prize fund of €50,000 and 16 finalists participated in a regional bootcamp with other young entrepreneurs from Galway and Roscommon. The category winners of the Mayo competition were Daniel Loftus, Newport; Niamh Ryan, Ballina; and Donal Byrne, Aghamore. Donal Byrne of Big Red Barn Ltd was awarded the title of Mayo's Best Young Entrepreneur 2014;



Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur (IBYE) finalists, winners, judging panel and LEO team

- The **Student Enterprise Awards** competition saw 822 second-level students from across the County engaged in enterprise projects. A number of these then participated in Summer Student Bootcamps which were ran in Castlebar and Ballina. Mindful of the fact that today's students are tomorrow's potential entrepreneurs

this initiative is particularly important in the context of giving young people the opportunity to develop their entrepreneurial skill-sets;



Selection of Student Enterprise Awards finalists, with Judges, Mentors and LEO team

- The first **MeetMayo** initiative, a business-to-business networking event, took place in the Breaffy Sports & Events Arena in October. This is a practical response to the needs of many small businesses who require additional opportunities to meet and engage with other potential customers and clients from the local area;
- The 4th annual **MeetWest** event took place in November in the Galway Bay Hotel and built on success of the 2013 event in Mayo. The MeetWest initiative has grown to become the most important business networking event in the West of Ireland and is an important example of regional collaboration between Local Authorities and other enterprise support agencies;
- The establishment of the LEO was used as an opportunity to further expand the range of **training programmes** targeted at those interested in starting their own business or further developing an existing business. In this context a broader range of programmes and one-day workshops were offered, with a total of 927 participants in training and other development programmes;
- The food and broader manufacturing sectors were areas of growth in the Mayo economy in 2014. A Food Sector Research & Feasibility Study was conducted to give some strategic direction to this emerging sector within the County. The study provided an overview of the current development needs of the small food sector and made recommendations on the further development of the sector. Essential training provided to the sector included the Food Academy run in conjunction with the Musgrave Group and Bord Bia.

- The broader manufacturing sector in Mayo continues to act as a driver of productivity, innovation, R&D and technological change. In 2014 the Mayo Local Enterprise Office provided advice and development support to the manufacturing sector throughout County Mayo so as to increase the job creation potential of new and existing micro and small businesses in this sector and encourage innovative Mayo businesses with the potential to export.

LEO SUPPORTING THE FOOD SECTOR IN MAYO

In response to our Emerging Sectors Report in 2012 the Food Sector was identified as a key growth sector. The LEO has strongly supported the growth of companies across Mayo through direct support and promotional assistance. 2014 was incredibly successful, namely;

- ❖ Féile na Tuaithe
- ❖ Westport Festival of Food & Music
- ❖ CROSS Rugby Legends Cycle
- ❖ National Craft Fair
- ❖ Ballina Food Fleadh
- ❖ Westport Food Festival
- ❖ Ballinrobe Christmas Markets
- ❖ Blas na hÉireann Awards



The purpose of supporting the events was varied but overall it to promote the food sector in Mayo to not only a local audience but a wider national and international audience.

Féile na Tuaithe

After a three-year absence, and with the support from Mayo County Council, Féile na Tuaithe returned in 2014, with great enthusiasm and support from the local and ad hoc community. The 2-day family (free) festival attracted 22,000 visitors over the 24th and 25th of May 2014 - a significant rise on previous years. Through close collaboration a number of key relationships were established and/or strengthened between Mayo County Council, the National Museum of Ireland, semi-state agencies, local



businesses and the public. A post event survey of food, craft and demonstration participants was conducted after Féile na Tuaithe, with most respondents rating the event as “Excellent” or “Very Good”.

Westport Festival of Food & Music

The Westport Festival of Food & Music was a 2-day event on the grounds of Westport House. The festival provided an enormous opportunity for the tourism and food sectors in the County and assisted in promoting the Mayo message globally through attendees and performers.



MAYO LEO SUPPORTED THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS EVENTS:

- ❖ Celebration for participants of Mayo CEB training programmes
- ❖ Networks in Mayo – INC60, Network Mayo, Craftworks Mayo
- ❖ Showcase 2014 (January)
- ❖ National Women’s Enterprise Day (September)
- ❖ Mayo Ideas Week (September)
- ❖ Erris Enterprise Week (October)
- ❖ Science Week (November)
- ❖ MeetWest (November)
- ❖ Entrepreneur Exchange (November)
- ❖ National Craft Fair (December)



INVEST

“To be the best County in Ireland to do business in, and with”



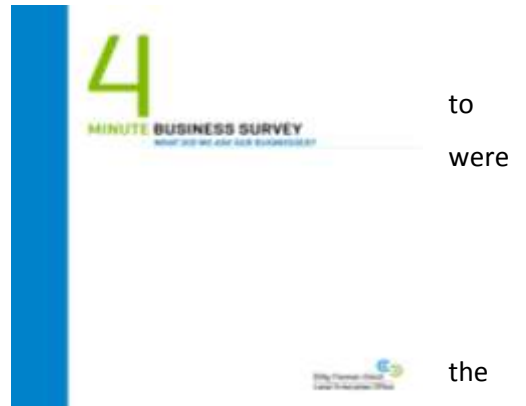
Some amazing companies in Mayo

The past twelve months has been an extremely dynamic time for the Economic Development and Enterprise Support Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) and the Enterprise & Investment Unit (EIU). 2014 saw the initiation of the first ‘Invest Strategy’ for Mayo. This strategy will act as a road map for both the SPC and EIU in developing policy and assigning resources.

The focus of the strategy centres on ‘Sustaining Existing Companies in the County’, ‘Supporting Growth in our Economy’ and ‘Winning New Investment’. Uniquely we are also now the first rural County to initiate a comprehensive ‘Digital Strategy’ – a road map to 2020 and how Mayo will deliver jobs in the ‘new economy’.

Review of 2014 Started by Asking our Businesses

The EIU / LEO started the year by surveying local companies through the platform of the ‘4 Minute Business Survey’. We wanted know who was out there, where they were and what issues they facing. This comprehensive piece of research is the first of its kind conducted by the County Council. Over 4,200 businesses were surveyed. The report is now published on www.mayo.ie and our policies and operations are responding to the needs identified in report. Our response is highly visible with increased networking events, more digital information, delivery of broadband infrastructure and much more. This piece of work is informing our planning and decision making on a daily basis.



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Developing International Linkages for Indigenous Companies

Memorandum of Understanding

In late April 2014 Governor Chaffee of Rhode Island visited County Mayo with a trade delegation of US based companies. The proximity of Rhode Island to



Cathaoirleach John O'Malley meeting Governor Chaffee

Boston and New York places it at an important junction for Mayo companies exporting to the US. This relationship has already proved very fruitful and is one we are currently nurturing on behalf of our clients and local companies. The Governor signed a memorandum of understanding on his visit, arriving at Ireland West Airport at Knock.

World Convention of Mayo Societies

In June the Invest Team attended the World Convention of Mayo Societies in Cleveland. The Associations play a vital role in sustaining the connection between our County and the global Diaspora.

This opportunity was utilised by the team to promote the cosmopolitan message of www.mayo.ie and promote the opportunities available in our County for emerging sectors. A number of leads were generated from this trip which our team are now pursuing. In addition, our Team is now exploring new avenues, platforms and technologies in accessing our more recent Diaspora.



Representatives from Mayo County Council at The World Convention of Mayo Societies, Cleveland

Making Mayo synonymous with Innovation, Creativity and Technology Development

Surf Summit

Mayo kicked off an international employment and local innovation drive in November by hosting the largest gathering of technology entrepreneurs outside of the Dublin Web Summit. Dublin Web Summit hosts over 20,000 people annually. In 2014 they announced that 350 top investors and entrepreneurs would be visiting a secret destination along the Wild Atlantic Way. The EIU ensured the event came to Mayo.



Drones and Data Conference

A convergence of minds and resources took place in Achill. Some of the leading tech innovators visited Mayo for the weekend in late 2014. The highlight of the project was a conference in Castlebar exploring how Mayo can harness future opportunities associated with design, testing, manufacturing and construction of leading technology sectors. The focus for this conference was on **'Drones and Data'**. Over 140 leading international industry individuals attended the conference and we had the opportunity to engage with leading decision makers in the technology and data industries from around the world.

Renewable Energy

SEAI - Better Energy Community Program

Mayo County Council's Enterprise & Investment Unit were approved funding under the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) Better Energies Community Program. The total investment in better energy works in the Erris region was €360,000.



An Taoiseach Enda Kenny launching Erris Better Energy Communities 2014

The works involved general retro fit works to community buildings, the introduction of two electric vehicles delivering meals on wheels to the elderly in the region and the installation of two 7kW Photo/Voltaic (PV) electricity generating solar panels. The local community were educated in the benefits that renewable energy can provide to the local economy. Energy savings of circa €21,000 per annum were accrued with an annual energy reduction of 194,144kWh of energy.

Development of Off-Shore Renewable Energy Work

Mayo County Council’s Enterprise and Investment Unit in promoting the development of the off-shore renewable energy work secured funding from the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources for the upgrade of the pier infrastructure at Frenchport Pier, Annagh, Belmullet of €550,000 at the end of 2014. Preliminary road improvement works have commenced and the project is due to be completed in 2016.

IWEDA - Irish Wave Energy Development Association

In January 2014 Mayo County Council’s Enterprise and Investment Unit formed a partnership with IWEDA (Irish Wave Energy Development Association). Together a proposal was designed to develop a 1:15 scale prototype wave test site at Blacksod Bay, Belmullet. The site will prototype developers realistic seaway testing conditions fully consented area of seabed for rehearsal, deployment and recovery of devices.

“Real map of Ireland” - 220m acre marine resource



offer
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A natura impact statement has been prepared and the application process for the mandatory foreshore consent is underway. It is anticipated the site will be operational by Q4 of 2015. This test site together with AMETS (Atlantic Marine Energy Test Site) 1:1 site located off Annagh Head will firmly position County Mayo as the hub for wave and off-shore energy activities.

Attendance to ICOE (International Conference on Ocean Energy)

ICOE is a bi-annual conference that brings together all stakeholders interested in the promotion and development of ocean renewable energy. In 2014 the conference was hosted by Marine Renewables Canada, and took place in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. A significant ocean energy development emerged in 2014 with the first commercial installation of 2MW tidal energy devices in the Bay of Fundy, East Coast, Canada. The move towards commercialisation is of key importance to this sector. The conference provided a platform to promote County Mayo and outline the vast economic opportunities our coastline presents in terms of providing a secure, clean and reliable source of energy that is fit for export. The next ICOE will be hosted by Wave & Tidal UK and is due to take place in Edinburgh, Scotland in February 2016, by which a time County Mayo can announce to the world market a 1:1 and 1:15 test facilities with a view to attracting industry.

Building the Investment Pillar

Thinking Strategically

The EIU Investment Strategy was developed with the aim of reinforcing our attractiveness, performance and potential as competitive business location and provide us with a long investment promotion strategy.

The result of this exercise will position Mayo at the competitive forefront of identifying, competing and winning business. It will also concentrate resources on maintaining existing levels of business whilst also delivering necessary supports to assist in growth. Mayo County Council initiated consultation phase of this in 2014, developing the unique ‘Investment Cycle’ approach.



a term

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Delivering the New Digital Economy

Mayo County Council initiated a comprehensive ‘Digital Strategy’. According to Silicon Republic the ‘Digital Economy’ is now the ‘Economy’. Mayo is positioning itself strategically to exploit opportunities within the digital economy. The County is already rich in companies operating in the sector from technology to financial services. The consultation phase of the strategy initiated in late 2014 focused on entrepreneurship and infrastructure. Our approach has four key areas:

1. Investment in Digital Infrastructure
2. Centre for Innovation in Natural Resources
3. Nurturing and Attracting Talent
4. Creating a Progressive Digital Society

The team is actively pursuing the required infrastructure and support services to generate employment and economic development.

CONNECT



Rebranding Mayo.ie

Redevelopment of the Mayo.ie brand was a significant project in the EIU in 2014. The new brand development was created to reflect the true attributes that make Mayo what it is today – its unique people, its spectacular landscape and its rich culture and history, with a healthy vibrant and eclectic mix of business proud to call Mayo home.

The identity represents Mayo as a strong and powerful County made up of many places, many people and many parts. The ‘M’ was formed from the many pieces of varied shapes and sizes, each representing the places, people and parts that all come together to make Mayo what it is today.

The key message of the Mayo.ie brand and our unit strategy is focused around three central pillars:

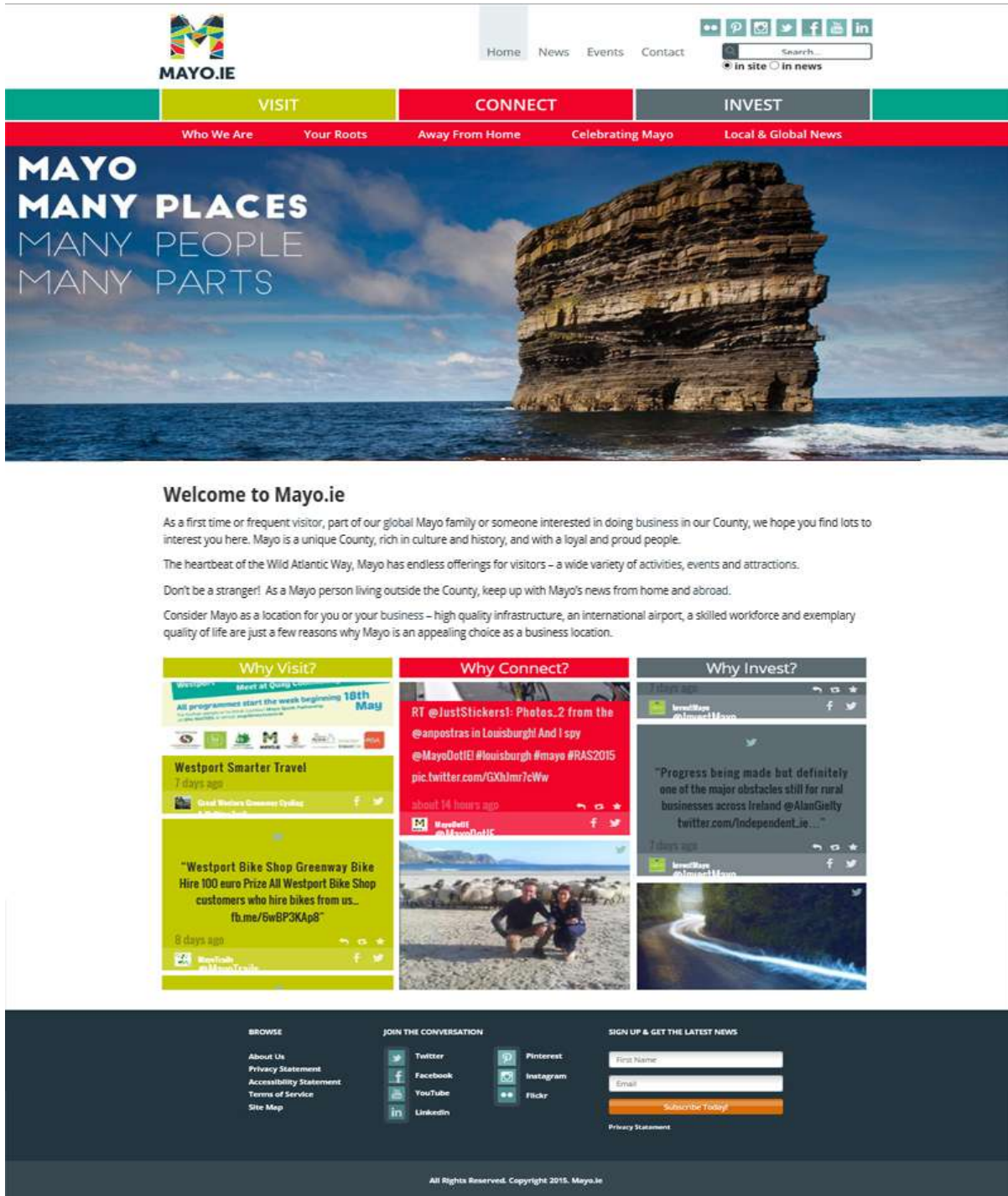
VISIT, CONNECT & INVEST



Redevelopment of Mayo.ie

The overall redevelopment of www.mayo.ie into a modern platform to promote our wonderful County was a major achievement during the year. In parallel with our rebranding this new stage was constructed to illustrate a vibrant and thriving community.

The redeveloped website together with its associated social media channels will play an integral part in promoting Mayo as a location of choice to VISIT, CONNECT and INVEST.

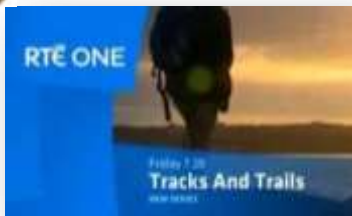


Media Exposure

A wide range of projects delivered by the Enterprise and Investment Unit in 2014 received extensive media coverage, across multiple mediums – online, TV, radio, magazine and newspaper - locally, nationally and internationally, a selection of which is outlined below.

THE IRISH TIMES
YOU ARE WHAT YOU READ

IRISH TV
LOCAL STORIES - GLOBAL AUDIENCE



IGTOA
THE VOICE FOR IRISH GOLF TOURISM

M

Mayo Advertiser

Mayo News

The Connaught telegraph

Independent.ie

midwest
radio 96.1fm

RTE

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Tourism Ireland
Marketing the island of Ireland

newstalk.
106-108 fm



GOLFING THE WORLD

Western People
The leading newspaper in Mayo

Developing and Enhancing Diaspora Relations

Ongoing progress was made in developing our links with the Diaspora from a social, cultural and economic level. Various projects and initiatives took place in 2014 which included:

The Mayo World Convention 2014

The 2014 Mayo World Convention took place in Cleveland in September 2014 hosted by the Mayo Society of Cleveland, gathering together representatives of Mayo Communities from all corners of the globe. The overriding objective of the event was largely to progress cultural and economic exchange between Mayo and Mayo Communities worldwide. This year's Convention provided the ideal opportunity to showcase the new Mayo.ie brand and newly created Mayo.ie promotional video. To view please visit www.mayo.ie

Launch of International Mayo Day

The Enterprise and Investment Unit launched its **"International Mayo Day"** initiative with the inaugural Mayo Day set for May 02nd 2015, at The Mayo World Convention in September 2014, an appropriate opportunity in the midst of Mayo Communities from all parts of the globe. This initiative encourages Mayo people at home and away to celebrate who they are and where they come from, on one day in the calendar year.

Support of Mayo Association Activities

Representatives from Mayo County Council supported a number of Mayo Association Events throughout 2014. One of the key objectives in attending the Mayo Association events was the opportunity to showcase the new Mayo.ie brand, together with the promotional video, promoting the **VISIT, CONNECT** and **INVEST** message.



Cathaoirleach of Mayo County Council, Damian Ryan and Mayo Person of the Year 2014

James Horan, at the Mayo Association Galway Dinner in December 2014

Events included:

- Annual Mayo Association Dinner and Mayo Person of the Year Awards, Dublin
- Annual Mayo Association Dinner, Manchester
- Annual Mayo Association Dinner, Galway
- Mayo Society of New York, St Patricks Day Ball
- Mayo Association Philadelphia, St Patricks Day activities
- Mayo World Convention, Cleveland
- Mayo Society of Cleveland Annual Ball
- Mayo Association Dublin Annual Business Lunch
- Mayo Association Galway Business lunch
- Mayo Association London Annual Dinner



VISIT



Tourism is Mayo's largest, wholly indigenous, service industry and is a key economic driver of job creation with the potential to create over 1500 jobs in the medium term and therefore a key area of focus for the EIU.

Review of 2014

The work of the EIU team during 2014 concentrated on the following areas:

- ❖ **New Tourism Strategy for Mayo**
- ❖ **Development of the Wild Atlantic Way Touring Route**
- ❖ **Planning & Development of new Tourism Products and Infrastructure**
- ❖ **Festival/Event Supports**
- ❖ **Promotion**

Tourism Strategy

Work commenced during 2014 on the development of a Tourism Strategy for County Mayo "Destination Mayo Tourism Strategy 2015 – 2020". The Tourism Strategy establishes a framework for the future development of tourism in Mayo and is being developed as an outcome of a review and analysis of the key Emerging Economic Sectors and associated investment and employment opportunities in Mayo. The development of this strategy seeks to build on the work of a previous study of tourism in Mayo "A Tourism Plan for Mayo", undertaken by Tourism Development International for Mayo County Council in 1991.

The consultation phase of this project took place from May-July 2014 and consultations took place in two formats. A series of eight public consultations took place around the county in tandem with a number of informal meetings with communities and stakeholders.

Community Tourism Diaspora Initiative

In 2014, Minister of State for Tourism and Sport, Michael Ring TD, officially launched The Community Tourism Diaspora Fund. The initiative was a joint partnership between Fáilte Ireland, IPB Insurance and the Local Authorities which would provide an annual fund of €1m over the subsequent 3 years, which would support community based events and festivals around the Country.

The key objective of the Fund is to provide support to local and community event organisers and activities / projects that will harness Diaspora links for the benefit of local and community tourism.

In County Mayo, the Fund was administered by The Enterprise and Investment Unit at Mayo County Council. A total of 30 applications were received from Communities across the County. A total of 18 projects received support, totalling €30,500.



Official Launch, Paul Keeley, Director of Business Development, Fáilte Ireland, Minister of State, Tourism & Sport, Michael Ring TD, Ronan Foley, Chief Executive, IPB Insurance and Peter Hynes, Chief Executive, Mayo County Council

Wild Atlantic Way

The Wild Atlantic Way showcases one of Ireland’s greatest natural assets – its diverse and spectacular Atlantic coastline. At 2500 km it is the world’s longest defined coastal touring route stretching from Cork to Donegal.



Mayo, the county with the wildest landscape and longest coastline in Ireland, is being positioned as the “Heartbeat of the Wild Atlantic Way” reflecting the counties strategic location on the route, the hospitality of its people and vibrant annual calendar of festivals and events.

Development of the Wild Atlantic Way in Mayo during 2014 included sign posting of the route as well as the development of an architecturally striking Signature Discovery point at DownPatrick Head.

“The Crossing” Signature Discovery Point

The development of Discovery Points in Mayo has been guided by the philosophy of interpreting the landscape, its history and spirituality and formulating this interpretation into a language that forms the basis of design for a contemporary architectural structure or installation. The design is based on the spirituality of the place, often affiliated to anthropology, archaeology, environment or legend.

This philosophy of interpretation guided the Council to partner with the School of Architecture at the Catholic University of America in Washington and in particular the SPIRIT OF PLACE/SPIRIT OF DESIGN programme which was initiated and is directed by renowned Architect and Professor Travis Price.



The Crossing Discovery Point at Downpatrick Head on the Wild Atlantic Way



Official Launch of the Wild Atlantic Way in Mayo by Minister of State for Tourism and Sport, Michael Ring TD

Development of Tourism Products / Infrastructure

Planning and Development of Cycle Tourism

Planning of the Greenway Network in 2014 included the Monasteries of the Moy Greenway and Achill Island Greenway. Funding of €250,000 was approved by the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport for the development of a section of the Monasteries of the Moy Greenway.

Work continued on the extension of the Great Western Greenway. Works completed include the extension of the Greenway to Belclare, Westport (3km). Developments under construction include Lough Lannagh/Rehins (6km) and Castlebar to the National Museum of Country Life (7.5km).



Cyclists on the Castlebar / Islandeady Greenway

Greenway Maintenance

During 2014 a Greenway Patrol was established to deal with the ongoing maintenance and enhancement of the Great Western Greenway. The Green Patrol comprises of representatives from the local Rural Social Scheme, TUS Scheme and area staff of Mayo County Council.



Green Patrol along the Great Western Greenway Westport – Achill Section

Trails Development

Trail development during 2014 included:

- ❖ Bangor Trail – Route enhancement
- ❖ Carne Loop Belmullet

Funding approved in 2014 by the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government for 2015 works included:

- ❖ Land of Giants Greenway Claremorris €40,000
- ❖ Turlough Rope Bridge €80,000
- ❖ Ballycroy National Park Rope Bridge €80,000
- ❖ Bangor trail Improvements €40,000

It is planned to progress this work in partnership with the local development group during 2015.

Active Travel

During 2014 a funding package of €486,500 was approved for Claremorris town by the Department of Transport under its Active Travel Scheme. Claremorris Active Travel Project involves a series of interventions including infrastructural and non infrastructural measures to achieve a targeted reduction in car journeys in Claremorris, run until end 2016 and continued evaluation throughout 2017 and 2018.



Group of Walkers participating in the Mayo in Motion – June 2014

Major European Seminar on EuroVelo 1 - Atlantic Coast Cycle Route

A major European Partnership seminar on the development of a transnational Atlantic Coast Cycle Route was hosted by Mayo County Council on the 5th and 6th of November 2014. The long distance cycle route, planned to extend from Portugal to Norway and hug Ireland's Atlantic coastline, is one of 14 premiere cycle routes or EuroVelo routes being proposed for Europe. Ireland and Mayo in particular has great potential to tap into the lucrative European cycle tourism market and the development of a high quality Eurovelo cycling product will help attract international touring cyclists to Ireland. Eurovelo is an ideal platform for County Mayo to build on the success of the Great Western Greenway, consolidate our position as the premier cycling destination as well as contributing to the development of a more sustainable and responsible tourism product.

The Partnership, comprised representatives from six European countries including Norway, United Kingdom, Ireland, France, Spain and Portugal.



International Delegates at the EuroVelo Seminar in Westport

Festival/Event Supports

The Enterprise and Investment Unit supported a large range of festival and events during 2014 including:

- Westport Festival of Music & Food (22,000 festival goers)
- IGTOA – Irish Golf Tour Operators Association Awards
- Mayo International Choral Festival
- Cross Rugby Legends
- CannonBall
- International Barber Shop Convention
- International Cow Fertility Conference
- 2014 Bar Council Conference
- Mayo World Convention
- Mayo Association Events in Manchester, London, New York, Dublin, Galway
- North Mayo Historical & Cultural Group

- Killala Historical Re-enactment Group
- In Humbert's Footsteps – Ballina, Swinford
- Bonamh Market Day, Castlebar
- Dancing at the Crossroads, Castlebar
- Achill Sheep Show
- Battles of the Lakes Festival, Achill
- Kiltimagh Choral & St Patrick's Day Festivals
- EuroVelo Conference, Westport



An Taoiseach Enda Kenny presented legendary European Tour player and Ryder Cup hero Christy O'Connor Jnr with the "Jerry Donworth Outstanding Contribution to Golf Award" at the 2014 Irish Golf Tour Operators Association Awards, Knockranny House Hotel

2014 Community Diaspora Tourism Fund Supported:

- Cairde Amigo
- Westport Scoil Ceoil
- Prizon School Reunion
- Nancy Corrigan Diaspora Project
- Pure Magic Achill
- Tastes of the Wild Atlantic Way
- Siamsa Sraide Street Festival
- Inver Festival
- Tóstal Bhreac-Cluana agus Killunagher
- Keenagh Come Home
- John Healy Memorial weekend
- Ballycastle/Belderrig Events
- Blacksod Bay Emigration 1883 -1884
- Mayo Manchester Business Forum
- Mayo/West Midlands Cultural Celebration
- Atlantic Rhythm's Traditional Evening Event

Tourism Promotional Activities 2014

During 2014 the Enterprise and Investment Unit of Mayo County Council along with other stakeholders were actively involved in participating in various promotional and marketing initiatives, some of which included:

- **Milwaukee Irish Festival**
- **National Ploughing Championships**
- **Adventure Summit Killarney**
- **iFEST Boston**
- **Holiday World Show, Dublin**
- **Best of Britain & Ireland Show, Birmingham**



Destination Mayo at the Holiday World Show pictured with US Ambassador to Ireland Mr Kevin O'Malley



Destination Mayo at the Holiday World Show pictured with Minister of State, Tourism & Sport, Michael Ring TD

Community & Integrated Development

Facilitating & Supporting Integrated Development, Community Development & Social Inclusion 2014

1. Alignment and the Local Community Development Committee

The Mayo Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) was established as a Frontrunner in January, 2014 and formally established in July, 2014. The purpose of the LCDC is firstly to prepare and agree the local community elements of this 6-year Local Economic and Community Plan encompassing all state funded local and community development interventions. This together with the economic element, developed by the Local Enterprise Office and the local authority, forms the overall County Local and Economic Community Plan. Secondly it is to coordinate, manage and oversee the implementation of local and community development programmes as part of implementing the Plan. Thirdly it is to coordinate generally local and community development activity within the operational area of the Local Community Development Committee for the purposes of reducing overlap, avoiding duplication and improving the targeting of resources.

The first draft of the Local and Economic Community Plan (LECP) is on public consultation during November, 2014 and the final Plan will be presented to the County Council for consideration and approval in 2015.

The LCDC has undertaken the Tendering process for the new Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme (SICAP) which will roll out in April 2015. The LCDC decided on 3 Lots for the implementation of this Programme, which replaces the Local Community Development Programme. Also, discussions have taken place with the Local Development Companies in the county with a view to agreeing a joint Expression of Interest for the new LEADER programme 2014 – 2020.

2. Community Development / Engagement with Community & Voluntary Sector

- The Mayo County Community Forum came to an end in June 2014 with the issuing of new Department Guidelines for the establishment of a Community Engagement Network. A lot of work has gone into establishing this Network, which will act as the official point of contact with all community and voluntary Groups in the County. A new registration process was put in place for all such Groups and selection meetings were held in early November to nominate representatives to Mayo County Council's SPCs, the Local Community Development Committee, the Joint Policing Committee, and other bodies;
- The Community Futures Programme was rolled out to a further four communities in 2014 - Killala, Crossmolina, Charlestown and Inishturk. Some communities previously involved in the Community Futures process are offered additional assistance under the INTERREG-funded Rural Alliances project to explore potential opportunities for community and business alliances;
- Community & Integrated Development continues to support local community initiatives and projects that are identified as being of particular importance. This work has been ongoing since the establishment of the section and is particularly significant from the perspective of Mayo County Council. The provision within the Community & Integrated Development budget of limited funding for Special Once-Off Community Projects is particularly important as a small amount of money can make a significant difference to many projects throughout the County;
- Community & Integrated Development continues to lead the *Pride of Place* initiative. This work is carried out in conjunction with the various Area Directorates and focuses on supporting and building capacity within nominated communities, and will build on major recent successes under this initiative;
- Further development of the Comhairle na nÓg includes participation in the national Dáil na nÓg;

- Community & Integrated Development continues with its administration of the *Fiontar Chomhraic Teo* fund which has all available funding now allocated
- Community & Integrated Development continues to provide the administrative support to the Community Gain Investment Fund for Cill Chomain and Iorrais. This fund was established in 2011 and will oversee the investment of €8.5m over a five year period. Support will continue to be provided to community groups and local businesses in the area to assist in the development of their proposals to be considered for funding;
- Community & Integrated Development will continue to deliver the EU-funded *CINEW* and *Rural Alliances* projects in Mayo. The CINEW project is concerned with the development of the creative industries sector in the county, while Rural Alliances works to develop methods and strategies to meet the needs of rural areas which are suffering the results of prolonged population decline;
- The Mayo Science & Technology Festival, held during November 2014, hosted a number of events in various parts of the county. During the week many schools, both primary and secondary, participated in challenges and attended talks and demonstrations related to science and innovation. The Festival's Open Day was hosted by the GMIT Castlebar campus for the second time and this proved a worthy experience with thousands of visitors on the day.

3. Social Inclusion

- The Education Working Group continued to meet during the year and organised Training & Education Expo's in Ballina and Kiltimagh which were well attended.
- Work continued during the year on Ageing Well initiative to make Mayo an Age Friendly county. An Interagency Steering Group is overseeing the development of a County Strategy.
- C & ID continues to support the work of the Travellers InterAgency Forum and provide assistance to Traveller Pride Week.
- Community & Integrated Development staff are available to advise elected members on, and can provide background research into, projects being considered for funding under various funds and programmes.

The following are the reports on the principle activities of each Municipal District for 2014, as approved by each Municipal District :-

BALLINA MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

8th July, 2015

To: The Cathaoirleach and Members of the Ballina Municipal District.

Dear Member,

It is a great honour for me to introduce this first report on projects commenced or completed during 2014 in the newly formed Ballina Municipal District (BMD).

2014 saw one of the biggest changes in Local Government in 100 years with the dissolution of Town Councils and the introduction of Municipal Districts. In this district, the abolition of Ballina Town Council heralded the end of over 100 years of town government in Ballina and radically altered the manner in which services in the town are delivered and the democratic accountability that goes with it.

I wish to place on record my thanks and appreciation to all of the Elected Members who have fulfilled a public service role for this area over the last number of years, whether as members of Ballina Urban District Council, Ballina Town Council, Ballina Electoral Area or Swinford Electoral Area.

I would also like to thank the current members of Ballina Municipal District and the staff at all levels, both indoor and outdoor for their commitment and co-operation in advancing the large work programme on hand during the past year.

In order for the Ballina MD to continue to grow, we must continue to work in unison and I am committed to implementing the goals and policies that will benefit the entire district.

I look forward to continuing to work in partnership with the Elected Members and the staff on the delivery of high quality public services for all the citizens of the district.

Paul Benson
A/Director of Services
Ballina Municipal District

Housing

HOUSING GRANTS 2014

Type of Grant	No. Approved	Value Approved	No. Paid	Value Paid
Housing Aid for Older People	88	€379,605.04	62	€278,552.84
Mobility Aids Grant Scheme	55	€155,194.90	49	€135,668.21
Housing Adaptation for Persons with a Disability	11	€65,167.14	14	€90,649.89
Totals	154	€599,967.08	125	€504,870.94

CASUAL VACANCIES

The work programme focused on the complete refurbishment of casual vacancies and the re-allocation of the stock during the year. Overall, 27 no. properties in total within the District were 'Returned to Productive Use' at year end, in conjunction with Casual Vacancy works listed below.

	Renovated & Allocated	Work Underway Complete 2014	Work Underway Complete 2015
Ballina Urban	11	7	1
Ballina/Swinford	8	2	1
TOTAL	19	9	2

Other Housing Activity

- ❖ DoE's Energy Retrofit Programme saw works completed on 92 houses within B.M.D.
- ❖ 4 no. Housing Units benefited from Mobility related adaptation works; while 1 no. dwelling was extended to accommodate needs of increased family size;
- ❖ Special Disability related adaptation works undertaken to 2 units in Ballina urban area.
- ❖ Construction works commenced on re-building of 2 houses in Ballina urban area and the reconstruction of a third house. It is expected that these units will be ready for occupation in late summer 2015.
- ❖ The Planned Maintenance Programme on the Council's housing stock in Ballina Town also concluded in 2014 and saw a total of 180 units refurbished.

HOUSING LOANS

During 2014 Ballina Municipal District assisted 7 no. families in becoming home owners, under the Council's Housing Loan Scheme. In total 8 No. Housing loans were approved within Ballina Municipal District, broken down as follows;

PURPOSE OF LOAN	No. of Approvals	Value of Approvals
New Build	0	0
House Purchase	7	€532,675.00

Reconstruction	1	€30,750.00
Total	8	€563,425.00

HOUSING STOCK

As of 31st December 2014 there are 600 units of housing stock within Ballina Municipal District, broken down as follows:

	No of Housing Units
Ballina Urban area stock	231
Ballina electoral area stock	186
Swinford electoral area stock transfers	154
Belmullet electoral area stock transfers	29

Road Transport and Safety

The road network in the Ballina Municipal District covers a total of 1,491 km of National, Regional and Local Roads. A budget for road works of €9,177,081 was provided in 2014 for the former electoral areas of Ballina and Swinford (Total Road length 1,995 km). The following is a summary of the main roads activities carried out in 2014 in the district.

National Roads – Pavement and Minor Works

Funding totalling €3,132,000 was received in 2014 which enabled significant pavement overlay works to be carried out at the following locations on the N59:

N59	Eskeragh – Dooleeg	5.5km	€1,700,000
N59	Bellacorrick	1.6km	€600,000
N59	Coolcran	2 km	€832,000

Funding of €127,000 was also made available under the NRA's HD/15 scheme for a pedestrian crossing in Foxford, Junction improvements on N5 at Carrowgowan and signage improvements on N59 at Knockagarravaun which will enhance road safety at these locations.

Foxford



Regional and Local Roads

The 2014 regional and local roads funding in the Ballina Municipal District (Ballina & Swinford Electoral Areas) is listed below under its main activity categories:

Regional Roads – Maintenance	€300,820
Regional Roads – Winter Maintenance	€123,517
Regional Roads – Surface Dressing	€266,630
Regional Roads – Bridges	€30,000
Regional Road Other Works	€70,200
Regional Roads – Restoration Improvement Grant	€668,382
Local Roads – Maintenance	€1,124,652
Local Roads – Surface Dressing	€862,424
Local Roads – Restoration Improvement Grant	€2,069,456
Councillor NOM Allocations (10x€30,500)	€305,000
Verge trimming/Hedge Cutting	€33,000

Low Cost accident €91,000
TOTAL €6,015,281

The funds available supported the normal maintenance activities on regional and local roads throughout 2014. The funds resulted in the completion of 7km of surface dressing on regional roads and 53km on local roads in the district in 2014 and the completion of 43km of pavement strengthening works.

Specific Improvement Grant

R314 Killala Streets €100,000

A grant of €100,000 was approved to complete the Phase 1 of the Killala Inner Relief Road. This scheme comprised 350m of new pavement, footpaths and lighting along the foreshore in Killala.

Killala Inner Relief Road



Pay and Display

2014 saw the introduction of a tiered charging policy based on 3 distinct zones in Ballina town. The policy is based on the principle of charging a higher rate for the most convenient parking spaces and a lower rate for the less convenient.

Smarter travel

2 new additional e-car charge points were provided in Bachelor’s Walk carpark, Ballina in 2014. Traffic wardens have also reported more frequent use of these charging points which is encouraging.

Bachelors Walk carpark



Kevin Barry St, Ballina - New road Island with trees completed in 2014.



“The Fisherman” completed in 2014 and installed at Carrentreila, Ballina.



Bothar na gCuige Rd, Ballina – taken in charge in 2014 and new stone wall built.



Quay Wall Ballina—Reconstructed in 2014



Quay Lane, Ballina- new junction and stone Wall.



Bonniconlon – new footpaths (150 meters) on the Ballina Rd. Construction of the walls will be completed in 2015.



Smart Street Lighting in Crossmolina

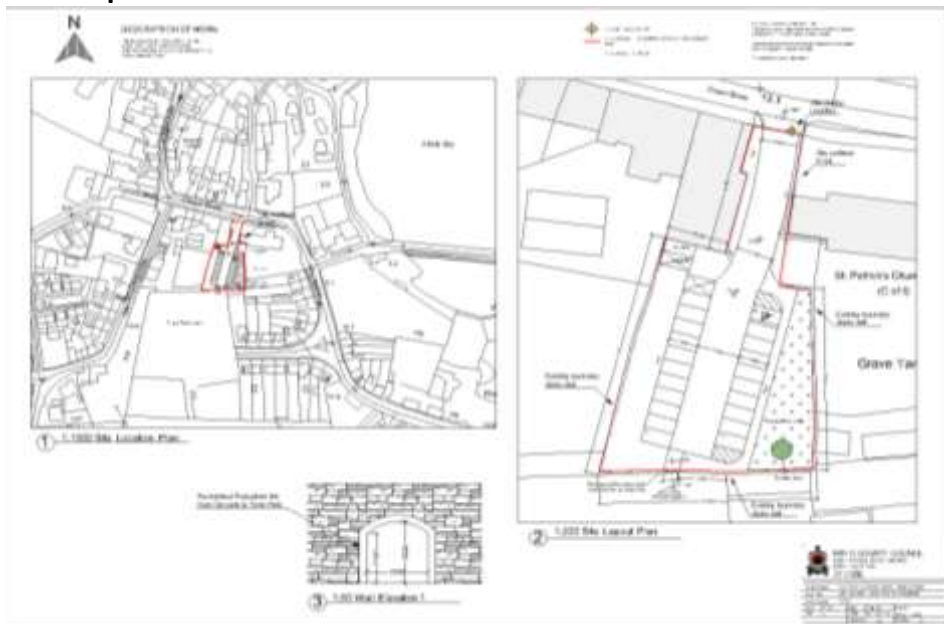
2014 saw the switching on of Crossmolina’s Smart Street Lighting, in what was a first-of-its-kind venture in Ireland. With the backing of Crossmolina Community Development and Mayo County

Council, Crossmolina was chosen as a pilot town to test a new public lighting initiative that aims to achieve long term savings for the Council, as well as encouraging the delivery of other energy efficiency projects across the country.

New carparks for Swinford and Killala

Further progress was made in 2014 on the provision of new carparks in Swinford and Killala with the acquisition of land in both these towns for this purpose.

Proposal for Killala Carpark



Proposal for Swinford carpark



Water Services

On the 1st January 2014, Irish Water took over responsibility for the provision of public Water Services from the 34 Local Authorities. For decades Local Authorities have provided water and wastewater services within the resources available to them. In order to maintain continuity of service, Irish Water has entered into Service Level Agreements (SLA) with the Local Authorities for the operation of Irish Water's assets for twelve years from the 1st January, 2014.

Annual Service Plans (A.S.P) are agreed between Irish Water and Mayo County Council for each year of the Service Level Agreement to provide efficient and quality water services. The A.S.P commits Irish Water and Mayo County Council to deliver specific objectives and standards of performance to ensure compliance with Drinking Water Regulations and E.P.A Waste Water Discharge Licences for sewage plants. The A.S.P also deals with budgetary matters and a specific headcount (staff numbers) required to operate the entire water services system is negotiated for each year. The A.S.P also details specific targets to be met across the entire range of water services activities.

Against this background Mayo County Council staff in the Ballina Municipal District continued to operate and maintain all water services infrastructure during 2014, under the control of Irish Water.

I would like to thank the staff in the BMD for their work over the years in the delivery of an acceptable level of infrastructure with limited resources.

Development Management

On 1st June 2014, the planning functions of Mayo County Council and Ballina Town Council were amalgamated, following the abolition of the Town Council.

Variations to the Ballina Town and Environs Development Plan 2009-215

2014 saw the adoption of a number of variations to the Ballina Town & Environs Development Plan 2009-2015. The life of this plan will now extend to the same period as provided by the Mayo County Development Plan and will be read in conjunction with it.

Twinning

A delegation from Ballina travelled to Pittsfield and Scranton in March 2014 to represent the town in the St Patricks Day Parades.

Taking in charge of estates.

A large number of estates in the district were taken over during 2014 and this work will continue in 2015.

Part 8 Planning applications were approved for the following projects:

- ❖ redevelopment of Ballina Harbour at the Quay;
- ❖ construction of the Quay Neighbourhood Park at Quignalecka, Ballina;
- ❖ construction of the Killala Rd Neighbourhood Park.



Ballina

Crossmolina



Environmental Services

Tidy Towns

Ballina, Swinford ,Crossmolina, Ballycastle and Bonniconlon continue to do well in the annual tidy town's competitions and the spirit of volunteerism and community spirit displayed by the volunteers is to be commended.

Bonniconlon



Anti-litter awareness grants

Through the Environment section Mayo County Council's Anti-litter awareness grants were used to fund projects run by Crossmolina Tidy Towns and residents of Abbey Court, Ballina.

Annual Spring Clean

In spring the annual spring clean of communities took place throughout the district with the cooperation of the council in providing equipment and making arrangements for the disposal of waste.

Foxford



Dog Fouling

Dog fouling awareness material was distributed at agricultural shows and dog shows during the summer.

Gum litter awareness event on Pearse St.

A specialist contractor was engaged to remove gum litter from Ballina town centre streets. To coincide with this and to maximise the impact, Ballina's Gum Litter Taskforce (GLT) Awareness Campaign was launched by Ballina native and former Connacht rugby player Gavin Duffy in July 2014 on Pearse St, Ballina. The GLT encourages positive initiatives that promote the responsible disposal of gum litter and was a very successful event for the Council to be associated with. This was followed up with a similar event in Swinford during Pride of Place day where school children joined in the fun as shown below.



Ballina Laneways programme

The laneways programme in Ballina town saw the upgrade and installation of new public lighting in Marian Crescent Laneway. The laneways programme has done much to reduce illegal dumping and littering in the town by creating a more pleasant environment in rear access roads.

Irish Business Against Litter League

Ballina received IBAL recognition at an award ceremony early in 2014 for having consistently achieved Clean to **European Norm** status over a number of years.

Rathroeen Landfill Site.

Composting of green waste at Rathroeen Landfill site during the year produced a supply of compost ready for use. This valuable resource will be used exclusively by the Council on gardening and enhancement works throughout the District.

The waste to energy project proposed for Rathroeen landfill site, whereby gas collected from cells will be used to produce energy on site, also advanced in 2014, with progress being made on the procurement for permanent capping of cell 3A.

Burial Grounds.

Continued partnership between local burial ground committees in the Ballina Municipal District saw the continued maintenance of graveyards to a high standard.

2014 saw the enhancement of the access to Leigue burial ground, including the set back of a new stone wall and the provision of a footpath with capacity for a future cycle lane. A new carpark was also completed to relieve congestion during funerals.



Bring banks

Humbert street carpark bring bank site continues to be the busiest in the county as it collects the largest quantity of bottles and cans for recycling.

WEEE collections.

The Local Authority facilitated WEEE Ireland collections throughout the municipal district at sites in public carparks in Ballina, Bonniclon, Crossmolina, Swinford and Killala and encouraged the public to recycle batteries and electronic equipment.

Swift conservation project.

A Swift Conservation project co-funded by Mayo County Council under Local Agenda 21 highlighted the uniqueness and vulnerability of the swift bird population and allowed for the provision of tailor made bird boxes at Ballina Arts Centre, Killala Community Centre and Swinford National School. Swift survey's were also carried out in towns throughout Ballina Municipal District to determine the swift population and to inform protection measures needed.

Rainwater harvesting and composting projects

A rainwater harvesting project, co-funded by Mayo County Council under Agenda 21 was undertaken by the Tidy Towns Committee in Swinford in 2014. This Committee also participated in a Composting workshop.

Recreation and Amenity

Playgrounds:

The maintenance and upkeep of Council managed playgrounds continued throughout 2014, with any necessary repairs being carried out. The following are the facilities in the Ballina District:

Ballina Municipal District	Location	Facility	Coordinates	
			Easting	Northing
Ballina	Tom Ruane Park, Sligo Rd	Playground	525289	819401
		MUGA		
		Tennis Court		
		Basket Ball Court		
		Soccer Pitch		
Ballina	Bunree Rd Neighbourhood Park	Playground	525341	818384
		MUGA		
		Tennis Court		
Ballina	Crossmolina Rd., Neighbourhood Park	MUGA	523822	819135
		Playground		
Ballina	Foxford Rd Neighbourhood Park	Playground	524263	818339
		MUGA		
Ballina	Ardnaree Neighbourhood Park.	Playground	525815	819015
		MUGA		
		Soccer Pitch		
		Tennis Court		
Ballina	Belleek	Synthetic Running Track	525043	819556
Crossmolina	Mullenmore North	Playground	513999	817105
Foxford	Church car-park	Playground	527153	804077
Killala	Town Park	Playground	520341	829827
		MUGA		
		Tennis Court		
Swinford	Brabazon Woodland	Playground	537746	799473
Swinford	MUGA Park	MUGA	537713	798850
		Tennis Court		

Upgrade of Ballina Town Park and Playground.

The upgraded Town Park Playground in Ballina was opened to the public on 1st May, 2014. The Playground was designed by Mayo County Council and consisted of the upgrade of the existing playground, the design of which embraces the concept of natural play with universal access.



Commencement of the Monasteries on the Moy walking and cycle route.



Construction on a 12.5km walking and cycling route between Ballina and Killala entitled the 'Monasteries on the Moy', has commenced and is now in sufficient funds to bring it to completion at both ends. Further consultation is required with land owners in order to agree a route between Moyne and Knockatinnole.

Synthetic Athletic Track at Belleek, Ballina.

Work commenced on the ambitious development of a running track in Ballina in 2014. The new track is being constructed primarily on the site of the old track and is described as a polymeric sealed rubber system constructed to IAAF standard. The facility is being developed by Mayo County Council in partnership with the Ballina Athletic Club and funded by the former Ballina Town Council, Mayo County Council, Irish Public Bodies and the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport. The completed track will meet competitive standards and will copper fasten it as a regional centre for athletics. The track will also complement the development of the greenway route between Ballina and Killala and will bring running, cycling and walking enthusiasts to the town.



Swinford MUGA Park

Swinford MUGA Park was officially opened in October 2014 by Minister Michael Ring, Minister of State at the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport with Special Responsibility for Tourism and Sport. The project was developed at the site of the old Tennis Courts at Park Road Swinford. A modern Multi Use Games Area and Tennis Courts were developed on the site. The project was funded by Mayo County Council, Irish Public Bodies and the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport.



Swinford Cultural Centre

The Taoiseach Enda Kenny officially opened the new Library, Arts and Cultural Centre in Swinford on in May 2014 .The €2M facility was developed by Mayo County Council and is located beside the old railway station. The space has 100 seats and has the potential to accommodate 150-160 people





Admiral Brown Park, Foxford

Works continued in 2014 on the Admiral Brown Park in Foxford. The promenade depicts Admiral Brown's life story in 20 bronze plaques and the story of Foxford. It is located beside the River Moy and has superb views of the river. The plaques were designed and cast by local sculptor Tim Morris, with the promenade itself designed and built by Mayo County Council in partnership with Foxford Development Association and North East LEADER.



Spirit of Place Installation at Downpatrick Head.

Michael Ring TD, Minister of State for Tourism and Sport officially opened the Spirit of Place installation 'The Crossing' at Downpatrick Head on Friday last. This is one of two signature points in Mayo on the Wild Atlantic Way which follows the coastline from Donegal to Cork.



Killala Round Tower



Swimming Pools:

The Council continues to improve and maintain the public swimming pool in Ballina.

Festivals and Events

During the last year a myriad of functions and events took place all over the district. These events attracted large numbers of tourists and visitors to our towns and showcased the beauty and hospitality of the area we live in.

In 2014 the Council decided that a marketing drive with a destination approach was the most effective method to develop tourism within the region. This new destination development approach focuses on common development and marketing approaches for the North Mayo/West Sligo region rather than the current administrative boundaries.

The strategy will ensure that North Mayo is presented to visitors within the context of its unique culture, heritage, history and attractions. A destination Steering Group was set up under the auspices of the Mayo North Promotions Office with representatives from Mayo County Council, Moy Valley Resources, Fáilte Ireland, Mayo North East Leadership, Ballina Chamber of Commerce and tourism operators and is working very well so far.

Successful events held during the year included the Mayo Stages Rally, St Patrick's Day Festivals throughout the district, 'In Humbert's Footsteps' pageant, Siamsa Sraide, River Fest Foxford, Food Fleadh Ballina, Samhain Abhainn Halloween Festival, Foxford Walking Festival, Killala Music Fest, Crossmolina Festival, Cannonball Run and the Frosty Salmon Festival. Ballina Municipal District is committed to building on the tourism growth experienced in the area during 2014.

Giro de Baile an Chaisil

Hosted by Baile an Chaisil Cycling Club, Giro de Baile an Chaisil takes place on each August and follows a wonderfully scenic course from Ballycastle Village right along the North Mayo Coast cycling right into the heart of Erris.



Cannonball Run



“In Humberts Footsteps”



Bonniconlon Show



Siamsa Sraide, Swinford



2015 Calendar of Events for Ballina Municipal District which can be accessed on www.mayonorth.ie



Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare

Piers and Harbours

Following the severe storms of January/February 2014 allocations of €63,000 each, from the Dept of Agriculture, Food and the Marine under the Fishery Harbour and Coastal Infrastructure Development Programme, were made to Kilcummin and Killala Harbours to repair storm damage

Further grants of €112,500 each were allocated to Killala Harbour and Ballina Harbour in July 2014. Mayo County Council was obliged to contribute another €37,500 to each of these projects therefore resulting in a total project cost of €150,000 for each facility.

Killala Harbour



In Killala Harbour, this funding enabled the completion of the reconstruction of defective harbour walls within the inner harbour area, i.e old pier and area adjoining Aurivo/Connacht Gold Store. This inner section of the harbour area was traditionally suitable for berthing of smaller vessels but it was unusable in recent years because of the instability of the walls, the absence of ladders for access to vessels and the siltation of the harbour area.

This new harbour area, as the pictures confirm, has created much needed additional berthing space and restores an area for boat maintenance/repairs; and has been the subject of much commendation by all the local stakeholders



Ballina Harbour

In Ballina Harbour, the funding was used to reconstruct an extensive section of the old harbour deck, north of the Glasgow Kennedy Shed, which had fallen into severe disrepair. This new section represents a substantial improvement to facilities at Ballina Harbour and complements the use of recently installed moorings system.



Access to Lacken Back Strand

The Council is progressing plans to provide access to the back strand at Lacken.

Ross, Killala



Miscellaneous Services

Meetings

The following meetings were held during 2014:

- 6 no. Ballina Town Council.
- 2 no. Ballina Electoral Area.
- 2 no. Swinford Electoral Area.
- 5 no. Ballina Municipal District.

Mayor and Cathaoirlich during 2014

Cllr Johnnie O'Malley	Mayor of Ballina Town Council.
Cllr Gerry Ginty	Cathaoirleach of Ballina Electoral Area.
Cllr Joe Mellett	Cathaoirleach of Swinford Electoral Area.
Cllr Seamus Weir	Cathaoirleach of Ballina Municipal District.

Awards and Presentations

2014 also saw the presentation of a number of awards for projects in the district:

- ❖ **Annual Association of Landscape Contractors of Ireland (ALCI) National landscape** award for Ballina Town Park and Playground. The Park was also nominated for the Best Public Park category in the LAMA Community and Council Awards 2015.
- ❖ Ballina was awarded the **Purple Flag** which is an international accreditation scheme for towns and city centres, in recognition of the town's vibrant and varied night time economy. Ballina is the first town in the North West and only the fifth nationally to have achieved the standard necessary for the awarding of the Flag. Much collaboration took place between local businesses, the arts centre, tidy towns committee and the local authority and culminated with the award. Contributing factors to receiving the award included CCTV throughout the town, permeability through lane ways and quality lighting.
- ❖ The Karen/Grow your own Garden (GIY), Ballina received the **National Tidy Towns Sustainable Award**. This community Orchard was established by GIY Ballina at the Bishops Garden, and was co funded by MCC under local agenda 21. This compliments the existing community garden and composting area at this location.

Swinford Courthouse

2014 saw the Courts Service agreeing to transfer the ownership of Swinford Court House to Mayo County Council for use in the future by the Swinford community. The formal transfer should take place in 2015 and the Council will engage in a consultation process with the local community to agree the most appropriate future use of the facility.

Swinford selected for Pride of Place Competition

In 2014, Mayo County Council selected Swinford town and community to represent Mayo in the national Pride of Place competition which recognises initiatives and efforts made by local communities to create civic pride in their area.



In August, a group of judges visited Swinford and met with representatives from various clubs operating in the town. This was a fantastic opportunity for Swinford to promote everything that is great about the town at a national level and great credit is due to everyone for their involvement.



Gateway Jobs Initiative

Ballina Municipal District is fully participating in the Governments "Gateway" Jobs Initiative and had 11 participants during 2014

CASTLEBAR MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



CASTLEBAR MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



*Mr. P. Mahon
Director of Services*



*Cllr. A. McDonnell
Cathaoirleach*



Cllr. C. Burke



Cllr. L. Chambers



Cllr. F. Durcan



Cllr. B. Gavin



Cllr. H. Kenny



Cllr. M. Kilcoyne



Cllr. T. Ruane

INTRODUCTION

The past year has seen the first 12 month period since the abolition of Castlebar Town Council and the establishment of Castlebar Municipal District.

This time has brought a number of substantial changes and challenges including: -

1. The abolition of Castlebar Town Council and the amalgamation of the Town Council and Castlebar Electoral Area into the new Castlebar Municipal District. This includes the amalgamation of the former Town Council and Mayo County Council Area Offices into one office.
2. The changeover of Water Services to Irish Water.
3. A continued tight budgetary framework within which to maintain essential services.



Handover of Castlebar Town Council Chain to County Librarian, Mr. A. Vaughan

Castlebar Municipal District has continued to meet the requirements of both Castlebar town and its general area over the year by on the one hand maintaining essential services, while also encouraging competitiveness and growth.

The new Municipal District represents the population of the district as a whole which forms the natural hinterland of Castlebar as distinct from the Castlebar Town area which had more limited functional territorial and operational scope.

The inaugural meeting of Castlebar Municipal District took place on 12th June, 2014. The newly elected members of the District are: -

Cllr. Al McDonnell(Cathaoirleach)

Cllr. Cyril Burke

Cllr. Lisa Chambers

Cllr Frank Durcan

Cllr. Blackie Gavin

Cllr. Henry Kenny

Cllr. Michael Kilcoyne

Cllr. Therese Ruane



Castlebar Municipal District Inaugural Meeting

Castlebar Town Council & Mayo County Council have a proud history of serving their community and this strong characteristic has been carried forward to the Municipal District structure. The structure endeavours to marry all that was positive about both authorities with the benefit of improved operational efficiencies.

In the interest of making Castlebar Municipal District more attractive for the local, visitor and investor alike many projects which were underway in 2013 have been advanced significantly during 2014/2015 namely: -

- Housing
 - Ongoing acquisition of derelict properties at Spencer Street, Castlebar.
 - Continuation of the remedial works scheme for local authority housing
 - Continuation of the Energy Retrofitting Scheme for local authority units.
 - Painting of local authority properties.

- Town Centre Regeneration
 - Tucker Street/Rush Street improvements
 - Laneways improvements
 - Footpath extensions
 - Car park refurbishments
 - Newline widening
 - Curradrish & Belcarra road improvements
 - Bridge Street(Elverys) laneway improvements.

- Amenities
 - Castlebar new Swimming Pool and Outdoor Pursuits Centre.
 - Castlebar Riverwalk incorporating access routes and bridges.
 - Town Park amenity development
 - Development of cycleway/walkway from Lough Lannagh to Islandeady.
 - Development of walkway/cycleway from Castlebar to Turlough House.
 - Turlough Village Enhancement Scheme
 - Belcarra Village Enhancements
 - Kiltimagh playground and leisure park

- Other
 - Improvements at Castlebar Industrial Estate
 - Provision of additional cycle lanes.

While funding these projects will continue to be a challenge, Castlebar Municipal District will continue to examine all potential funding options available.

CASTLEBAR MUNICIPAL DISTRICT CHAMBER



HOUSING

Housing Grants for Private Houses - 2014

Type of Grant	No. Approved	Value Approved €
Housing Aid for Older People	33	83,054
Mobility Aids Grant Scheme	21	42,187
Housing Adaptation for Persons with a Disability	11	133,695



Ongoing local authority housing maintenance

Housing Stock

As of 31st December, 2014 there are 387 units of local authority housing within the Castlebar Municipal District broken down as follows: -

	No. of Housing Units
Castlebar Town	167
Castlebar Electoral Area	178
Kiltimagh Area	42



Rural House Refurbishment at Straide



Refurbished House at Letterneevogue

Castlebar Municipal District has an annual budget in place to maintain this substantial housing stock.

In recent years the Department of the Environment introduced the Energy Efficiency Programme and the Voids Programme for local authority dwellings. The Energy Efficiency Programme assists local authorities in carrying out works to upgrade the energy efficiency levels in its houses. The Voids Programme assists in returning vacant social housing units to productive use.

The Municipal District Offices located at Aras an Chontae, Castlebar carry out the following housing functions among others: -

- Delivery of the housing construction programme
- Implementation of the Traveller Accommodation Programme
- Management of the housing waiting list
- Provision of services for the homeless
- Provision of special needs and rural housing
- House Purchase and Improvements Loans
- Collection of housing rents
- Manage the change from Castlebar Town Council and Castlebar Electoral Area to a single Municipal District
- Renovate longterm housing voids
- Implement the Energy Efficiency Works Scheme
- Assist local Voluntary Housing bodies



Housing Development at Goirtin na Coille, Tourmakeady

ROAD TRANSPORTATION AND SAFETY

Castlebar Municipal District has a total of 1,518 kilometres of roadway which is divided between National, Regional and Local Roads as set out hereunder.

National Primary Roads	29kms
National Secondary Roads	49kms
Regional Roads	162kms
Local Roads	1,278 kms

As part of the programme of works, ongoing in 2014 and carried forward into 2015, the following amounts are allocated in the Castlebar Municipal District.

	€	Total
National Primary Roads		
General Maintenance	79,220	
Winter Maintenance	43,600	
		122,820
National Secondary Roads		

General Maintenance	84,233	
Winter Maintenance	42,230	
Pavement & Minor Works	1,760,000	1,886,463
Regional Roads		
General Maintenance	300,820	
Surface Dressing	274,630	
Other Works of Maintenance	95,558	
Strengthening/Road Restoration	631,697	
Winter Maintenance	123,517	
Low Cost Safety Improvements	30,000	
Specific Improvements Schemes	750,000	2,206,222
Local Roads		
General Maintenance	879,815	
Surface Dressing	693,418	
Strengthening/Road Restoration	1,326,565	
Local Road Improvements	69,622	
Community Involvement Schemes	164,365	
Local Improvement Schemes	183,416	3,317,201
		7,532,706

NATIONAL ROADS - CAPITAL PROJECTS

N5 Westport to Turlough Road Project

A funding allocation of €800,000 was received in 2014. An Bord Pleanála has confirmed the Compulsory Purchase Order and approved the Environmental Impact Statement and Natura Impact Statement for that part of the project from Westport to the East of Castlebar. The Board has annulled part of the CPO for a small segment from the East of Castlebar to Turlough. It is intended that this project will continue to be funded in 2015.

N5/N26/N58 Castlebar to Bohola & Swinford to Mount Falcon Road Project

Following the An Bord Pleanála decision to refuse planning permission for the proposed N26 Ballina to Bohola Stage 2 in February, 2010, a revised proposal was developed by Mayo County Council to improve the N5 route between Turlough and East of Bohola together with the N26/N58 connection between Foxford and the improved N5 route.

Emerging Preferred Route Corridors for the N5, N26 and N58 have emerged following public consultations over the past 2 years. If and when this preferred route is adopted

during 2015, the project will proceed to design development and EIS stage and eventually the publishing of an EIS and Statutory Orders in early 2016.



Newport Road, Castlebar

WATER SERVICES

The complete re-organisation of the water sector nationwide and the establishment of a national water utility was one of the biggest single changes in the local authority sector since the establishment of local authorities in 1898. Irish Water was established formally on the 1st of January, 2014. Local authorities continue to deliver the day to day management and operation of the Water Services Programme in accordance with a Service Level Agreement entered into in 2013 for a period of twelve years from 2014.

An Annual Service Plan was agreed between Irish Water and Mayo County Council and this will detail all necessary works to be undertaken to comply with drinking water standards and other, statutory regulations in the water services domain.

Against this background Mayo County Council staff in the Castlebar Municipal District continued to operate and maintain all of the water services infrastructure in the district during 2014.

Water Services Capital Programme

- Schemes in Progress 2014

- Breaffy Sewerage Scheme
- Water Conservation Package 2

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

The Council have taken in charge a number of private housing developments in recent years. The following housing developments were taken in charge in the Castlebar Municipal District area during 2014.

Radharc na Sleibhte, Lahardaun
 Drumshinnagh, Castlebar
 Cluain Phadraig, Luffertaun, Ballintubber
 Carheens, Breaffy, Castlebar
 Elm Gardens, Balla
 Mount Prospect, Breaffy
 Ash View, Belcarra
 Cois na hAbhann, Belcarra
 Rocklands, Castlebar
 Drummimnracahill, Castlebar
 Rinn na Shiona, Castlebar
 Frenchbrook, Castlebar
 Oakmill Estate, Balla
 Churchfield Estate, Balla
 Lough Conn Drive Estate, Lahaardane
 Woodlawn Park Estate, Breaffy
 Kilkenny Close, Breaffy
 Roemore Village, Breaffy
 Abbeyside Estate, Breaffy
 Breaffy Woods Estate, Breaffy
 The Woods Estate, Breaffy
 Cedars Estate, Breaffy
 Ashwood Estate, Castlebar

Leckneen Village Estate, Turlough
Millwood Estate, Turlough
Fal Fada Estate, Ballvary
Moat, Moat(ED Balla)
Doogary, Breaffy Court, Castlebar
Hillview, Knockthomas
Foxfield, Castlebar.
The Brambles, Castlebar.



Castlebar Riverwalk

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES & RECREATION & AMENITY

Outdoor Pursuits Facility Lough Lannagh, Castlebar

Significant progress has been made in 2014 on the provision of the Outdoor Pursuits facility at Castlebar. Phase 1 of the project has currently been tendered and department approval is awaited to proceed to contract signing.

The facility will provide when completed: -

- 25m swimming pool
- Multi- purpose leisure pool
- Fitness gym
- Lecture Rooms
- Outdoor Pursuits Centre

As part of Phase II of the development at Knockaphunta it is intended to provide the following facilities: -

- Outdoor full size running track
- Full size all weather artificial playing pitch
- 2 full size grass playing pitches
- Changing facilities

Great Western Greenway - Castlebar Network

The Great Western Greenway - Castlebar Network extends from the National Museum of Ireland Country Life in Turlough village to Castlebar town, Lough Lannagh, Raheens Woods and onwards towards Westport. The trail offers a pleasant mix of fields, riverside woodlands, small sections of quiet country back roads and urban settings. It is designed for shared use by leisure walkers, joggers and cyclists and is suitable for people with moderate levels of fitness.

The trail extends for 16km in total with the section from Turlough to Castlebar measuring 10kms and the route from Castlebar to Raheens Wood in Islandeady measuring 6kms in total.

Since their completion both sections of trail have proven a huge attraction for locals and tourists alike. As time passes the numbers using the trails will increase substantially as they become established as part of the overall Great Western Greenway route.



Castlebar to Turlough Greenway





Castlebar to Turlough Greenway



Castlebar Riverwalk



Castlebar Town Park

FESTIVALS & EVENTS

The former Town Council was always at the forefront in recognising the important role played by community groups and organisations as part of the promotion and wellbeing of the town of Castlebar and that of its citizens.

Last year an amount of in excess of €40,000 was made available to various community and sporting organisations in Castlebar area as set out below.

Irish Water Safety
 GMIT Castlebar Green Campus Committee
 Woodville Residents Association
 Foroige
 Mayo Intercultural Action Limited
 Foxfield Residents Association
 McHale Road Residents Association
 Castlebar Kayak Club
 Mayo International Choral Festival
 Mayo Peace Park
 St. Patricks Day Parade Committee
 Castlebar Chamber of Commerce
 Fleadh Cheoil Chonnacht 2014
 Irish Wheelchair Association
 Castlebar Cycling Club
 Rainbows Family Centre
 Family Life Services
 Castlebar international Four Day Walks
 Castlebar Le Chéile Family Resource Centre
 Mayo Travellers Support Group
 Mayo Intercultural Action Ltd No. 1 Account
 The Oaks Residents Association
 Dunbeag Management Company Ltd
 Glenfort Residents Association
 Castlebar Town Football Club
 Castlebar Lawn Tennis Club
 Mayo Concert Orchestra & Castlebar Concert Band
 Castlebar Celtic Football Club Ltd
 Castlebar Le Chéile Family Resource Centre
 Castlebar Mitchels Hurling Club

Fairways Residents Association
 Castlebar Community Games
 The Carers Association
 Rowan Drive Residents Association
 Castlebar Mens Shed Group
 Order of Malta
 Castlebar Social Services Ltd
 Castlebar No Name Club
 Community Radio Castlebar
 Castlebar RFC
 Heart of Castlebar
 Team Castlebar
 Castlebar Athletic Club
 Marian Row/St. Bridgets Crescent, Riverside Res. Assocs.
 Irish Autism Action
 Castlebar Swimming Club
 Mayo COPD Support Group
 Ballyheane AFC
 Mayo Womens Support Services
 Meadow Park Residents Association
 Rossmór Residents Association
 Mayo Mental Health Association.
 ISPCC



Civic Reception - Castlebar Pantomime Group



Launch of "A History of Castlebar Municipal Government 1613-2014" Noel Campbell

From 2015 onwards Castlebar Municipal District will continue to allocate funding to community groups, residents associations, sporting organisations and burial ground committees from its newly established *General Municipal Allocation*. For the first time funding will be made available from the municipal district for groups and organisations located throughout the municipal area.

Castlebar Chamber of Commerce

Mayo County Council and Castlebar Town Council have worked seamlessly in the past with Castlebar Chamber of Commerce to jointly promote the town as an attractive commercial centre and community in which to live, shop and invest. In recent years and partly funded by Castlebar Town Council and Mayo County Council, the Chamber have appointed a full time Event Co-Ordinator who works with all organisations in Castlebar to organise and promote events in the town throughout the year. The Co-Ordinator draws from the resources and goodwill that exists within the town and its hinterland to highlight all that is good about Castlebar through the organisation of specific events.

These events include: -

- Dancing at the Crossroads
- Mayo Day
- Bonfire at the Barracks
- Castlebar International Four Day Walks
- Heart of Castlebar Festival
- The Bonham Market at Rush Street

The inaugural year of Castlebar Municipal District presented many challenges for staff and elected representatives alike. New Municipal District Offices have been established and a new Municipal District Chamber has been provided to serve the people of the newly established area.

These challenges have been met and the foundations laid for a successful structure and the provision of services that will last well into the future.

CLAREMORRIS MUNICIPAL DISTRICT





*Map of County Mayo showing
Claremorris Municipal District*



Major Towns - Claremorris Municipal District

CLAREMORRIS MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

The Inaugural Claremorris Municipal District Meeting took place on Friday 13th June 2014.

Cllr. John Cribbin was elected Cathaoirleach
Cllr Gerry Murray was elected Leas-Cathaoirleach.



*Mr. Paddy Mahon
Director of Services*

Elected Members of the Claremorris Municipal District



*Cllr. John Cribbin
Cathaoirleach*



*Cllr. Gerry Murray
Leas-Cathaoirleach*



Cllr. Patsy OBrien



Cllr. Damien Ryan



Cllr. John Caulfield

Cllr. Tom Connolly

Cllr. Richard Finn



*Inaugural Meeting
Claremorris
Municipal District
13th June 2014*





Claremorris Offices



Ballinrobe Offices





Cllr. Damien Ryan (Ballinrobe)

Elected Cathaoirleach Mayo County Council June 2014



Cllr. Richard Finn (Claremorris)

Elected Leas-Cathaoirleach Mayo County Council June 2014



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”*

HOUSING

Introduction:

The core objectives of National Housing Policy have focused on the principal that every household will have access to secure good quality Housing suited to their needs at an affordable price in a sustainable community.

The key objectives focus on Affordability and Quality of Accommodation, Tenure Options and principals of Sustainable Communities.

In addition to the traditional provision of Local Authority Housing and Voluntary Housing (by Approved Housing Bodies), there has been an expansion of Schemes such as the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) and the Social Housing Leasing Initiative (SHLI).

The Housing Construction Programme delivered during 2014 was a reduced programme of prioritized works in line with Mayo County Council’s Housing Capital Allocation for the year.

In terms of future Social Housing supply, the Departments policy and focus continues to be centered on construction supply options, including the Social Housing Leasing Initiative, and the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS). Engagement the Voluntary / Co Operative Private sectors in terms of meeting future Social Housing is also being strongly promoted.



non-

with
and

need

Local Authority Rural Dwelling

In the Claremorris Municipal District Area, Local Authority Housing Services are delivered through Local Authority Offices at:

Kilcolman Road, Claremorris 094 93 72310

Kilmaine Road, Ballinrobe 094 95 41111

Housing Stock:

As of 31st December 2014 there were 418 Units of Local Authority Housing Stock within the Claremorris Municipal District.

Energy Efficiency Programme:

This programme was introduced by the Department of the Environment to assist Local Authorities in providing and funding works for upgrading the energy efficiency of tenanted dwellings.

Energy efficiency improvement works i.e. roof insulation, cavity wall insulation and draughtproofing were carried out to Local Authority Houses in the Claremorris Municipal District in 2014 in the towns of Ballyhaunis, Ballindine and Ballinrobe.

Voids Programme:

The Voids Programme is funded by the Department of the Environment in order to return vacant and boarded up social housing units to productive use.

In 2014 funding was provided for dwellings in the Claremorris Municipal District. Following refurbishment works these houses were made available for letting.

Sli Na Roba Housing Estate

This estate on the Claremorris Road, Ballinrobe which comprises of 19 social housing units, were painted and enhancement works carried out in 2014.



Voluntary Housing/Approved Housing Bodies

There are a number of Voluntary Housing Schemes managed by Approved Housing Bodies within the Claremorris Municipal District:

- Aghamore Voluntary Housing Association*
- Brickens Housing Association*
- Charlestown Elderly Housing*
- St. Vincent de Paul/Ozanam Trust*
- Cluid Housing Association, Claremorris*
- Kilmovee Community Housing*
- Tooreen Housing Association.*
- St Vincent de Paul Society, Ballinrobe.*
- Claremorris Voluntary Housing Organisation*
- Western Care Association, Suaimhneas, Ballinrobe*
- Western Care Association, Cois Roba, Balinrobe*
- Western Care Association, Aisling Gheal, Ballinrobe*

- Ballyhaunis Social Housing Association*
- Carracastle Voluntary Housing Association*
- Clar IRD Claremorris*
- Clar ICH, Claremorris*
- Irishtown Housing Association*
- Knock Shrine Association*
- Western Care Association, Ballyhaunis*

The Voluntary Housing Construction Programme has seen a large fall off in works in progress due to financial cutbacks. However, construction was completed on one Scheme in Claremorris Municipal District by Clar ICH, at Mayfield, Claremorris. The Scheme comprises of 36 Housing Units together with a Communal Building and Facilities on site.



Land





Interior View of Communal Facility

Refurbishment of Parkview, Charlestown

This Project has resulted in a reduction in the number of housing units in Parkview Estate from 42 to 35. The overall mix of 35 Tenant/Owner Occupied housing units now have enhanced energy efficiency through the provision of

- Increased wall and roof insulation
- Insulation to new water tanks and hot water pipes
- Solar panels to suitably oriented units.

This project has resulted in a major transformation of a Housing Estate which was in considerable decline, where tenancies could not be allocated or sustained. The Estate is now a much sought after location for those seeking Local Authority Dwelling in the Charlestown Area.



Parkview Charlestown



*Parkview Prior to /
and
after Works*



Housing Grant Schemes:

Applications for Grant Aid are accepted under the following Schemes:

- Housing Aid for Older People
- Mobility Aids
- Housing Adaptation for Persons with a Disability

A review of the three schemes is currently being finalized. It has been indicated that the outcome of the review will impact on both the demand and supply side. In June 2010 Mayo County Council initiated its initial review of the schemes and made changes to the terms and conditions which have enabled the Council to provide grants to more applicants in a shorter time frame. It is hoped that any changes introduced to the schemes will not impact in a negative way on the operation of the schemes.

The following summarises details of Grants Approved by both Offices in the Claremorris Municipal District to 31st December 2014.

<i>Grant Type</i>	<i>No of Grants Received In 2014</i>	<i>No of Grants Approved In 2014</i>	<i>Value of Grants Approved in 2014</i>
Mobility Aids Grant	36	30	€68,900.35
Housing Aid for Older People	89	73	€415,055.25
Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability	11	8	€31,274.62

Housing Loans:

2014 saw a reduction in Housing Loan Applications within the Claremorris Municipal District. This may be attributed to the termination of the 1995 Tenant Purchase Scheme and the lack of a replacement Scheme. The 1995 Scheme was due to be replaced by an Incremental Purchase Scheme but to date this has not been introduced.

The following outlines details of Loan Applications and Approvals in the Claremorris Municipal District in 2014.

Area Number of Applications Received

<i>Area</i>	<i>Number of Applications Received</i>	<i>No. of Approvals</i>	<i>Value</i>
Claremorris	10	5	€171,083.00
Ballinrobe	8	5	€256,650.00

Traveller Accommodation:

Mayo County Council has continued to provide for the Accommodation needs of Travellers using the full range of Housing Options available. Very significant progress has been made in this area since the first Accommodation Plan was adopted.

***Laveymore Charlestown******Radon Testing***

Mayo County Council provide funding to continue its Radon Survey and Remediation Work in its existing stock.

This has seen the completion of remediation works and re-surveying required for Council Houses in Claremorris Town and in particular at Lui na Greine and Barr na hAille Housing Developments.

Work also commenced on the carrying out of further Radon Surveying in Ballinrobe Town, particularly at Church View in the town. Previous sample surveys carried out in Ballinrobe did not reveal a particularly high level of Radon Gas at the location but as a precaution, the Council surveyed all of its houses in the area and carried out any necessary remediation works required.

The programme also advised Tenants of the potential aspects of Radon Works needed to reduce any potential harmful effects

Septic Tanks

With the registration process for septic tanks completed, attention has been focused on ensuring that a yearly programme is initiated to ensure that all Local Authority Dwellings using a septic tank meet the required standard.

An inspection programme will continue until the full extent of the requirements are known. Provision is made in the Budget for a programme of works and this is to continue ensuring that problematic tanks were targeted for remedial works.

ROAD TRANSPORTATION AND SAFETY

Details of the 2014 Road Works Scheme in respect of the Claremorris Electoral Area is as follows:-

NATIONAL PRIMARY ROADS

<i>Route No</i>	<i>Length/Area</i>	<i>Details of work</i>	<i>Cost</i>
N17	24km		€55,046.00
		<i>Total</i>	<i>€55,046.00</i>
N17		Winter Maintenance Salt/Gritting	€34,286.00

NATIONAL SECONDARY ROADS

<i>Route No</i>	<i>Length/Area</i>	<i>Details of Work</i>	<i>Estimated Cost</i>
N60/N83/N84	71KM	General Maintenance National Secondary Roads	€107,080.00
		<i>Total</i>	<i>€107,080.00</i>
N60/N83/N84		Winter Maintenance Salt/Gritting	€57,362.00
		<i>Total</i>	<i>€57,362.00</i>
N84		Pavement & Minor Works Bekan Station	€275,000.00
		<i>Total</i>	<i>€275,000.00</i>
		HD 15 & 17 Minor Works	
N60/N83		Devlis (Ballyhaunis)	€160,000.00
N83/R329		Kilmannin, Ballyhaunis	€100,000.00
		<i>Total</i>	<i>€260,000.00</i>

REGIONAL ROADS

<i>Route No</i>	<i>Length/Area</i>	<i>Details of work</i>	<i>Cost</i>
R293/R300/R320 /R323/R327/R328/ R329/R330/R331/R332 /R334/R335/R346/929	115 Km	General Maintenance	€212,078.00
		Total	€212,078.00
Surface Dressing			
R327	2,000 m(13,500 sq.m)	Tulrahan	€74,000.00
R329	500 m (3,600 sq.m)	Drum	€20,474.00
R334	1,400m (9,520sq.m)	Glencorrib	€52,360.00
R331	1,100 (7,480 sq.m)	Knockalegan	€41,140.00
		Total	€187,974.00
Other Works Maintenance			
R331		Footpaths at Brookhill	€24,491.00
R346		Drainage Ledafinne Cross	€15,000.00
R334		Footpaths Neale Rd, Ballinrobe	€10,000.00
		Total	€49,491.00
Regional Roads Restoration			
R345	600m(4,100sq.m)	Cong	€102,000.00
R334	900m(5,500sq.m)	Neale	€138,000.00
R320	900m(9600sq.m)	Ballindine Rd Claremorris	€222,726.00
		Total	€462,726.00
Winter Maintenance			
		Winter Maintenance	€87,079.00
		Total	€87,079.00
Low Cost Safety			
R334		Moyne	€20,000.00
R323		Bohauns	€50,000.00
		Total	€70,000.00

LOCAL ROADS GENERAL MAINTENANCE

<i>Route No</i>	<i>Length/Area</i>	<i>Details of Work</i>	<i>Cost</i>
	1174km	Local Roads OR	€256,630.00
		Local Roads D MG	€395,284.00
		Verge Trimming/Hedgecutting	€18,700.00
		<i>Ineligible Expenditure</i>	€121,258.00
		Total	€791,872.00

LOCAL ROADS SURFACE DRESSING

<i>Route No</i>	<i>Length/Area</i>	<i>Details of Work</i>	<i>Cost</i>
LP1504	1200m (5,600sq.m)	Barnacarroll	€25,000.00
LT15048	500m (1,800sq.m)	Kilcolman	€8,000.00
LP519	600m (5,800sq.m)	Knock Road Claremorris	€26,000.00
LS5562	1600m (6,300sq.m)	Buris/Cuillan	€28,000.00
LSXXXX	600m (6,700sq.m)	St Gerald's Crescent	€30,000.00
LP1913	1600m (6,700sq.m)	Culnaha	€30,000.00
LT59355	1000m (4,000 sq.m)	Brackloon South	€18,000.00
LT25722	1600m (7,300 sq.m)	Knockenarra	€33,000.00
LT59396	2000m (8,200sq.m)	Annagh	€37,149.00
LP1614	1800m (9,000sq.m)	Fountainhill	€40,500.00
LT26032	1700m(5,950sq.m)	Knocknakillew	€26,775.00
LS5640	1800m(6,300sq.m)	Lisatava	€28,350.00
LT56603	1800m(6,300sq.m)	Billypark/Cordroon	€28,350.00
LS5643	2000m(,7000sq.m)	Ballyheerach	€31,500.00
LT16159	840 m (2,940sq.m)	Longhill	€13,230.00
		Total	€403,854.00

LOCAL ROADS SPECIAL ALLOCATIONS

Route No	Length/Area	Details of Work	Cost
LT59360	800m(3,000sq.m)	Aderry	€13,500.00
LT55547	600m(2,000sq.m)	Moate	€9,500.00
LT25126	250m(1,000sq.m)	Cottages, Tooraree	€4,500.00
LT25042	500m(2,200sq.m)	Aghervilla	€10,000.00
LT55304	500m(1,600sq.m)	Cloonboniff	€7,500.00
LP510	300m(1,200sq.m)	Scardaun	€5,000.00
LT15085	600 (2,200sq.m)	Curryadooey	€10,000.00
LS5545	200m(750sq.m)	Mace	€3,000.00
LT55443	200m(750sq.m)	Mace	€3,500.00
LT55581	800m(3,500sq.m)	Feamore	€16,000.00
L16105	1,190m(4,165sq.m)	Pollbawn	€18,700.00
L16073	170m(595sq.m)	Liskillen	€2,600.00
L26169	300m(1,050 sq.m)	Turin	€4,700.00
L16148	1,230m(4,305sq.m)	Kilkeeran	€19,300.00
L56581	553m(1,935.5sq.m)	Creevagh, Cong	€8,700.00
L26135	110m(440sq.m)	Beechgrove	€2,000.00
L56603	190m(665sq.m)	Billypark (part)	€3,000.00
L16165	560m(1,680sq.m)	Gurteen	€7,700.00
L16154	450m(1,575sq.m)	Mocollagan	€7,100.00
L16135	400m(1,400sq.m)	Killimor	€6,300.00
L16117	180m(540sq.m)	Cornaroya	€2,400.00
Total			€165,000.00

LOCAL ROADS RESTORATION IMPROVEMENT

Route No	Length/Area	Details of Work	Cost
LP1614	2000(10,000sq.m)	Fountainhill	€150,000.00
LS5559	2000(8,000sq.m)	Kilvine	€100,000.00
LP1609	800(4,300sq.m)	Ellistronbeg	€64,500.00
LS5552	1600(5,300sq.m)	Cloonbookeighter	€80,000.00
LT25118	1600(5,300sq.m)	Skevard	€80,000.00
LP1613	1500(7,500sq.m)	Creevagh South	€110,000.00
LT19133	1000(4,000sq.m)	Carrowneeden	€56,000.00
LS5657	500(1,750sq.m)	Drumsheel	€27,000.00
LT59311	1600(5,500sq.m)	Huntsfield (off N83)	€83,000.00
LT16097	1000(4,000sq.m)	Clooncormick	€58,000.00
LS5655	2000(7,000sq.m)	Castletown The Neale	€105,000.00
LP1509	1600(6,400sq.m)	Crossboyne	€80,000.00
LT16085	1200(4,200sq.m)	Hollymount Demesne	€63,000.00
LP1503	1200(5,000sq.m)	Bekan	€70,000.00
LP1508	1200(5,000sq.m)	Seefin	€70,000.00
LS5568	1400(5,000sq.m)	Curraghmore	€80,000.00
LT15105	900(3,000sq.m)	Kilscough	€43,126.00
Total			€1,319,626.00

National Primary – Major Schemes

The following was the position on major schemes in the Claremorris Municipal District:

N5 Charlestown By-Pass

The allocation of €80,000 was for the payment of outstanding retention monies due on the contract and the settlement of an outstanding land acquisition Arbitration case.

National Secondary – Pavement – Minor Works:

N60 Claremorris / Ballyhaunis Road at Bekan Station:

€275,000.00



*Bekan Station (N60)
(Before and After)*



NATIONAL SECONDARY – SAFETY SCHEMES

<u>N60/83</u>	Devlis, Ballyhaunis (Construction)	<i>€160,000.00</i>
N83/R329	Kilmannin, Ballyhaunis (Construction)	<i>€100,000.00</i>
	<i>Total</i>	<i>€260,000.00</i>

These Schemes were carried out by Direct Labour in Claremorris Municipal District.

N60/N83 Devlis, Ballyhaunis:

The purpose of the scheme is to provide visibility at the intersection between the N83 and the N60.



*Devlis Junction
Before Construction*



*Devlis
Junction After
Construction*



*Devlis Junction
During Construction*

N83/R329 Kilmannin, Ballyhaunis

The purpose of this scheme is to provide forward visibility for vehicles turning right from the N83 onto the R329. The Scheme required the boundary walls to be set back outside the vision line. Drainage was also provided to ensure the existing flooding was removed.



*Kilmannin
Before Construction*

*Kilmannin
After Construction*



WATER SERVICES

Irish Water:

The complete re-organisation of the Water Sector nationwide and the establishment of a national Water Utility is the biggest single change to the Local Government Sector since the establishment of the Local Authority System in 1898. It involved -

- The establishment of a new Water Utility (Irish Water) to take over responsibility for the delivery of Water Services.
- The introduction of a sustainable funding model to support increased investment in Water Services to underpin job creation and statutory compliance.
- The introduction of independent economic regulation of the Water Sector under the Commission on Energy Regulation.
- The introduction of a charging regime for Domestic Consumers

Irish Water was established on 1st January 2014, Mayo County Council's Water Services assets and liabilities transferred to Irish Water in accordance with legislation enacted. Mayo County Council will operate and maintain the Public Water Services in County Mayo on behalf of Irish Water under the terms of a Service Level Agreement signed.



Ballinrobe Water Towers

Mayo County Council will continue to have a role in the planning of Water Services Investment Programmes and the final decision on the priority of schemes will be made by Irish Water. Mayo County Council Staff in the Claremorris Municipal District continued to operate and maintain all of the Water Services infrastructure in the District during 2014.

- **Water Service Capital Programme:**
Schemes in progress in 2014 in Claremorris Municipal District:
 Water Conservation Package 4 – Kilmaine, Ballycastle, Taugheen and Ballycastle

Schemes to commence in 2015/2016

Belmullet, Foxford, Charlestown Sewerage Scheme – DBO Bundle

Small Schemes completed in 2014

Neale Sewerage Scheme

Cross Sewerage

An Annual Service Plan detailing the operation and maintenance of each Water and Sewerage Scheme was also agreed with Irish Water. The plan sets out all necessary works to be undertaken so as to comply with Drinking Water Standards and Statutory Regulations in the Water Services domain.

Planning and Economic Development

The emphasis within the Planning Section has dramatically changed from the Planning Control function (processing of planning applications) to assisting development by working closely with Developers, Receivers and Liquidators and by agreeing programmes of work to secure the satisfactory completion of Estates up to a satisfactory standard to have them taken in charge by the Council.

Mayo County Council have taken in Charge the following Estates in Claremorris Municipal District

Cluain Aoibhinn, Claremorris
 Beechpark Claremorris
 St. John's Villas, Claremorris
 Cherryvale, Ballyhaunis
 Ard Clare, Claremorris
 Millbrook Close Claremorris

Springdale, Claremorris
 Kilbeg Claremorris
 Carrowmore Drive, Knock
 The Lawn, Claremorris
 Elm Park, Claremorris
 Rushbrook Claremorris



Old Racecourse Ballyhaunis
 (Before and After)



Old Racecourse Ballyhaunis
 Ashford Court Claremorris
 Claremount Manor Claremorris
 College Green Claremorris

Bracklaghboy Ballyhaunis
 Elm Wood Claremorris,
 Lisbaun Claremorris,
 Foxglove Drive Ballyhaunis,

Abbeyvale Ballyhaunis
 Hazel Woods Ballyhaunis
 Hazelhill Downs Ballyhaunis
 The Maples, Ballyhaunis
 Manor Brook Ballyhaunis
 Grattan Avenue Claremorris
 Grattan Crescent Claremorris
 Grattan Manor Claremorris

Hazel Lawns, Ballyhaunis,
 Hazel court Ballyhaunis,
 Esker Pines, Ballyhaunis,
 The Fairgreen, Charlestown
 Churchfield lawns Knock
 Grattan Close Claremorris
 Grattan Park, Claremorris
 Lisnaboley Lane, Claremorris

Glendale Claremorris
 Cuairt na Ciarraidhe Claremorris
 Ballinvilla Dunmor Road Irishtown
 Dry Mill Lawns, Irishtown
 Drumcrest Knock
 An Cladrach Ballinrobe
 Ballymartin Kilmaine,
 Churchfields Shrul
 Hawthorn Place, Ballinrobe



Ros Clogher Ballinrobe

New Playground at Bracklaghboy Village

Clos Caoin Claremorris
 Manor Quarter Knock
 Carramore Meadows Knock
 An Lantan Ballinrobe
 River View Ballinrobe
 Carraig Dun Ballinrobe
 Cranmore Ballinrobe
 Railway Court Ballinrobe
 Mayfield Court, Ballinrobe
 Hazel Court, Ballinrobe
 Teallach Roba, Ballinrobe
 Sarsfield Manor, Charlestown
 Riverwalk, Charlestown
 Cois Abhainn, Kilmovee

Lakeview Claremorris
 Ballinvilla Estate, Irishtown
 Beechpark Claremorris
 St. Ledgers Court Shrul
 Corr & Gort na gCloch, Ballinrobe
 An Geagain Ballinrobe
 Lecka Grove Ballinrobe
 Rathkelly Close, Ballinrobe
 Waterside, Ballinrobe
 Brewery Court, Ballinrobe
 Colemans Court, Shrul
 Sarsfield Crescent, Charlestown
 Culmore Grove, Kilkelly



Bracklaghboy Village (Before and After)

This has improved the standard of Housing Estates throughout the Claremorris Municipal District and also improved the local environment for very many residents. It has also eliminated many Health and Safety Risks on sites through the reduction in the number of unfinished Estates.



Esker Pines (Before and After)

Walk-in Planning Clinics. Continue to be held each Wednesday morning at Ballinrobe and Claremorris 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.

ENVIRONMENT

Claremorris Municipal District assist and support Voluntary Groups i.e. tidy towns in keeping their locality attractive and litter free by carrying out street cleaning, clean ups and remedial works.



Tidy Towns Committee:

The Council support these committees in keeping their localities attractive and litter free by carrying out street cleaning, clean up and remedial works on littered areas weekly empty of refuse bins.



and



**Litter Action League
Cleaner Community Campaign
National Spring Clean**

The Claremorris Municipal District supported participants in the National Spring Clean, Cleaner Community Campaign and Litter Action League during 2014.

The Cleaner Community Campaign is a county wide competition and winners included voluntary groups from Ballindine, Kilmaine, Barnacarroll and Cong.



Ballindine



Barnacarroll



Kilmaine



Cong

Swimming Pools

Mayo County Council provide Grant Aid to Swimming Pool committees for their Annual Operations at Ballyhaunis, Charlestown and Kilmovee Swimming Pools.

The Swimming Pool facility in Claremorris (Claremorris Leisure Facility) is operated by a Local Committee in conjunction with Mayo County Council.



Ballyhaunis Swimming Pool



COMMUNITY FUND

Provision was made in 2014 for funding to be allocated by each Councillor for community projects in their area.

Funding was allocated to various groups in the Claremorris Municipal District Area.

Shrule Village Enhancement Works

Shrule Village Enhancement Works were completed in 2014. Works carried out included replacement footpaths, kerbing, street resurfacing and lighting.



Works were funded by the Shrule Community Council, Mayo County Council and South West Mayo Development Company.

Cong Community Centre



Cong Community Centre i.e. Multi - Purpose Hall, Change Rooms, Meeting Rooms and Gymnasium was constructed in 2014. The facility was funded by local fundraising, leader funding €500,000 and €100,000 from Mayo County Council.



WEST MAYO MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

To: The Cathaoirleach and Members of the West Mayo Municipal District

Dear Members,

As we approach the end of the year, it is appropriate to reflect on what has been an extremely challenging year on many different fronts. The challenges emanated from:

- 1) The severe winter storms which caused extensive damage to public infrastructure in the area.
- 2) The abolition of the Town Council and the amalgamation of the Town Council, Westport and Belmullet Electoral Areas into the new West Mayo Municipal District.
- 3) The changeover of Water Services to Irish Water.
- 4) A continued tight budgetary framework within which to maintain essential services.

Despite the challenges, I am pleased that the challenges were embraced with the support of the elected Members and a dedicated and loyal workforce. This report sets out the achievements in each Programme Area of activity during the year. The key achievements include;

1. The progress on the repair and improvement of infrastructure damage during the winter storms.
2. The completion of road improvement works at Tonragee including a walk/cycle lane for the Great Western Greenway.
3. The completion of key infrastructure for the Smarter Travel Project and the further roll out of the Hearts and Minds Campaign.
4. The progress made in improving the turn around of casual vacancies in the Social Housing Stock.
5. The transition to the West Municipal District for both staff and elected members.
6. A very successful tourism season, supported by the Wild Atlantic Way and investments in marketing, co-ordination and event support.

The achievements of 2014 are a solid foundation to build upon in the year ahead. I look forward to working with you in 2015.

I wish to thank you, Cathaoirleach and each of the Elected Members for your support, dedication and work during the year.

I also wish to thank all the staff of the Municipal District for their hard work, loyalty and dedication during the year.



Martin Keating
A/Director of Services
West Mayo Municipal District

Housing

Housing Grants 2014

Type of Grant	No. Approved	Value Approved	No. Paid	Value Paid
Housing Aid for Older People	114	€ 599,383.57	133	€ 681,549.69
Mobility Aids Grant Scheme	66	€ 226,931.75	78	€ 229,084.90
Housing Adaptation for Persons with a Disability	21	€ 245,571.54	34	€ 199,272.23
Totals	201	€ 1,687,197.72	348	€ 1,698,537.64

Casual Vacancies

The work programme focused on completely refurbishment of casual vacancies and reallocating them during the year. 40 units will be returned to stock by year end with a further 7 early in 2015.

	Renovated & Allocated	Work Underway Complete 2014	Work Underway Complete 2015
Belmullet	21	8	7
Westport	12	-	-
TOTAL	32	8	7

Other Housing Activity

Energy Rectifying Programme completed on 30 houses.

- De-sludging work completed on 161 houses.
- 4 demountable dwellings re-sited to meet new housing need.
- Adapted housing for special needs completed at Inver.
- Two houses in existing stock being adapted to meet special needs of housing applicants.
- One dwelling completed under Special House Improvement Scheme.
- 12 houses adapted under one-off special adaptations for Council stock.

Housing Loans

2014 was a busy year as regards housing loans. In total there were 15 loan approvals granted across the whole West Mayo Municipal District broken down as follows;

	No. of Approvals	Value of Approvals
New Build	5	€618,300
House Purchase	8	€974,660
Tenant Purchase	2	€83,000
Total	15	€1,675,960

Housing Stock

As of 30th November 2014 there are 672 units of housing stock within the West Mayo Municipal District broken down as follows;

	No of Housing Units
Belmullet Electoral Area	420
Westport Electoral Area	108
Westport Town Council	144

Plans are being advanced to construct 5 rural houses in the region in 2015

Voluntary Housing

The Irish Wheelchair Association is undertaking a 7 house development at Logmore, Belmullet adjacent to their Resource Centre with work scheduled to commence prior to the end of 2014.

Community Facilities

During the course of 2014 work progressed on the new Westport United Facility on the Golf Course Road and the Rice College pitch has also been well advanced. When completed both facilities will be available for community use.

2014 was another busy year in the community centres at Westport Quay, Sharkey Hill, McConville Park & Tubberhill.

The Quay Community Centre has been open for a year and it is extensively used by the community for a wide range of activities.



Road Transport and Safety

The road network in the West Mayo Municipal District covers a total of 1804km of National, Regional and Local roads. A budget for road works of €11,182,791 was provided in 2014 for the former electoral areas of Belmullet and Westport. The following is a summary of the main roads activities carried out in 2014 in the district.

National Roads – Capital Projects

N5 Westport – Turlough Project

A funding allocation of €0.8m was received in 2014. An Bord Pleanála has confirmed the Compulsory Purchase Order and approved the Environmental Impact Statement and Natura Impact Statement for that part of the project from Westport to the east of Castlebar and annulled part of the Compulsory Purchase Order for a small segment from east of Castlebar to Turlough. It is hoped that the project will continue to be funded in 2015.

N59 Westport to Mulranny

A funding allocation of €3.5m was received in 2014. An Bord Pleanála confirmed the Compulsory Purchase Order in July 2012. Notices to Treat have been served on all landowners and land acquisition is ongoing.

A grant allocation of €388,000 was received in 2014 to progress the design and preparation of contract documents for the Rossow Bends Section of this scheme which will be a continuation of the Kilbride Scheme south to Westport. It is hoped that funding will be made available to seek tenders for the construction of this section in 2015.

N59 Mulranny Footpaths

A grant of €967,000 was received in 2014. Phase 1 of the footpath scheme at the western end of the village was completed in 2013. Phase 2 – the middle section - was completed this year and the Compulsory Purchase Order for Phase 3 at the eastern end of the village was confirmed by An Bord Pleanála. A contractor will be appointed shortly and construction of Phase 3 will be carried out in the first half of 2015.



National Roads – Pavement and Minor Works

Funding totaling €3.217m was received in 2014 which enabled significant pavement overlay works to be carried out at eight locations on the N59. Funding of €160,000 was also made available under the NRA's HD28 Programme to ensure adequate standards of skid resistance are maintained on national roads pavements.

Regional and Local Roads

The 2014 regional and local roads funding in the West Mayo Municipal District is listed below under its main activity categories

Regional Roads – Maintenance	€ 404,950
Regional Roads – Winter Maintenance	€ 166,273
Regional Roads – Surface Dressing	€ 358,925
Regional Roads – Other Works	€ 94,500
Regional Roads – Restoration Improvement Grant	€ 899,745
Local Roads – Maintenance	€ 829,709
Local Roads – Surface Dressing	€ 733,996
Local Roads – Restoration Improvement Grant	€1,679,524
Councillor NOM Allocations (8x€30,500)	€ 244,000
Verge Trimming/Hedge Cutting	€ 33,000
Ineligible Expenditure	<u>€ 152,657</u>
TOTAL	€5,597,279

Specific Improvements Grants were allocated for the following schemes.

R319 Tonragee	€495,000
R335 Bunowen Bridge	€239,000
Mount Jubilee Bridge	€295,000

A sum of €1.62m was also provided for the repair of roads and bridges damaged during the storms of early January 2014.

The funds available supported the normal maintenance activities on regional and local roads throughout 2014. The funds resulted in the completion of 57km of surface dressing on regional and local roads in the district in 2014 and the completion of 46km of pavement strengthening works. A total of 16km of roads damaged by the winter storms were also repaired with the specific storm damage funding.

The following works were carried out under the Specific Improvement Grant Funding:

Tonragee R319

1km of the R319 road at Tonragee was realigned and a cycle/walking lane was also constructed. This project was completed and open to traffic in September.



Bunowen Bridge

This project was substantially completed in 2013. The snagging and final account was concluded in 2014.



Mount Jubilee Bridge

The site investigation, detailed design and preparation of Part 8 documentation for this project was completed in 2014.

Other projects also undertaken were low cost safety measures at Saleen quay and the R335 Westport Louisburgh Route treatment, footpath works in Louisburgh, Westport and Gweesalia (pictured below), signage and road markings and bridge improvements at Fahy and Newport Town.



Westport Smarter Travel Programme

2014 marks Year 3 of the five years Westport Smarter Travel Programme.

The mid year of the programme saw the delivery of a number of key infrastructural projects with an investment of just over €1.1m

The James Street improvement works were completed early in 2014. The works included the widening of the footpath, provision of pedestrian crossings including a zebra crossing at the centre of the street. Works were also carried out on the raised crossings on the Newport Road Bridge and the middle bridge leading onto Bridge Street.

The most significant Smarter Travel infrastructure project for 2014 was carried out at the Quay. The area has been completely transformed with the wide paving of the footpaths, new road crossings and revised parking arrangements. The new civic space which has been created has been warmly welcomed by businesses in the area and the Quay area is now a much more attractive place for pedestrians, cyclists and tourists.

A number of Greenway extensions were also provided under the 2014 programme as well as a new pedestrian bridge at Distillery Road.

Behavioural Change Campaign (Hearts & Minds)

Work continued in 2014 to raise awareness of Smarter Travel through the Smarter Travel Behavioural Change campaign. During the year the Smarter Travel Team worked with schools, businesses and community groups and the focus of all the initiatives throughout the year was to encourage individuals to travel sustainably to school, work, activities etc. In excess of fifty activities / events were organised during the year to promote Smarter Travel and among the highlights were:

- ❖ Operation Transportation – 20 businesses took part
- ❖ We love Westport Smarter Travel Week
- ❖ Spring Forward celebration
- ❖ Launch of Mascot – Sir Walk a Lot
- ❖ Bike Buffets
- ❖ Get Out There Festival
- ❖ WST film competition
- ❖ Westportif
- ❖ European Mobility Week
- ❖ Spraoi at the Quay

Work will continue on the behavioural change campaign in 2015.



Great Western Greenway

The success and benefits of the Great Western Greenway were again evident in West Mayo throughout 2014. It is estimated that 220,000 persons used the Greenway during the year. Further improvements were carried out to the route in 2014 with the completion of the Road Improvements and Greenway at Tonragee.

The new Greenway related businesses set up in the last no. of years continue to develop and expand with various packages on offer to increase the range of experiences on offer to tourists in the Clew Bay area.

Water Services

Irish Water was established formally on the 1st of January 2014. Local Authorities continue to deliver the day to day management and operation of the Water Services Programme in accordance with a Service Level Agreement entered into in 2013 for a period of twelve years from 2014.

An Annual Service Plan for 2015 will be agreed between Irish Water and Mayo County Council and this will detail all necessary works to be undertaken to comply with drinking water standards and other, statutory regulations in the water services domain.

Against this background Mayo County Council staff in the West Mayo Municipal District continued to operate and maintain all of the water services infrastructure in the district during 2014.

Water Service Capital Programme

Schemes in Progress in 2014 in West Mayo Municipal District

Lough Mask Regional Water Supply Scheme – Shraah to Westport

Water Conservation Package 4 – Kilmaine, Ballycastle, Taugheen and Ballycastle

Schemes to Commence in 2015/2016

Belmullet, Foxford, Charlestown Sewerage Scheme - DBO Bundle

Small Schemes in Planning

Dugort Sewerage Scheme

Westport Sewerage Scheme

Inishturk Sewerage Scheme

Development Management

Westport Enterprise Centre

The Westport Multi Agency Enterprise Group has received grant approval from Enterprise Ireland for the provision of a new Enterprise Centre in Westport. The Multi Agency Enterprise Group has identified a building on Altamont Street for this purpose. During 2014 the design and layout of the Centre was finalised and tenders were sought for the fit out of the centre. The completion of the purchase of the building has taken much longer than anticipated to achieve and it is hoped that the Group will be in a position to advance the project early in 2015.

Job Activation

West Mayo Municipal district was assigned a number of staff in 2014 under the Gateway Scheme. These employees have made a valuable contribution in 2014 particularly in areas of environmental improvements and tidy towns.

Environmental Services

Tidy Towns

2014 was another very successful year for the West Mayo Municipal District in the Tidy Towns Competition. Ten towns / villages participated in the competition and all of the entrants increased their marks in 2014.

Westport was awarded the title of Irelands Tidiest Large Town and it retained its Gold Medal. Belmullet was awarded a Silver medal while Murrisk was awarded a Bronze medal.

Great credit is due to all the Tidy Towns committees and volunteers for the results achieved in 2014 which was a particularly challenging year for many communities in the aftermath of the storms.

I also wish to acknowledge all the Council staff for their efforts in ensuring that clean ups and remedial works were carried out expeditiously.



Greening Communities

The West Mayo Municipal District is one of five communities in Ireland chosen to pilot the Greening Communities programme run by An Taisce. The Greening Communities programme works with communities to celebrate, sustain and enhance sustainable living. With the development of the Wild Atlantic Way the presentation of towns and villages in the region is extremely important and the Greening Communities Programme will link and support all of the Tidy Towns committees in the region.

It is intended to roll out the programme in partnership with the Tidy Towns committees in the area early in 2015.

Recreation and Amenity

A number of significant recreational projects were completed / under construction in the West Mayo Municipal District in 2014.

Newport Greenway Activity Park (GAP)

This project comprises a floodlit astro turf pitch, a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) and outdoor gym. These facilities were opened in July 2014 and since then have been extensively used.

Kilcommon Recreational Park

This project was funded through the Community Gains fund, the total value of the project was in excess of €160,000 and comprises of a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) and a playground. The project was developed by Mayo County Council in partnership with the local community.



Westport Town Hall

The refurbishment of Westport Town Hall is nearing completion. Both Mayo County Council and Westport Town Council contributed towards the project and it is anticipated that the new facility will be operational before next summer.



Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare

Piers and Harbours

Following the January and February storms an extensive programme of works was required for the piers and harbours along the West Mayo coastline. Other projects in addition to these structures include a pier extension and new slipway at Bundorragha, repairs to Newport quay walls and Saleen Quay funded by the Department of Marine with a contribution by Mayo County Council.

Bundorragha

Clare Island



Purtoon, Inishturk Island



Killerduff Pier



Carramore Pier



Works were also carried out to the following piers within the West Mayo Municipal District

- Lecanvey Pier €12,000
- Oldhead Pier €14,000
- Roonagh Pier €20,000
- Islandmore pontoon €20,000
- Bunlough Pier €10,000
- Newport Quay walls €300,000
- Westport Quay walls €75,000
- Porturlin €150,000
- Rathlacken €150,000
- Saleen Quay €150,000
- Blacksod €80,000
- Frenchport Pier €20,000

Storm Damage

In January and February 2014, Ireland lay in the path of a series of strong storms, culminating in south to southeast winds with gusts of 80-100 km/h which coincided with high spring tides. Damage was caused to a number of locations along the West Mayo Coastline. Funding was received from various Government Departments totalling €6.3million. Works were carried out to 74 sites along the West Mayo Coastline.

Bertra Beach





Carraholly bridge



Carrowniskey beach



Deerpark seawall



Devlin seawall and road



Dooagh



Dooega



Mulranny beach



Cartron seawall



Beaches

In 2014 Mayo received 10 Blue Flags. 8 of these were for beaches in the West Mayo Municipal District.

- ❖ Carramore
- ❖ Clare Island
- ❖ Dooega
- ❖ Dugort
- ❖ Elly Bay
- ❖ Golden Strand
- ❖ Keel
- ❖ Keem

Blue Flag beaches meet 32 strict criteria for water quality, management, safety and environmental education. In addition, beaches in the West Mayo Municipal District received 8 Green Coast Awards which are awarded based on natural beauty and excellent water quality, without the focus on built infrastructure in the Blue Flag standard.

- ❖ Carrowniskey
- ❖ Cross, Belmullet
- ❖ Cross, Louisburgh
- ❖ Portacloy
- ❖ Silver Strand
- ❖ Srah
- ❖ Termon
- ❖ White Strand

2015 will see the continuation in the rollout of the signage programme for blue flag beaches which aims to have uniform signage on all of our blue flag beaches. Each sign will contain a comprehensive information panel giving full details of amenities, flora and fauna specific to each beach.

Bertraw and Mulranny are scheduled to be included in the 2015 Blue Flag applications.

Festivals & Events

In 2014 there were in excess of 150 festivals and events in The West Mayo Municipal District. The extensive range of festivals and events included both old and new and has set a platform for the growth and continuing strength of Westport and West Mayo as a festival destination. The West Mayo Municipal District (WMMD) was involved in nearly all festivals and events through financial, promotional and operational support.

The new area has expanded the diversity of events taking place in the area and is attracting new audiences. As well as new events, existing festivals have experienced considerable growth in 2014. A festival or event takes place nearly every weekend of the year and the support from West Mayo Municipal District is crucial to their success and future development.



WMMD Festivals and Events

The Westport Civic Office is directly involved in the organisation of some the events from inception to development and implementation i.e. Gathering for Patrick; Festival of the Pirate Queen & Grainne Ale; Westport Get Out There Festival; Westportif. The office is also heavily involved in events associated with Smarter Travel like The Bike Buffets, Mobility Week and the Spraoi at The Quay event which took place in October.

West Mayo Municipal District supports other events, both large and small, that are organised by other parties. Some of these events are outlined below and the support that is offered through a variety of means is also discussed below. i.e. Westport Festival of Music & Food; Gaelforce West; Sea 2 Summit; Westport Food Festival; Arts Festival; Festival of Chamber Music; Rolling Sun Book Festival etc

West Mayo Municipal District recognises the work done by organisations like Erris Beo and Achill Tourism is supporting festival and events in the northern part of the area i.e Erris Beo Festival; Carne Pro Am Golf; Féile Iorrais International Folk Arts Festival; Erris Agricultural Show; Belmullet Gala Arts Festival; Geesala, Ballycroy, Carrowteige Festivals; Kilmore Triathlon –Blacksod Point Challenge

West Mayo Municipal District has been actively involved in the marketing of festivals and events – producing a calendar of events, assistance with social media, printed materials Websites and Social Media

A calendar of events for the year was circulated to local event organisers and tourism businesses to promote the events. Since the amalgamation of local authorities into the West Mayo Municipal District events from Erris, Achill, Ballycroy, Innishturk and Belmullet have been incorporated into the promotional calendar.

Festivals and events are also promoted through www.mayo.ie and the recently developed Mayo App.



Print and Press

WMMD has worked with event organisers developing and circulating press releases to media sources locally, regionally and nationally. This work has resulted in event coverage in local, regional and national papers as well as coverage on local, regional, and national radio.

Operations

Subsequent to the planning and marketing stages of festivals and events, the smooth operation during events is equally as critical. The civic office assists with road safety signage, barriers, portaloos, water, and waste disposal for a number of events taking place in the area. Without these operational provisions many of these events would not be the success stories they have been.

To assist with festivals and events a volunteer programme has been implemented to engage with local people who would like to be involved in tourism and tourism initiatives. There are currently nine volunteers on board the Westport Activity Ambassador Programme and it is expected that there will be more recruits for 2015.

Tourism Town Award

Fáilte Ireland announced in November that Westport had been crowned the 2014 National Large Tourism Town. The Tourism Towns Award was designed by Fáilte Ireland to promote those Irish towns and villages which are working hardest to enhance their appeal to tourists visiting their local area.

A panel of independent assessors, as well as a team of 'secret shoppers', visited each town to measure their tourism performance and the level of welcome to visitors. The Tourism Town award focuses on how participating towns have developed their local area in the following key tourism areas:

- Sense of Place – How the town tells its own unique story to visitors, what's special about it, and what distinguishes it from other towns.
- Local Involvement - How the local community works together to provide an authentic visitor experience.
- Tourism Products Available – What the town has to offer visitors.
- Development and promotion of the town – How the town takes a unified approach to marketing and developing the town into a "tourism town".

With regard to the overall winners, the judges' first impressions of Westport were that the town was something special, noting the great sense of local energy and pride. The friendliness of the locals was evident and there was no doubt that tourism is the mainstay of the town.

THE JUDGES' COMMENTS ON WESTPORT

First impressions are that this town is something special. One can see at the onset that this is a very well organised/maintained and compact town with lots to offer.

There is a great sense of energy and pride in the town and it is obvious from the locals that they are well used to dealing with tourists.

They say variety is the spice of life and Westport is not short of either. There is something for everyone and caters well for Ireland's climate.

The locals were very friendly and approachable. There is no doubt that tourism is the mainstay of the town.

Tourism in the West Mayo Municipal District

The possibility of extending the partnership model which has resulted in success for Westport in tourism and tidy towns to the rest of the Mayo Municipal District will be explored in 2015. Priorities identified by Members in the workshops earlier in the year will be pursued.

Westport Leisure Park

Westport Leisure Park celebrated its 15th Birthday in August 2014.- fifteen very successful years of providing a quality leisure product to the people of Westport and the many thousands of visitors to the area.

Community is always at the heart of the activity programmes at the centre. One of the major successes of the year was Operation Transformation where close to 300 people availed of up to 4 programmed fitness activities over an 8 week period during January and February. Significant weight loss was achieved together with an increase in the fitness levels of all the participants. Many have continued with their programme, a new running group has been established at the centre and it is now a common sight to see Team Leisure Park take part in several of the running events throughout the county.

In monetary terms this free programme was worth about €45,000 – something that only a true community facility could offer. The centre is re-launching the event again in January 2015.

The community involvement continues throughout the year with the centre at the heart of many events – Parkrun, ‘Get out There’ Festival, Greenway series, Westportif, Gaelforce West and on January 1st 2015, Westport’s Resolution 5k on the Streets of Westport.

Westport Leisure Park is managed and maintained to a very high standard and is now recognised for setting the standards in disability provision in the leisure sector.

This year Ireland Active’s 14th White Flag was awarded to Westport Leisure Park achieving The National Gold Standard.

Westport Leisure Park is firmly established as one of the major all-weather attractions in the region, and as a centre of excellence in the provision of health and fitness programmes. The extensive swimming programme caters for in excess of 1,000 children each week.

Westport Leisure Park caters for all ages and abilities – with classes for Parent and Toddler, Children, Teenagers, Sporting Groups/Organisations and Senior Citizen/Special Needs Groups. The centre hosts a wide range of Fitness and Aerobic classes each week which are attended by several hundred enthusiasts.

Westport Leisure Park is a very valuable asset to the tourism and social infrastructure of the region. It is important that this asset continues to be maintained to the very highest standard, and investment in the works outlined above will ensure that facilities at Westport Leisure Park are on a par with any other Leisure facilities in the Country.

Miscellaneous Services

New Westport Civic Offices

In 2014 tenders were invited for the new Westport Civic Offices project at the Convent. There was an unsuccessful tendering process. We are in the process of modifying the design in order to maximise the services that can be provided in the new civic offices.

It is hoped to go to tender on the project early in 2015 and progress to construction as quickly as possible.

The following are the reports on the principle activities for Mayo County Council for 2014 :-

Architects Department

The Architects Department is a multi-discipline office, providing a centralised Design, Procurement, Management and Architectural Consultancy Service to all departments and regional directorates of Mayo County Council. The Department also provides important technical and procurement assistance. Projects carried out included;

Former Ballinrobe Courthouse

Essential roof repairs were carried out to the Former Ballinrobe Courthouse to halt water ingress. The works included repairs to the sliding sash windows, cupola, leadwork valleys and the provision of leadwork protection to the stone pediment to the top of the building.



Former Ballinrobe Courthouse: Before



Former Ballinrobe Courthouse: After

Jackie Clarke Coach House Fit-Out

The interior fit-out of the Coach House at the Jackie Clarke Collection facilitated the opening of the shop at the Coach House in the summer of 2014.



Jackie Clarke Coach House



Jackie Clarke Coach House

The Conservation Officer provided advice on the following;

Record of Protected Structures

Record of Protected Structures Database Project with Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

Planning File Reports and Pre-planning consultations

Conservation advice to owners of built heritage

Built Heritage Jobs Leverage Scheme

Historic Towns Initiative, Westport

Built Heritage Jobs Leverage Scheme 2014

Funding to assist with repairs to the historic built environment was made available through the Built Heritage Jobs Leverage Scheme in 2014 provided by the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. Applications were invited and nine protected structures received grant-aid for essential works. The fund was administered through the Conservation Office in the Architects Department.

Holy Trinity Church, Westport

Due to water ingress at the church an application was submitted to fund conservation works to halt any further damage to the built fabric. The tops of the buttresses were dismantled and the stones were numbered. Bitumen-coated lead dpc was formed and fitted and the tops of the buttresses were reinstated with NHL 5 lime mortar. Square-profile cast-iron downpipes were welded, painted and reinstated. The gable coping stones to the pitched roof were re-bedded and pointed and grouting was carried out to the base of the spire.



Holy Trinity Church, Westport



Holy Trinity Church, Westport

Enniscoe House, Castlehill

Enniscoe House in North Mayo, a fine Georgian house dating from the 1790’s received funding under the scheme for a number of measures including external wall repairs, joinery repair and energy efficiency upgrades.



Enniscoe House, Castlehill

Bridge House, Westport

Essential stabilization works including repairs to rafters and reinstatement of the original slates to part of the roof structure ensured the longevity of this protected structure in the designed landscape of the North Mall in Westport.



Bridge House, Westport : Before



Bridge House, Westport

Ballinafad House, Ballinafad

A two-storey over basement country house, built c. 1827, conservation works carried out at Ballinafad House included propping to internal ceilings and plasterwork. External roof repairs were carried out to stop water ingress and secure the structure.



Ballinafad House, Ballinafad

St. Michael’s Church, Ballina

Roof repairs and internal works to the tower formed part of the conservation works at St. Michael’s Church, Ballina.

Killala Bathing House, Killala Bay

Substantial masonry loss over the years had undermined the base to this unique bathing house in Killala Bay. If left for another winter the structure may have been lost to the sea. Conservation works included the removal of decayed mortar and re-pointing with a non hydraulic lime and a natural accelerator to speed up curing times due to tidal conditions.



Bathing House, Killala Bay: Before



Bathing House, Killala Bay

Killala

External conservation works to two properties on Church Street included joinery repairs to sliding sash windows and a gable timber gate which contribute positively to the picturesque streetscape of Killala.



Church Street, Killala: Before



Church Street, Killala

Thomond House, Westport & Ardagh Lodge, Newport

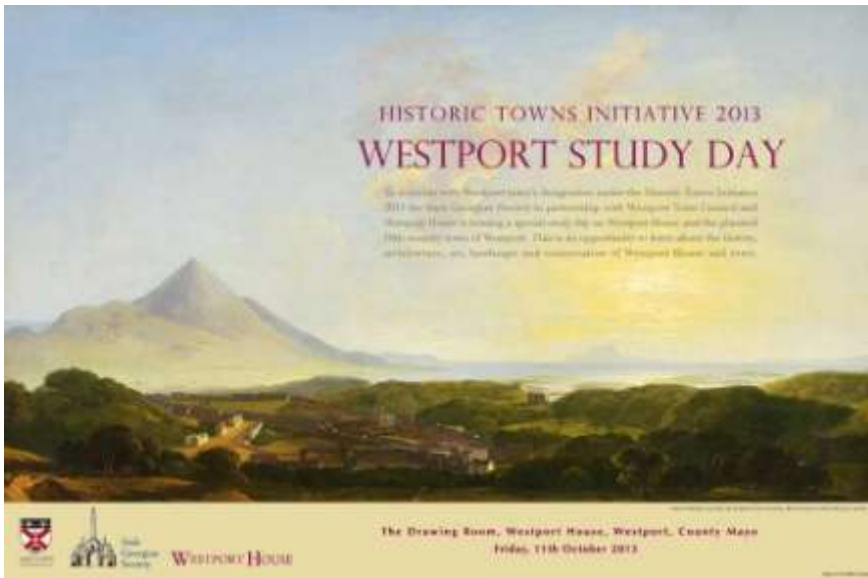
Repairs to the sash windows at both of the above properties ensure the continued survival of this historic fabric.



Ardagh Lodge, Ardagh,

Historic Towns Initiative

The Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht announced a new Historic Towns Initiative (HTI) for Ireland and Westport was chosen as one of the pilot towns. The core aims of this initiative are to preserve existing heritage assets, stimulate heritage-led regeneration and add to the tourism offering of the town. To coincide with Westport town's designation under the Historic Towns Initiative, the Irish Georgian Society in partnership with Westport Town Council and Westport House hosted a special study day on Westport House and the planned 18th century town of Westport. Education and outreach objectives were achieved at the study day which provided an opportunity to learn about the history, architecture, interior, art, landscape and conservation of Westport House and town.



In particular the paper presented on the Chinese wallpaper, dated c. 1752, highlighted the rarity of this wallpaper to the west of Ireland. Grant-aid was provided for a paper conservation specialist to assess the current condition of the wallpaper and provide advice with respect to the various options for repair and the type of intervention necessary to safeguard its survival. Further to the recommendations of the report Sandiford and Mapes Ltd. were appointed in 2014 to carry out this work. The damaged wallpaper was removed and consolidated with breather layers provided to the substrate. David Skinner and Susan Corr (both Irish practitioners) collaborated under supervision from Mark Sandiford ensuring important dialogue and transference of skills in relation to this type of conservation.



Repairs to Chinese wallpaper, Westport House

Other conservation projects that were provided assistance under the initiative included sliding sash window repairs to a number of protected structures and repairs to historic shopfronts.



Protected Structure, South Mall, Westport



Repairs, Moran & Co. Westport



Moran & Co. Westport

Swinford Library and Cultural Centre

Swinford Library and Cultural Centre is a multi-purpose venue located on Station Road, Swinford. This facility is based where the Railway Station once operated - the Cultural Centre was once a goods store for CIE. The railway tracks are still visible behind the building and the Station Masters house is privately owned and occupied next door.

The Library is based in the new section of the building as well as a Meeting Room facility which is laid out in a boardroom style.

An Taoiseach Enda Kenny officially opened the building on 10th May 2014.

Capacity

The Cultural Centre is a fully accessible open space area that can accommodate up to 187 people (Fire Safety Cert figure). The separate Meeting Room can accommodate up to 30 people. There is ample car parking facilities around the building.

Facilities

- Large drop down screen,
- Projector,
- Ability to connect to a laptop,
- DVD player connected to projector & screen,
- Podium with microphone.
- Tea making - kitchenette area with sink, fridge and Burco boiler.

Events .

Since opening in 2013 a number of events of varying types have been held in the facility. Below is a flavour of events held over 2014.

- Mayo Sings Choral Concert.
- Training events provided by Mayo County Council & outside agencies.
- Information Evenings.
- Presentation events.
- Drama productions & rehearsals.
- Drama Classes.
- DVD Launch evening
- Movie evening.
- Fitness classes.
- DIY course.
- Personal Development Programme.
- Relaxation & Mindfulness Course.
- End of season junior football events.
- Various AGM's.
- Children's Disco.
- Retirement Function.
- Photo Shoot.
- Job Club.

- Bridge Tournament.
- Table Quiz.
- Hip Hop Dance Classes & Showcase.
- Public Consultations e.g. NRA, OPW.
- Photographic Exhibition.
- Monthly Indoor Market.
- Youth Club – Foroige.
- Local Election Polling Station.
- Pride of Place presentation to adjudicators.
- Mayo Sports Partnership Events e.g. Goal to Work, Men on the Move.
- Coroners Court.
- In Humberts Footsteps Exhibition.
- Concert – Paddy Casey played on 29th November 2014 to a full house.
- Students Council Meeting – Scoil Muire agus Padraig, Swinford.
- Bazaars & bake sales – Mayo Roscommon Hospice & local National Schools.

The facility has proven to be a great amenity and addition to the town of Swinford and its environs.



Staff of Swinford Electoral Area at the official opening of Swinford Library & Cultural Centre on 10th May 2014.

Back l-r: Padraig Lynn, Michael McGowan, Pat Gallagher, Declan Ginnelly, Marty Noone, Julie Ryan, Joan Gavin, Linda Broderick, Austin Meehan, Margaret Robinson, Dymphna Maloney & Michael Munnelly.

Front l-r: Clodagh Gleeson, Teresa Melia, Paul Benson, An Taoiseach Enda Kenny, Peter Hynes, Luke O'Malley & Bernie Groarke



Road Design Office

The Roads Design Office had an extremely busy year in 2014. They were commissioned to design & supervision Pavement Overlays and Safety Schemes for National Roads and re-alignment and bridge rehabilitation for Regional & Local Roads.

Pavement Overlays for National Roads

In particular they were engaged in the design, procurement of Contractors and supervision of fifteen Pavement Overlays Contracts, with a total value of over €9 million. The selection of the schemes was based on an assessment carried out by the NRA and was based on the rideability and condition value of the Roads. Two were located in the Ballina Area, three in the Ballinrobe area, and two each in the Belmullet, Westport, Claremorris, Castlebar and Newport areas. The following is a list of Pavement Overlay Schemes designed and managed by the Roads Design Office in 2014:-

	<u>Scheme Cost</u>
N59 Bangor Erris – Bellacorick Road at Carrowkileen, Eskeragh, & Dooleeg	€1,616,870.00
N59 Westport – Newport Road at Deerpark Ph. 1, 2 & 3	€ 651,413.00
N59 Bangor Erris-Bellacorick Road at Tawnaghmore	€ 391,165.00
N59 Bangor South Pavement repair at Srahgraddy	€ 514,392.00
N59 Westport – Leenane Road at Carrowkennedy	€ 405,856.00
N59 Mulranny – Ballyveany Phase 1	€ 716,776.00
N60 Claremorris – Ballyhaunis Road at Bekan	€ 360,930.00
N58 Ballyvary – Foxford Road at Lough Holan	€ 106,670.00
N59 Crossmolina Road, Ballina at Coolcran	€ 814,192.00
N59 Bellacorrick Bridge	€ 637,735.00
N60 Clooneycollaran, Claremorris	€ 112,791.00
N84 Ballinrobe – Kilmaine Road at Hundred Acres	€ 628,722.00
N84 Ballinrobe South fire station to Thomastown	€1,435,896.00
N84 Ramolin, Shrule	€ 370,059.00
N84 Derraun Hill, Ballinrobe	<u>€ 271,225.00</u>
Total expenditure	€9,298,309.00



N59 Crossmolina – Bangor Error Road at Carrowkilleen

Low Cost Safety Schemes

The NRA also located high cluster accident location sites on our National Roads and asked the Council to carry out a design and implement the safety measures. Each Engineering district carried out the works. The following is a list of Low Cost Safety Remedial Measures managed by the Roads Design Office in 2014.

N26 Foxford Town Pedestrian crossing at N26 / N58 Junction	€ 26,440.00
N60/N83 Junction improvement at Devlis, Ballyhaunis	€ 169,586.00
N83/R329 Junction at Kilmannin, Ballyhaunis	€ 101,195.00
N5 Ballyvary – Bohola Road at Carrowgowan 3 No Junction Improvements	€ 87,786.00
N59 Leenaun Road, Westport at Carrowbaun Signage Improvement	€ 984.00
N59 Ballina – Crossmolina Road at Knockgaravaun Signage Improvement	<u>€ 26,398.00</u>
Total	€ 412,390.00

Management of Skid Resistance

The skid resistance of the National Roads was measured by the NRA and funding of €353,000 provided for areas deemed deficient. Various measures were carried out on thirty sites. The measures recommended varied from Mechanical abrasion to the provision of surface dressing.

Non National Roads

The design for the R310 Lower Chapel Street (Newline) was completed in 2014 and land acquired by Compulsory Purchase Order. It is envisaged that the Scheme will go to contract in 2015.

Road Design was involved in the Design, Land Acquisition, Setting Out & Supervision of the Construction and Re-alignment of the R319 Regional Road between Mulranny and Achill in the Townlands of Tonragee East and Owenduff. The scheme was funded via Regional Road Specific-Improvement Grant with a total expenditure of €1.5 million. This comprised the re-alignment of approx 1.3 km of the Regional Road. The scheme also included an off-carriageway construction of a 2.5 metre wide cycle/pedestrian way, 800 metres in length, which now forms part of the Westport – Achill Greenway.



Bridges.

There was an extensive Bridge rehabilitation programme in Mayo in 2014 on Regional and Local Rd bridges. Ten bridges were rehabilitated/enhanced and one bridge was replaced at Cummer, Glensland, Castlebar. The total expenditure was €709,000. The scheme breakdown is as follows:-

Bunowen Bridge, Louisburgh, (R335) Widening Scheme.	€ 239,000.00
Mount Jubilee Bridge, Bangor, Widening Scheme.	€ 295,000.00
Behy Bridge, Crossmolina, (R315), Bridge Rehabilitation.	€ 29,517.35
Cummer Bridge, Glensland, (R312), Bridge Replacement.	€ 69,172.90
Derrinloura, Newport Rd, Castlebar (R311), Bridge Rehabilitation.	€ 10,896.00
Derryhillagh Bridge, Crosmollina, (R316), Bridge Rehabilitation.	€ 14,584.75
Doo Lough Bridge, Delphi, (R335).	€ 17,025.00
North Beltra Bridge, Glensland, (R312), Bridge Rehabilitation.	€ 10,896.00
Srah Bridge, Tourmakeady, (R300), Bridge Rehabilitation.	€ 4,199.50
Srah Bridge, Tourmakeady, (R300), Bridge Rehabilitation.	€ 1,702.50
Fahy Bridge, Westport, (L1806), Bridge Rehabilitation.	€ <u>17,025.00</u>
Total expenditure	€ 709,019.00



Bunowen Bridge, Louisburgh. (R335)



Cummer Bridge, Glenisland, Castlebar. (R312)

ROADS TRANSPORTATION AND SAFETY

Introduction:

An efficient road transportation system provides the necessary infrastructure to support economic and social development of a region. Mayo County Council in 2014, continued to play its part in the maintenance and improvement of the road network in the County thus supporting the economy within the County.

There are 6,353 kms of roadway in the charge of Mayo County Council and in 2014 a total of €40m. was spent on maintaining and improving the network.

Roads Classifications & Finances

Roads in the County are classified as National Primary; National Secondary; Regional and Local Roads. The lengths of the various categories of roads in County Mayo are as follows:

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

Funding of €37m. was received from the **National Roads Authority** and the **Dep. of Transport, Tourism & Sport** for the National and Non-National Road network. The Council provided €2.86m. for the road network in the year.

National Primary Roads

The grants for the **National Primary Roads** for 2014 were broken down as follows:

The following is the breakdown of the **National Primary Improvement Works** grant totaling €1,510,000:

National Primary – Major Schemes:		
N5	Charlestown By-Pass	€80,000
N5/ N26/ N58	Turlough to Bohola	€600,000
N5	Westport to Bohola	€800,000
		€1,480,000

National Primary – Safety Measures:		
N26	Foxford Town [HD15] ~ Construction	€30,000
		€30,000

The grant for **National Primary Maintenance** totalling €595,508 was broken down as follows:

National Primary – Maintenance:	
Ordinary Maintenance	€305,045
Winter Maintenance	€190,000
Route Lighting	€100,463
€595,508	

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 €80,000 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*

In July 2014, An Bord Pleanála confirmed the Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) and approved the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) for part of the project from Westport to East of Castlebar and annulled part of the CPO for a small segment from East of Castlebar to Turlough.

✧ *N5/N26/N58 Turlough - Bohola*

A refined number of route option corridors for the new N5/N26/N58 Turlough-Bohola Project were presented to the public in June 2014 and the preferred route options were presented to the public in November 2014.

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 2013, 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.

An Bord Pleanala confirmed the Compulsory Purchase Order and approved the Environmental Impact Statement & Natura Impact Statement for part of the project from Westport to East of Castlebar and annulled part of the CPO for a small segment from East of Castlebar to Turlough.

National Secondary Roads

The 2014 **National Secondary Improvement Grant** of €12,817,000 was expended on pavement works, improvements to the N59 (Westport to Mulranny), bridge rehabilitation works and the provision of safety measures on the Secondary Road Network and grants were allocated in respect of the following:

National Secondary – Major Scheme:		
N59	Westport to Mulranny	€3,500,000

National Secondary – Pavement & Minor Improvements:		
N59	Carrowkennedy	€500,000
N59	Carrowkilleen Pavement Repair and Overlay	€1,000,000
N59	Carrowkilleen to Dooleeg	€900,000
N59	Dooleeg Pavement Repair Overlay	€175,000
N59	Mulranny to Ballyveeney Pavement Rehabilitation Phase I	€650,000

N59	Bangor South Pavement Repair & Overlay	€600,000
N59	Improvements at Mulranny	€800,000
N59	Kilbride Road Improvement	€77,000
N59	Rossow Bends	€110,000
N59	Tawnaghmore Pavement Overlay	€320,000
N59	Westport Pavement Repair & Overlay	€400,000
N59	Westport Phase 2	€600,000
N59	Westport Phase 3	€400,000
N60	Claremorris-Ballyhaunis Road at Bekan Station	€275,000
N60	Heathlawn	€350,000
N60	Laganmuck	€250,000
N60	Manulla Cross	€350,000
		€7,757,000

National Secondary – Bridge Rehabilitation:		
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	Mayo Bridge Strengthening 2014	€1,300,000
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National Secondary – Safety Schemes:		
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N60/ N83	Devlis, Ballyhaunis (Construction)	€160,000
N83/ R329	Kilmannin, Ballyhaunis (Construction)	€100,000
		€260,000



✧ *N60 ~ Heathlawn*

The Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) were published in February 2014 and An Bord Pleanála confirmed the CPO and approved the NIS in September 2014.

✧ *N60 ~ Lagnamuck*

Funding was made available in 2014 to progress this scheme.

✧ *N60 ~ Manulla*

A Route Options public consultation took place in August 2014.

✧ *N59 ~ Mulranny*

Following on from the launch of the Mulranny Village Design Statement in April 2012, construction was completed on the section from the Church to the Tourist Office. A Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) for the Village Core Area, published in December 2013 was confirmed to Mayo County Council in March 2014.

The 2014 **National Secondary Maintenance Grant** of €758,709 was distributed as follows:

National Secondary – Maintenance:	
Ordinary Maintenance	€437,604
Winter Maintenance	€230,000
Route Lighting	€91,105
	€758,709

National Roads – Local Authority Support

The Local Authority Engineering Support continued in 2014 with an allocation of €1,319,000. 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)	€274,900
Project Office Support (Improvement)	970,000
Local Authority Support (Maintenance)	€65,000
Local Authority Support (Winter Maintenance)	€10,000
	€1,319,900

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	€1,025,500
Regional Roads – Other Works	€270,000
Regional Roads – Restoration Improvement Grant	€2,570,700
Specific Improvement Grants – Regional Roads	€1,086,992
Low Cost Safety Improvement Grants–Regional Roads	€185,000
	€6,770,257

Local Roads Grants	
Local Roads – Restoration Improvement Grant	€5,998,300
Local Roads – Surface Dressing	€2,688,200
Local Improvement Schemes	€693,090
Councillors N.O.M. Allocations (31 x €30,000)	€945,500
Local Roads Maintenance	€2,963,245
Verge Trimming/Hedgecutting	€100,000
Specific Improvement Grant – Local Roads	€317,027

Low Cost Safety Improvement Grants – Local Roads	€54,000
Regional & Local Roads – Training Grant	€90,000
Community Involvement Schemes	€191,390
Ineligible Expenditure [against grants]	€550,000
Funding for Severe Weather Damage-Dec '13 / Jan '14	€1,620,000
	€16,210,752

Specific Improvement Grants were allocated for the following schemes:

Specific Improvement Grants		
LP1206	Mount Jubilee Bridge	
R315	Behy Bridge	
R312	Cummer Bridge	
R311	Derrinloura Bridge	
R316	Derryhillagh Bridge	€470,019
L14071	Newport Town Bridge	
R312	North Beltra Bridge	
R300	Srah Bridge [003]	
R300	Srah Bridge [002]	
L1806	Fahy Bridge	
R311	Rehins, Newport Road, Castlebar	€100,000
R314	Killala Streets, Killala	€100,000
R319	Tonragee, Achill Sound	€495,000
R339	Bunowen Bridge, Louisburgh	€239,000
		€1,404,019

The **Low Cost Safety Grants** of €239,000 were expended as follows:

Low Cost Safety Schemes	
LP1324 Corradrish	€30,000
LP1304/LP1904 Kilkelly-Lowpark	€21,000
R294 Bonniconlon	€70,000
L1721 Windy Gap	€3,000
R323 Bohaun	€50,000
R334 Moyne	€20,000
R335 Westport/Louisburgh	€30,000
R313 Saleen Quay	€15,000
	€239,000

Funding for Severe Weather Damage

The country experienced a spell of extremely inclement weather during the period 13th December 2013 to 06th January 2014. Roads and bridges, particularly in the Western and North Western areas of the Country were badly affected. A grant of €1,620,000 was secured from the Department of Transport, Tourism and sport for essential repairs in respect of damaged infrastructure.

Smarter Travel

In 2014, Mayo County Council along with the three Town Councils continued implementing Smarter Travel initiatives

Works included the completion of the great Western Greenway at Tonragee and is continuing on the Castlebar to Turlough and Castlebar to Rehins Woods Greenways. In Ballina, the planning process for the Monasteries of the Moy cycle route was completed and in Westport major advances were made on the Smarter Travel project in the town centre and at the Quay.



Turrishoole Greenway



Turlough Greenway

Community Involvement Scheme

In 2014, the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport continued to fund the 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 2014, a grant of **€1,140,575** was made available for Community Involvement Schemes. A total of 54 schemes were approved by the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport for 2014. The types of works undertaken consisted of bend removals, drainage, footpaths and other minor type improvements.

Cycle-to-Work Scheme

Mayo County Council continued the **Cycle-to-Work Scheme** during 2014. Since this scheme was introduced in April 2010, a total of 323 Staff have availed of this scheme. The total cost involved to date is €230,000 and this amount is fully recouped through salary deductions.

ROAD SAFETY

IN 2014, IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE GARDAI, HSE WEST AND THE ROAD SAFETY AUTHORITY, THE CATHAOIRLEACH OF MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL FORMALLY LAUNCHED THE ROAD SAFETY STRATEGY 2013-2020.

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 2014 ~

- 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 Face-book and You-tube to deliver the road safety message to a wider audience

Road Accident Statistics – Mayo

<i>Year</i>	<i>Fatalities</i>
2002	14
2003	10
2004	13
2005	14
2006	11
2007	9
2008	10
2009	10
2010	8
2011	12
2012	7
2013	6
2014	11

Group Water Schemes

The Rural Water Programme remains within the remit of the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government and outside the scope of Irish Water.

Mayo County Council is still responsible for the administration of Group Water Schemes and receives an allocation of funding from the Department for same each year.

There are two distinct types of Group Water Scheme:-

- (a) Privately sourced Group Water Schemes which source and treat their own water supply and distribute it to their members.
- (b) Publicly sourced Group Water Schemes who purchase their treated water supply in bulk from Irish Water and assume the responsibility, including the associated costs, for the onward distribution of that water supply to their members.

The County Rural Water Services 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 & 2014. The Council are required to monitor (sample and analyse) group water supplies through their monitoring programme. The HSE carry out the sampling on behalf of Mayo County Council.

The Rural Water Programme operates under the following broad headings:-

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

Bundle No. 1:

The first bundle of 13 No. Schemes for improvement of water treatment facilities using the D.B.O. process was completed during period 2007 – 2009.

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

In 2014 Mayo County Council commenced the procurement of a new DBO Operator for this Bundle. It is hoped to have the new Operator appointed in late 2015.

BUNDLE NO. 2:

THE SECOND BUNDLE OF SCHEMES COMPRISES OF 10 NO. TREATMENT PLANTS SERVING 4,530 HOUSEHOLDS. DESIGN, BUILD WORKS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED AND ALL SCHEMES ARE IN THE OPERATE PHASE OF A 20 YEAR DBO CONTRACT. THE SCHEMES MAKING UP BUNDLE 2 ARE LISTED BELOW.

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

- PBKS GWS Co-operative Society Ltd.
- Shraheens GWS Co-operative Society Ltd.
- Killasser GWS Co-operative Society Ltd.

DBO Advance Works Contract No. 5 - Clew Bay / Buckagh Furnace interconnection and Belderrig GWS Raw Water Reservoir.

Works to connect Buckagh Furnace to Clew Bay have been completed and the Schemes are to amalgamate in the first quarter of 2015.

2. UPGRADING/WATER CONSERVATION

There is an 85% Grant for upgrading/water conservation works on Group Water Schemes subject to maximum funding of €7,475.66 per house.

Mayo County Council received an allocation of €500,000 in 2014 for upgrading of Group Water Schemes.

SCHEMES UPGRADED IN 2014
Attymass
Killasser
Pollavaddy

3. Connection to the public main

Mayo County Council received an allocation of €650,000 in 2014 for Connection to Public Mains.

SCHEMES CONNECTED TO PUBLIC MAIN IN 2014
Irishtown

4. New Group Water Schemes

Mayo County Council have 7 No. schemes awaiting a change to the current funding structure to allow them to proceed. They are:- Massbrook/Terry, Aughalonteen, Downpatrick, Kilmurray, Carracastle, Tonacrick & Furmoyle.

5. SPECIFIC SOURCE PROTECTION WORKS

MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL RECEIVED AN ALLOCATION OF €60,000 IN 2014 FOR THIS MEASURE.

THIS GRANT IS TO ASSIST GROUP WATER SCHEMES COMPLETE THE FIRST ELEMENT OF DEVELOPING A SOURCE PROTECTION PLAN I.E. CARRY OUT A PROFESSIONAL ASSESSMENT OF THEIR WATER SOURCES.

TWENTY GROUP WATER SCHEMES IN MAYO WERE IDENTIFIED FOR THIS PURPOSE IN 2014

6. Subsidy towards the Operational Costs of Group Water Supply Schemes.

This scheme allows for the payment by Local Authorities of an annual subsidy towards the operational costs of Group Water Schemes in supplying water for domestic use. It is important that all Group Water Schemes avail of their Subsidy entitlements. Mayo County Council encourages all Schemes to apply for Subsidy payments to assist them in the efficient running of their water supplies.

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

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

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

THIS SCHEME DOES NOT APPLY TO HOUSES TO WHICH A PUBLIC OR GROUP SCHEME WATER SUPPLY HAS ALREADY BEEN, OR CAN BE, REASONABLY PROVIDED. 585 APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED TO DATE.

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.

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 expertise, was established in April 2013 and have continued to work together throughout 2014. The team consists of staff from the Development Section, Enforcement Section and Senior Engineering staff from the three regions.

Over the past four years, the type of work carried out in the Planning & Economic Development Section has changed considerably. 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 and in a consistent manner, as no two cases are the same.

Taking In Charge

The success of this team can be measured by the fact that during 2013, the Council has taken in charge 147 estates throughout the county and in 2014 a further 15 estates were taken in charge. 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.

Unfinished Housing Developments

Significant progress has been made on the “unfinished estates” list since its inception in 2010. The original total of 129 estates has been steadily reduced year by year with only 29 estates remaining on the list at the end of 2014. Work is continuing on these estates and more progress is expected throughout 2015.

Special Resolution Fund

In the 2013 Budget, a ‘Special Resolution Fund’ of €10 million was allocated by the Government to deal with the remaining 1,258 unfinished estates in the country. This nationwide fund was intended to help resolve issues in unfinished estates and bring them to a satisfactory standard for taking in charge.

The Planning Department was successful in its application for funding for the completion of four estates, namely;

- Highland Park, Kilkelly;
- Bracklaboy Village, Ballyhaunis;

- Annagh Village, Lahardaune and
- Barley Hill Court, Bohola.

The funding received amounted to **€245,727.30**. Works to finish these estates were carried out between 2014-2015.

Examples of improvement works are shown below:

Bracklaghboy Village

SRF funding received: €84,559.30

Road and public areas

Before



After



Barley Hill Court

SRF funding received: €75,328

Wall has been erected around vacant sites 4 and 5.

Before



After



Highland Park

SRF funding received: €45,400

Fence erected to secure west section of site where there is a significant drop.

Before



After



Annagh Village

SRF funding received: €40,440

Roads completed.

Before



After



Planning Applications

From 1st June 2014 the number of applications being processed increased further as applications from Ballina, Castlebar and Westport Town Council Areas are now processed by Mayo County Council, following the abolition of the Town Councils.

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

Planning applications are scanned and 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 2013/2014.

Forward Planning

Since the beginning of 2014 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 is 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 2014 was related to the on-going review of the Mayo County Development Plan and the preparation of a new Plan.

A new County Development Plan for the period 2014-2020 was adopted by the Council in April 2014 and came into effect in May 2014. For the first time, this included individual plans and detailed land use zoning for eleven towns, five of which did not previously have zoning.

A proposed amendment to a variation of the new County Development Plan is currently on display. The purpose of the proposed variation is to ensure the new County Development Plan complies with Ministerial Guidelines.

Our EnvironmentAwareness.....Prevention.....Enforcement

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

The Environment function is to facilitate the vision of sustainable, physical and economic development. A quality environment sustains and facilitates development in many sections of the County's economy including tourism, food production, and foreign direct investment, particularly in the healthcare sectors. The environment section assists in this regard through its monitoring and reporting role, ensuring the highest standards are adhered to and by building a positive image of the County's environment and social well being while protecting the environment.

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 while long standing programme are grown.

Operation Get the Coast Clean After Christine

A campaign was launched in January 2014 to engage community groups in the clean up of litter after the recent storms. Clean ups took place in coastal regions throughout the County from early January up until National Spring Clean in April.



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 2014.

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 2014 including the 'Green Teen' anti-litter initiative, 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 185 schools registered for the Green Schools Programme and of these 152 have been awarded Green Flag status. GMIT Castlebar Campus also successfully renewed their green campus flag in 2014.

Kinaffe National School raised their 6th Green Flag based on the theme of Global Citizenship in October 2014.



Schools from all over Mayo are awarded their Green Flags at an awards ceremony in Mc William Park, Claremorris in Mayo 2014

Community Groups Awareness Programme

The partnership between Mayo County Council and community groups continued to strengthen and grow in 2014 in the area of Environment Awareness. This year a number of events were organised in partnership with the local tidy towns committees and community groups as well as information days in local factories.



Mayo County Council Environment awareness in partnerships with Westport Town Council ran an environmental information stand at Allergan Pharmaceuticals April 2014

iradio Litter Campaign,

In 2014 Mayo County Council once again teamed up with i102 radio in running a series of anti-litter and waste awareness messages.

Free Electrical Recycling Days for Householders

During 2014 Mayo County Council in association with WEEE Ireland carried out FREE Electrical Recycling Days in 26 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.

Dog Fouling Awareness Mascot 'Co Co' is launched during Dog Fouling Awareness Week March 2014

In partnership with Midwest Radio a dog fouling awareness campaign was launched in March 2014. Mayo County Councils' dog fouling awareness mascot 'Coco' made the first appearance of many this year and the Limerick competition proved very popular.



Stop Food Waste Challenge

In October 2014 Mayo County Council ran a pilot of the Stop Food Waste Challenge.

Twelve Mayo families were challenged with cutting down their food waste over a 6 week period while information and advice was offered by the Environment Awareness Officer in a series of meetings.

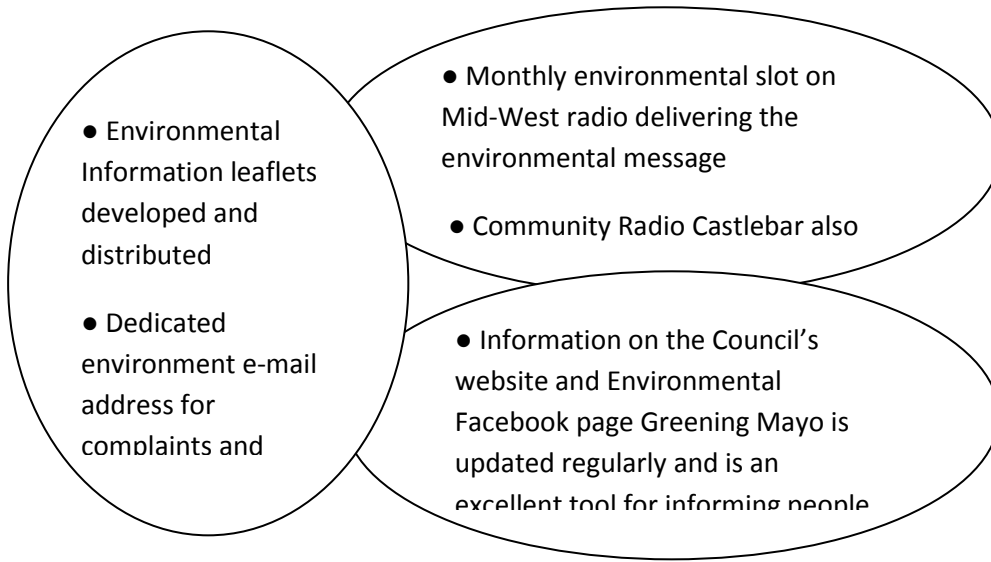


Farm Hazardous waste Collection in Balla Mart

In partnership with Teagasc, the EPA and the Dept of Agriculture, Food & the Marine a farm hazardous Waste Event is taking place in November - this is one of 10 events happening nationally.



Distribution of Information



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 2014, 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.



Administration and Implementation of Grant Schemes

- **Anti-Litter & Anti Graffiti Grants 2014**

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 eight organisations for Anti-Litter and Anti-Graffiti projects in 2014.

- **Local Agenda 21 Environmental Partnership Fund 2014**

Local Agenda 21 is a process which facilitates sustainable development at community level. Fifteen projects taking place throughout Mayo have been awarded funding in 2014. 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 fifteen organisations for the Local Agenda 21 Environmental Partnership Fund 2014.

Litter Management Plan

The current Litter Management Plan will continue to the end of 2014. Strict enforcement of litter legislation continues to be a priority with CCTV being used as a detection aid for litter blackspots. CCTV has been particularly successful where there is illegal dumping at bottle bank sites.

Cooperation with community groups, local businesses and residents committees continued throughout 2013 and the participation in locally organised litter awareness competitions such as the Litter League and Cleaner Community Awards demonstrated the consistent interest and enthusiasm within the local community. Throughout the year, all litter awareness, prevention and control initiatives were fully supported by Mayo County Council.

There were 1,217 calls registered to the Environmental Complaints System at time of writing which are categorised between litter pollution, waste pollution, water pollution, air and noise pollution. The Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system for the Environment Section provides a reliable and effective system of policing, monitoring and analysing improper environmental conduct including littering, illegal waste disposal activities and persistent offenders.

The Litter Management Plan is due to be reviewed in early 2015 and will include the former Town council areas of Westport, Castlebar and Ballina.

Waste Collection and Recycling

The kerbside waste collection service in the Mayo County Council functional area continues to be provided by private permitted waste collectors.

There are currently seven permitted waste collectors providing a kerbside waste collection service in Co. Mayo. Mayo County Council regulates these collectors by means of audit and inspection programme, utilising enforcement and awareness initiatives.

A network of bring banks throughout the county allows for the convenient recovery of bottles and aluminium cans from householders. Almost 2,269 tonnes of glass and 84 tonnes of aluminum will be recovered this year.

Civic Amenity Sites

Civic amenity sites enable householders to recycle a range of household wastes. Materials collected include hazardous and non-hazardous wastes. In 2014 Mayo County Council introduced a €5 charge for accepting Hazardous Waste material. This has been necessary to partially offset the high costs to Mayo County Council of disposing of collected Hazardous Waste. As an incentive to encourage recycling, a 'Recycle Free on Wednesday' was introduced for the summer months (June, July and August) at both Rathroeen and Derrinumera Civic Amenity Sites. Garden waste continues to be accepted at both centres which enables the recovery of green waste by householders and further assists with diversion of bio-waste from Landfill. Rathroeen landfill currently operates a 'Green Waste' composting facility at its site on the Killala Road, Ballina.

Waste Facility Permits and Certificates of Registration

Mayo County Council continues to process applications for Waste Facility Permits and Certificates of Registration for the County. A valid application must include evidence of planning permission or planning exemption for the proposed activity.

In 2014, it is expected that a total of 6 new applications will have been granted and 3 existing Permits reviewed and re-issued (granted). Currently there are a total of 48 Permitted facilities – including 6No. Waste Transfer Stations, 6No. Authorised Treatment Facilities (for depollution of end of life vehicles), 28 Fill Sites and one site for the recovery and reuse of Construction and Demolition waste and 7 Waste Facility authorisations relating to other waste activities. The number of applications received for permitted fill sites, remained steady in 2014.

Mayo County Council retains responsibility for enforcement of all Waste Collection Permits having their main business address in County Mayo. Submissions in respect of any new waste collection applications are made by Mayo County Council.

Connacht Ulster Regional Waste Management Plan

For the purposes of Waste Management Planning the country is divided into three regions, Connacht Ulster, Eastern and Midlands, and the Southern Region. Each region has a designated lead authority for the purposes of waste planning. Mayo County Council is the lead authority for the Connacht Ulster Region. The Connacht Ulster region consists of Galway City, Galway County, Mayo, Roscommon, Sligo, Leitrim, Donegal, Cavan and Monaghan.



The Local Authorities of the Connacht Ulster Waste Region agreed in 2013 to prepare a New Waste Management Plan for the region following the evaluation of the three existing waste management plans, Connacht, Donegal, and the North Eastern Region. The procedure for the plan development is in accordance with the European Communities (Waste Directive) Regulations, 2011 and the Waste Management (Planning) Regulations, 1997. Pre-draft consultation was advertised on the 10th October 2013 and following a 2-month consultation phase written submissions were considered in the preparation of the New Draft Waste Management Plan (Draft Plan).

Draft objectives, policies, and targets have been developed over the last 9 months with a strategic vision to rethink our approach to managing wastes, by viewing our waste streams as valuable material resources that can contribute to a healthier environment and sustainable commercial opportunities.

The draft plans will be published on the 18th November 2014 and a further 2-months public consultation phase will follow and written submissions will be accepted until 23rd Jan 2015. It is anticipated that the final Connacht Ulster Regional Waste Management Plan 2015-2021 will be published before the end of March 2015.

Key points:

- The plan will have headline performance targets in relation to the reduction of household waste generated, reuse and recycling, and the elimination of direct disposal to landfill of municipal waste.
- The plan will be objective driven in relation to, policy and legislation, waste prevention, resource efficiency, coordination, infrastructure planning, enforcement and regulation, environmental protection and other waste streams.
- The plan will contain a range of policies to give effect to the overall objectives and these policies will have associated actions, targets, and indicators.
- Policy actions will be assigned and both local and lead authorities will have significant responsibilities in the discharge of the plans.
- There will be an obligation to report annually on progress on the implementation of the plan as against the actions contained in the plan.
- The plan anticipates likely changes in respect of household waste regulation with regard to the introduction of full pay by weight systems for household waste.
- The plan for the first time provides a complete analysis of waste treatment and recovery capacities within the region which will inform future infrastructure planning.
- The plan provides a financial analysis of waste related income and expenditure across all of the authorities in the region.
- A strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and an Appropriate Assessment (AA) has been carried out in parallel with the preparation of the plan.

The preparation of the plan has been coordinated by Mayo County Council in its role as the lead authority, waste planning, for the Connacht Ulster Region. The process has been overseen by the Regional Waste Steering Group consisting of a representative from each of the local authorities in the region. The SEA and the AA has been carried out by RPS Group on behalf of the region.

The preparation of the plan has been funded by each Local Authority on a population basis and the SEA / AA costs have been shared nationally by the three regions on a population basis.

The regional plan proposes enhanced arrangements at lead authority level to support the implementation of the plan over the plan period. Additional resources are being provided in the area of waste prevention for Mayo County Council to lead in the Connacht Ulster waste region.

Environmental Enforcement

In accordance with EU requirements a RMCEI plan is produced annually.

This plan provides an annual blueprint for execution of both routine and non-routine environmental inspections under the headings of Waste Management and Water/Wastewater monitoring. Each year the plan is updated to take into account any new or amended legislation and national or EU priorities.

RMCEI Plans continue to move to an 'outcomes' based format rather than past measures; which were primarily based on numbers of inspections executed.

Activities in the plan include roadside check points, covert surveillance, inspections of permitted facilities (based on risk prioritisation), domestic and commercial inspections for waste management and other initiatives. Inter-county check points with Sligo, Galway & Roscommon County Councils have been completed this year.

The main focus areas in 2014 continued to be that of Food Waste (bio-waste diversion) compliance, pursuit of illegal scrap metal activities and increased inspections of Permitted Fill sites.

In the area of Food Waste, Enforcement Officers have carried out over 600 door-to-door inspections. The Domestic Food Waste Regulations came into force in July 2014 - applying to the population catchments of Castlebar and Ballina initially. In this regard, there has been a greater focus on these two areas in 2014.

With the continued high value of metal on the international market, there continues to be activity in unregulated/unpermitted sites – most often in the illegal collection and dismantling of End-of-Life vehicles. As well as presenting a potential environmental risk, this illegal activity undermines the commercial viability of similar authorised collectors and facility operators. The enforcement section has achieved great success in dealing with and eliminating almost all of these unauthorised sites – however ongoing vigilance is required.

The combination of Environmental Enforcement officers out on the ground, successful court cases, media coverage and checkpoints continue to raise the Environmental Enforcement profile in the county.

Landfills

Mayo County Council is licensed by the EPA to operate two Landfills. They are located at Derrinumera and Rathroeen. Currently, waste is not being landfilled at Derrinumera but all residual waste is being diverted to Rathroeen. Loan charges have provided for the new cell infrastructure at Rathroeen which is complete and which opened in April 2014. This cell has a capacity for 134,000 tonnes which is sufficient capacity for the next two to three years.

Having regard to EU directives on waste and landfill, Government Policy "*A resource opportunity - Waste Management Policy in Ireland 2012*", the draft Connacht, Ulster Regional Waste Management Plan, 2015 - 2021, and emerging capacities in the Waste to Energy Sector, it is not proposed to invest further in new landfill infrastructure in the County. The capital programme will focus on meeting future obligations towards the aftercare of existing landfill and measures to reduce ongoing costs in their care.

The project to generate electricity from landfill gas in Derrinumera will shortly be completed and will be a small but welcomed income stream.



Leachate Drainage layer being put on (top of picture)

Historical Landfills

Under the Waste Management (Certification of Historic Unlicensed Waste Disposal & Recovery Activity) Regulations 2008 (SI No. 524 of 2008), Mayo Co. Co. was obliged to identify all closed landfills (which operated between 1977 and 1996) in the county.

There are 5 such landfills in Co. Mayo, located at Swinford, Claremorris, Foxford, Charlestown and Ballyhaunis. Swinford is classified as 'High' Risk, Claremorris as 'Medium' Risk and the remaining three as 'Low' Risk.

The Council applied to the Department of Environment in 2012 for funding of €45,000 towards the cost of a 'Tier 2' assessment for the Swinford Site. Unfortunately, funding has not been forthcoming and progress has stalled.

Monitoring of Leachate and Landfill gas continues at the Claremorris site, as part of on-going 'Tier 2' assessment works there. These works were previously funded by the Department of Environment, under a separate pilot scheme.

Domestic Waste Water Treatment System (Septic Tank) Inspections.

In July 2013, the National Inspection Plan (NIP) for Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems (DWWTS) came into effect. The aim of this plan is to address Ireland's past failure to implement the *1975 Waste Framework Directive*; namely to regulate the waste water generated in unsewered areas.

The NIP is a risk based plan which designates eight separate risk categories nationally and by extension within each county.

Under the NIP, Mayo County Council is required to carry out a minimum of 47 inspections of DWWTS in the period 1st July 2013 to 30th June 2014 and a further 24 inspections in the period 1st July 2014 to 31st December 2014. Out of the total of **71** inspections scheduled to be carried out in the 18 month period a total of **46** have been completed thus far.

Of the inspections completed to date, 26 are deemed as a 'fail' and 20 are deemed as a 'pass'.

Whilst the failure rate may be considered somewhat high, many of these 'fail' outcomes are for minor issues, such as desludging of a septic tank, diversion of grey water into the DWWTS or other minor pipework modifications.

A total of 11 of the properties inspected require major remedial works; involving the partial or complete replacement of the DWWTS, including in some cases the Infiltration Area.

It is expected that the number of DWWTS inspections to be carried out in 2015 will be decided by the EPA towards the end of 2014 and that the number of inspections will show an increase on the annualised numbers for 2014.

Water Framework Directive

The Water Framework Directive (WFD) was transposed into Irish Law by the EC (Water Policy) Regulations in 2003. In July 2014 the 2003 Regulations were amended by the European Union (Water Policy) Regulations 2014. The Regulations establish statutory deadlines for the river basin planning process. The 2014 Regulations also facilitate the establishment and implementation of a new Three Tier Governance system for the Water Framework Directive implementation in Ireland. The Three Tier Governance system consists of: national policy co-ordination at Tier 1 lead by the DECLG; Tier 2 lead by the EPA to address technical implementation and reporting; and, Tier 3 lead by Local Authorities to address regional co-ordination, public consultation, the development and implementation of River Basin Management Plans and the programmes of measures at local level.

The Water Framework Directive is an important piece of EU environmental legislation which aims at improving our water environment. It requires governments to take a new holistic approach to managing their country's waters. It applies to rivers, lakes, groundwater, estuaries and coastal waters. Member States are required to manage their water resources on an integrated basis in order to achieve at least good ecological status and must ensure that status does not deteriorate in any waters.

Ireland is currently divided into 8 River Basin Districts (RBD's) to allow for the co-ordinated management and implementation of the Water Framework Directive. County Mayo is part of the Western River Basin District.

Swimming Pools

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

Burial Grounds

Burial Ground bye-laws for the regulation of burial grounds in Co. Mayo came into effect on 1st January, 2014.

With a total of 156 burial grounds in Co. Mayo, community groups now maintain 108 of them with a financial contribution given towards maintenance by Mayo County Council. This will be allocated as part of the Municipal District allocation in 2015.

Community involvement is encouraged as much as possible having regard to the works that can be undertaken in burial grounds protected under National Monuments Act 1930-2004.

There is a need to provide additional resources to fund the acquisition and development of new burial grounds in a timely fashion. The budget includes a capital contribution of €100,000 in this regard.



Derelict Sites

A survey of all towns and villages was undertaken by area staff to update the position with regard to the registration of all derelict sites. Owners of these sites have been notified of the

Council's intentions to have the sites rendered non derelict. All derelict sites are entered on the Register of Derelict Sites which is available for public inspection. Levies were issued to owners of properties that were in the Register as of 1st January 2013.

The Council is engaging with owners, Council area office staff and local communities to find the best solutions/new uses for derelict sites.

Beaches

In 2014 Mayo received 10 Blue Flags for Elly Bay, Mullaghroe, Golden Strand, Clare Island, Dugort, Keel, Carrowmore, Dooega, Keem, and Ross. Blue flag beaches meet [32 strict criteria](#) for water quality, management, safety and environmental education.

In addition we received 9 Green Coast Awards for Ballycastle, Carrowniskey, Cross (Belmullet), Cross (Louisburgh), Portacloy, Silver Strand, Srah, Termon and White Strand. Green Coast Flags are awarded based on natural beauty and excellent water quality, without the focus on built infrastructure in the Blue Flag standard.

CULTURAL, EDUCATION, HERITAGE, CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

OIFIG NA GAEILGE



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 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.

[MAYO PLACE-NAMES LAUNCHED](#)

The largest book in the Irish language ever written by a single author launched in Mayo

The largest book in the Irish language ever written by a single author was launched in Mayo last week. Guest-speaker at the launch of "Logainmneacha Mhaigh Eo" in the National Museum of Ireland in Turlough on June 20th 2014 was Knock native and Head of Scoil na Gaeilge in NUIG, Dr. Nollaig Ó Muraíle. Speaking at the launch, Dr Ó Muraíle said: "This astonishing work of learning and strenuous research – the largest book in the Irish language ever written by a single author – gives Mayo a unique place in the annals of Irish scholarship." Describing how no other county in Ireland has had its place-names analysed in such detail he commented: "For this great achievement the author, Dr. Fiachra Mac Gabhann, deserves the undying gratitude of every Mayo person who is proud of his/her native county, and indeed the gratitude of generations of Mayo people yet unborn."

“Logainmneacha Mhaigh Eo” comprises a long-running study of approximately 3,500 townland and island names of Mayo. It was compiled by Partry resident, Dr Fiachra Mac Gabhann, a native of County Louth. The research work was initiated in 2001, and consists of ten volumes, spanning 7,500 pages and comprising 2.5 million words. It has recently been published in a limited print run and also in cd format. It charts the historical references to the administrative units of Ireland’s third biggest county and provides extensive linguistic analysis, *as Gaeilge*. Original Irish forms of our anglicised names are proposed and translations suggested.

An extensive array of sources in several languages, from the earliest historical periods down to the advent of the Ordnance Survey of the 1830s, were employed; over 300 local people were interviewed and recordings of Mayo Irish speakers from the last half century explored. In addition, thousands of local names collected in some of our Gaeltacht and island communities are examined.



Fiachra MacGabhann making a presentation to Oonagh Ní Chéileachair, Irish Officer for Mayo County Council for her support and encouragement.

Relaunch of Gnó Mhaigh Eo



Gnó Mhaigh Eo is funded by the National Lottery through the Department of the Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and Mayo County Council. The organisation was established in 2007 to encourage Mayo businesses to use the Irish language as a profitable and economic resource.

2014 was a busy and successful year for Gnó Mhaigh Eo, following its relocation to Castlebar, a new team was recruited, and a new brand identity was developed. A number of initiatives, such as the Shop Front Signage Scheme, Déanta i Maigh Eo (Irish language labeling of local crafts and artisan foods) and the Gradam Gnó Business Awards, were well received by Mayo's business community.

At Gnó Mhaigh Eo's relaunch, held during Mayo Ideas Week in September, Oonagh Ní Chéileachair, the organisation's Chief Executive, spoke about the impact of the Irish language as an effective branding tool, and commented on the power of localisation and "local branding" in a globalised marketplace. Cllr Teresa Maguire, Secretary of Gnó Mhaigh Eo, spoke from the heart about what the language means to her, and referred to the well known phrase 'Tír gan Teanga, Tír gan Anam'.

[Seachtain na Gaeilge 2014](#)



Mayos's Seachtain na Gaeilge was launched on the 21st February in the Castlecourt Hotel, Westport. Cillian O'Connor, Mayo Senior County Player launched the event. The information booklet with all the listings of all organised events for Seachtain na Gaeilge in Mayo was launched. Among the events organised throughout the county were storytelling evenings, drama workshops.

[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, Bohola, Ballina and Westport. 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. In 2014 a new group got together in Bohola for Maidin Caife. This group has proved quite successful and are really enjoying conversing, reciting poetry or singing in Irish once every month.

[Grúpaí Pobail agus Féilte](#)

Oifig na Gaeilge provided help and support to many community groups and festivals throughout 2014, and succeeded in accessing funding through Foras na Gaeilge's Scéim na nImeachtaí Óige 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
- Cúpla Focal 's Cupán Tae, Coillte Mach/Both Chomhla
- Coiste Chultúr 's Teanga Thuar Mhic Éadaigh
- Comharcumann Deirbhile
- Áras Inis Gluaire
- Comharcumann Dhún Chaocháin
- Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann

[Seirbhís Eolais](#)

Oifig na Gaeilge provides information through its Twitter and Facebook accounts 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.



The Gaeilge Mhaigh Eo Facebook page has over 5,350 followers, while the Twitter account has over 2,700 followers.

TUARASCÁIL: TUMSHEACHTAIN NA GAELTACHTA I gCEANADA**REPORT: IMMERSION WEEK IN CANADA GAELTACHT****written by - Aralt Mac Giolla Chainnigh**

The Mayo County Council partnered this summer with Cumann na Gaeltachta in Canada to offer a Gaeltacht Immersion Week at the North American Gaeltacht in the Tamworth/Erinsville area in Ontario. This is the 11th year in a row that the program has run. Three teachers from Mayo were selected in a competitive process: Laoise Ní Dhúda, Michelle Harrison, and Colette Nic Aodha. They represented a wide range of Gaelic language and culture: Laoise (Language Planning, NU Galway, Colaíste UISCE, Elly Bay on the Muirthead Peninsula); Michelle (secondary school Irish language teacher, Ballina); Colette Nic Aodha (poet, with teaching experience at 1st, 2nd, and 3rd level, and teacher development, originally from Shrule, Co. Mayo). In addition to teaching language classes and cultural workshops, the teachers were very willing to assist individuals in using the Irish language outside of the classroom. Local hospitality included an Irish language visit to a local Pow-Wow.



Pow-Wow at Golden Lake, Ontario, 16 August 2014



Laoise Ní Dhúda presenting a T-shirt from Coláiste UISCE to a language student, Séimh d'Uiligbí



Colette Nic Aodha, teaching a poetry workshop on Rafterí an Fíle. Michelle Harrison and Laoise Ní Dhúda, other teachers from Mayo, are shown by the door in the upper right corner of the picture.

VETERINARY DEPARTMENT

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 ZOO NOTIC 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 9 SMALL MEAT-MANUFACTURING PREMISES WITHIN THE COUNTY WHICH PRODUCE A RANGE OF PRODUCTS INCLUDING BACON PRODUCTS, SAUSAGES, BLACK AND WHITE PUDDINGS, LUNCHEON ROLLS AND COOKED HAMS, MINCED MEAT AND CUTS OF CHICKEN. THEY SUPPLY LOCAL SHOPS AND SUPERMARKETS, ALONG WITH MANUFACTURING PRODUCTS FOR OTHER FOOD BUSINESS OPERATIONS AROUND THE COUNTY. SOME ARE NOW CONSIDERING SUPPLYING INTERNATIONAL MARKETS. ALL SMALL MEAT-PROCESSING PREMISES ARE INSPECTED AND MONITORED ON A REGULAR BASIS.

THERE ARE 16 ABATTOIRS IN THE COUNTY. THE VETERINARY STAFF CARRY 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 2014 THERE WERE 1,493 CATTLE, 13,121 SHEEP, AND 14 GOATS SLAUGHTERED IN THOSE MAYO ABATTOIRS.

DOG WARDEN SERVICE

IN 2014 THERE WERE 182 DOGS TAKEN INTO THE DOG POUND . IT IS OUR POLICY TO REHOME AS MANY DOGS AS IS POSSIBLE. THE NUMBER OF DOGS REHOMED IN 2014 WAS 135. THE COUNCIL PROVIDE A DOG SHELTER WITHIN THE COUNTY.

IN 2014 WE RAN RADIO DOG LICENCE CAMPAIGNS TO INFORM DOG OWNERS OF THEIR REQUIREMENT TO HAVE THEIR DOGS LICENCED. LICENCES CAN BE PURCHASED ON LINE AT WWW.MAYOCOCO.IE OR FROM ANY POST OFFICE.

COST:

ANNUAL LICENCE 20.00

LIFETIME LICENCE 140.00

Dog Breeding Establishments Act 2010 was enacted on 1st January, 2012. The Act covers any Dog Breeding Establishment or premises that keeps 6 or more female dogs over 6 months old and capable of breeding. Any DBE or premises that meet this criteria is required to register with Mayo County Council. There are currently seven premises registered.

MAYO COUNTY LIBRARY

INTRODUCTION

In 2014 Mayo County Library lent over 600,000 books to 26,000 members. The Library also provided a local history service, a genealogy service, and a wide ranging programme of cultural events over the year. In addition new services such as downloadable books, a smart phone service, online newspapers and social networking are now provided. Mayo libraries attracted approx. 359,000 visits during the year which is far in excess of any other cultural or heritage organisation in the county. In 2014 the library won Library of the Year at The Chambers Ireland Excellence award.



Official opening of Swinford Library and Cultural Centre by An Taoiseach

CULTURAL PROGRAMME

Mayo Library runs an extensive cultural programme which is expanding annually. In 2014 over 250 events were held in libraries in the county including:

- Arts exhibitions
- Book launches
- Lectures
- Arts and craft events
- Literacy Summer camps
- Career talks
- Music Circles
- Free computer courses



Year of the French launch in Ballina Library

The Library is also a venue for numerous community based groups e.g. The Irish Wheelchair Association, Writers & Artists Groups, Ballina Chamber of Commerce, Mayo Volunteer Centre, Moy Community Development Board, Youthreach Clubs, Age Action etc.

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
- Various workshops

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 2014 Ballyhaunis Library recorded the highest participation in the event as 200 children completed the Challenge and had medals and certificates presented by Mayo footballer Keith Higgins



DECADE OF CENTENARIES EVENTS

The library continued its commemoration of the decade of centenaries with a number of events: Mayo Library and Heritage office launched a new website, recording one of the most momentous decades in history in 2014. **Centenarymayo.ie** documents all the major events that occurred in Ireland and also abroad from 1913 to 1923 as they relate to Mayo. World War One, The War of Independence, The Civil War, the women's movement, as well as the every day life of the time are all covered on the site. The site was launched by Heather Humphreys, T.D., Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in September in Castlebar Library.



Exhibitions of memorabilia relating to World War One were held in Ballina and Castlebar Libraries. Talks on World War One by Myles Dungan and Dr. Ciaran Wallace were held in Castlebar Library.



World War One memorabilia exhibition in Ballina Library

LIAM LYONS COLLECTION

Internationally acclaimed photographer Liam Lyons made his collection of over 50,000 images available to the people of Mayo in 2014 –a collection that documents the public and private events that occurred in Mayo over the second half of the twentieth century. Mayo County Council digitised this collection and it can now be viewed in any library in the county. Whether it is a child playing on the street, a wedding or an ordination, an agricultural show or a visit by a Taoiseach these pictures provide striking illustrations of life in Mayo over the past fifty years. The collection will be used for exhibitions, publications and websites by the council and will be a valuable resource for students and researchers. It will also be used as a means of attracting visitors to our county



MUSICAL INSTRUMENT LENDING SCHEME

The musical instrument lending scheme which allows people from all over the county to borrow instruments through their local library was in great demand in its first year. Over 200 instruments were on loan throughout the county in 2014. Mayo is the only library service in Ireland or the UK that provides such a service.

The new music libraries in Ballina and Castlebar, which contain material on all aspects of music from tuition to recordings and performances, are also being heavily used. Mayo library won The Chambers Ireland Excellence Award and was named Library of the Year for this initiative.



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.

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

EACHTRAI CULTURTHA

Le h-aghaidh Seachtain na Gaeilge i mí Mharta, eagraíodh eachtrai éagsúla tré mheán na Gaeilge i leabharlanna tríd an chontae.

Ina measc bhí:

Lochlain O’Meara Dramaíocht. **Caisleán a’ Bharraigh**

Sheila Duddy ag léamh as Gaeilge, **Caisleán a’ Bharraigh**

Taispeántas Leabhar Gaeilge – Béal an Átha

Eoghan Mac Goillia Bhríde , scéalaíocht i, gCaisleán a’ Bharraigh agus Béal an Átha, Comórtaisí do pháistí scoile - **Caisleán a’ Bharraigh**

Ciorcail craic i mBéal an Átha,

Spraói na gCleamairí le Colm de Bháldraithe i mBéal an Átha

ACQUISITIONS AND DONATIONS

In 2014 the library acquired the following items of local interest:

- **On the strength of a ten bob note; memoirs of an Irish emigrant** by Joe Kennedy
- **A History of Castlebar : Municipal government 1613 -2014** by Noel Campbell
- **Ballina, one town, three wars and more** by Terry Reilly
- **Logainmneacha Mhaigh Eo (Mayo Place Names) 10 Vols.** by Fiachra Mac Gabhann
- **The ongoing Present** by Fr. Micheál Mac Greil
- **Ballinrobe Co. Mayo, In the Midst of Change 1880- 1914** by William P. McDermott.
- **Partry people of County Mayo: Family Histories 1856 and beyond** by Peter Hennelly
- **Mayo History and Society** ed by Willie Nolan
- **Moments in Time – Straide N.S. (1964-2014) & Straide Church (1914-2014)** by Straide Commemoration Committee
- **Church of St Joseph, Bohola, 1864-2014** by Bohola Parish Council
- **A Moment in Time – 150 Anniversary of St James Church, Charlestown** by Kilbeagh Parish Council
- **Knock National School – A Pictorial Memoir** by Knock Parish Council
- **A people’s Church: the diocese of Achonry from the 6th to the 17th century** by Liam Swords
- **The Men will talk to me: Mayo Interviews** by Ernie O’Malley



Launch of *The Men will talk to me: Mayo Interviews*, by O'Malley Ernie by An Taoiseach in April in Castlebar Library

HEALTHY READING SCHEME

The library service runs a **Mayo Healthy Reading Scheme in conjunction with the HSE**. This is an initiative designed to guide individuals in their choice of self-help books which can then be used in tandem with treatment made by a health professional for conditions such as depression, bullying, eating disorders and stress.

SCHOOL'S LIBRARY SERVICE

Mayo County Library experienced an increase in demand for children's literacy services from both parents and Learning Support/Resource teachers. The library is continuing to provide an active Special Needs Service to all Learning Support and Special Needs teachers. Information workshops for parents of children with reading difficulties -as part of the collaborative literacy project between Mayo County Library and HSE West Speech & Language Therapy Service -were provided in various locations throughout the year.

JACKIE CLARKE LIBRARY

The Jackie Clarke Collection was officially opened by An Taoiseach Enda Kenny in 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 aims to attract cultural and edu tourism to the county and attracted over 15,000 visitors in 2013. The Collection won an *Institute of Designers* award last year and has featured hugely in the media from the *New York Times* to the RTE News.

ARTS SERVICE

Annually, the service works with over 250 community groups and impacts directly on the lives of at least 30,000 people who attend events organized or funded through the Arts Office. The long-term value of the work is extremely important and all large scale projects offer opportunities to artists, community groups or interest groups to avail of training which leaves a legacy within the county.

Arts Information, Promotion and Advice:

- over 250 community groups, artists and arts organisations regularly seek advice about arts events and sources of funding for their projects and programmes.
- Advice on grants for artists and Arts Acts grants
- Email bulletin on a monthly basis updating activities that may be of interest to local communities and individuals.

ARTS PROGRAMME

1. Mayo Arts Squad:

Established in 1997 with FÁS support, now funded through the Department of Social Protection, Mayo County Council's Arts Squad has continued to provide excellent training in community arts skills for fifteen participants (from a wide variety of backgrounds) annually. In 2014 the Arts Squad worked extensively with festivals throughout the county, with community groups, intercultural groups and with disabled people.

- Mayo Arts Squad's programme in 2014 included **Onsight at Feile Na Tuaithe, the Mayo Fleadh, Samhain Abhainn and the Foxford River Fest.**



Mayo Arts Squad Onsight at Turlough



Arts Squad at Mayo Fleadh

2. Art in Education Programme:

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 2014, the exhibitions went to four schools: Drummin NS, Scoil Naomh Aingeal, Killeen NS and Ballyvary Central NS.

Student & Teacher Resource Packs



3. Literature

Writer-in-residence programme 2014

Renowned, award-winning writer, actor, lecturer and drama therapist -**Diarmuid De Faite**- carried out an engaging 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 provided two dynamic workshops to Mayo Youth Theatre members.

4. Intercultural Arts:

INTERLAND

Through funding secured by Mayo & Leitrim County Councils' Arts Offices, under the Arts Council's Local Partnership Scheme, the **INTERLAND** project focused on the area of Intercultural arts. Cultural Diversity Training was delivered to Mayo Artsquad artists as well as Arts venue staff in Mayo & Leitrim. Subsequently, a series of workshops with master potter Henri Hedou took place at the O'Dwyer Arts Centre. Henri worked with 12 women who have/had experience of the direct provision accommodation centre in Ballyhaunis. Their exhibition took place in February 2014 in the National Museum of Ireland – Country Life. The artwork was also showcased at the **Rural Alliances Inclusion Seminar** in Breaffy House in June 2014.



Interland Intercultural Project at Turlough

5. Arts for Older People

Bealtaine

Annually, an extensive, engaging arts programme for older people is run throughout the county during the month of May. In 2014, this included a Community Weaving Project in Lismirrane, Bohola and Kiltimagh, Choral Workshops with Harmonia Retired Teacher’s Choir and an intergenerational music exchange at the Linenhall, in partnership with Music Generation Mayo. Grainne Hambly gave harp recitals in five Community Nursing Units, alongside a slide show of visual artworks produced in care homes through the Mayo County Council Artists Networking Programme. Working with local artist Bernie Garvey O’Mara, the Moygownagh Women’s Group curated an exhibition from the Mayo County Council Collection which was shown in Moygownagh Community Centre along with artworks produced by local children in response to the exhibition.



Bealtaine

CommunityWeaving Project 2014

6. Public Art Programme 2014:

FIND:

This collaboration with the Linenhall Arts Centre, involved six Mayo artists who were selected for the commissions: Nuala Clarke (with Crystal Gandrud), Alice Dixon (with Anthony Champa), Joanna Hopkins, Chris Leach, Amanda Rice and Ian Wieczorek. As well as the support from the Public Art Coordinator and Linenhall, the artists were mentored by high profile artists, including Alice Maher, during the process of developing their work. FIND was launched in April and won the Allianz Business to Arts award for Best Commissioning Practice.

www.findartproject.com



Joanna Hopkins’ installation



Nuala Clarke’s flags



Chris Leach’s drawing

CHANGING TRACKS:

This EU project, working with partners in UK and Catalonia, invited artists from the participating countries to explore the changing use of disused railway lines. In Mayo, artists were asked to locate their proposals on the **Great Western Greenway**. The artists selected were **Aideen Barry** (Ireland), **Noah Rose** (UK) and **Xevi Bayona** (Catalonia). Launched in July 2014, the project delivered very successful outcomes, and attracted national and international press. Developed through working closely with local communities, Changing Tracks provided opportunities for a wide range of visitors to the Greenway to engage with contemporary art. www.changingtracks.eu A related CHANGING TRACKS seminar took place in September at GMIT. This well attended, two day event show-cased the project and included talks from the artists and guest speakers from the Arts Council (Ireland), an EU funding advisor and arts critic/expertise. There was also a bus tour of the artworks.



'Smoke Train' by Xevi Bayona, Newport.



Changing Tracks Artworks in Westport and Newport.

Fake Public Art Panel:

This Public Art programme initiative is designed for artists and art students. In 2014, sessions took place in the Crawford Institute of Technology and Limerick School of Art and Design. A session was also provided for University of Northampton as part of the Changing Tracks Seminar in the UK. The Fake Public Art Panel aims to

improve artists' proposal preparation skills and demystify the selection process. It also provides an opportunity to promote Mayo as a county that engages in best practice in selection and commissioning processes for public art.

Public Art Education:

Regular talks and presentations are given to communities, companies, schools and organisations about the Public Art Programme in Mayo. In addition this year, a well-received presentation was provided about current public art commissioning in Ireland at the Irish Museum of Modern Art, as part of the Visual Artists' Ireland Annual networking and information event. This was an excellent opportunity to promote Mayo to visual artists and inform them about the programme here.

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 2014 exhibitions from the collection took place in Charlestown, in schools throughout the county and in Moygownagh.

Mayo Artists Network:

This network for visual artists was established by Mayo Arts Office in 2011. A number of key training initiatives, talks and trips were organised, based on the needs identified by members. Over 100 artists have registered and attended network meetings. A major network meeting took place in 2014, at which presentations were given by Rosemarie Noone, director of Claremorris Gallery and Joel Feldman, American print-maker at Custom House Studios.

7. Theatre**Mayo Youth Theatre (MYT) 2014:**

Mayo Youth Theatre was established in 1999 to provide opportunities for young people to engage in quality drama. This year, MYT had a very successful and inspiring outing to the production of Warhorse in the Bord Gais Energy Theatre Dublin. Writer in Resident Diarmuid de Faoite gave two energetic workshops to MYT participants and over the summer they rehearsed and worked on sections of Gulliver's Travels with their leader, Noirín Barrett. Following a huge amount of dedicated work, MYT produced their devised piece "**Once upon a Time**" in November, for two performances, in Ballina Arts Centre to delighted audiences.



Scenes from 'Once upon a Time' Mayo Youth Theatre

8. Music

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

Music Generation Mayo is part of Music Generation – Ireland's National Music Education Programme, initiated by Music Network with funding provided by U2 and The Ireland Funds, matched locally by Mayo Music Education Partnership (Mayo MEP). Music Generation Mayo moved from philanthropic funding in 2014 and is now funded through the Department of Education and Skills, again matched locally by Mayo MEP.

Mayo MEP is a non-profit, non-political partnership which consists of the following organizations: **Mayo Sligo Leitrim Education & Training Board (Lead partner), Mayo Education Centre, Mayo Community Engagement Network 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. <http://www.musicgenerationmayo.ie/>



Instrument Bank Award, Chambers Ireland



Kaleidoscope Big Band Performance

Music Generation Mayo has had another extremely busy year. In April, Phases 2&3 (Music Generation Mayo & Erris Instrument Banks) of the County Instrument Bank were procured and purchased, thus ensuring that all young people in the county now have access to the loan scheme. An innovative approach to managing the county instrument bank was developed between Mayo Arts Service and Mayo Library Service, which now stores and loans the instruments. This was nationally recognised at the Excellence in Local Government awards sponsored by Chambers Ireland when Mayo County Library deservedly won in the Best Library Service category.

Other achievements of Music Generation Mayo include:

- Four tuition centres are now operational in the county – Louisburgh, Rossport, Crossmolina & Ballinrobe.
- Extensive research into the provision of on-line tuition to serve more remote locations in the county has been completed. Suitable technology will be acquired to facilitate this aspect of delivery in 2015.
- Exceptional student's bursaries were awarded to a further 21 young musicians
- A number of extremely successful residencies took place with young musicians in the county. The Kaleidoscope Big Band performed to great acclaim at the National Music Generation Gala Concert in the National Concert Hall, attended by the President Michael D. Higgins.



MGM Kaleidoscope Big Band with President Michael D. & Sabina Higgins

9. Disability Arts Programme:

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

UPSTART:

Mayo Arts Office initiated this partnership scheme in 2010 to encourage local arts venues and organisations to work with local artists and people with disabilities, through the funding of quality arts projects. This scheme is called **UPSTART** and events arising from it are celebrated in and around December 3rd, **International Day of Persons with Disabilities**.

To date 24 partnership projects have been supported under the **UPSTART** scheme employing 59 artists/facilitators, working with 330 disabled participants, in 205 workshops to create 39 exhibitions/performances, with over 1,329 audience members.

IGNITE!

Initiated in 2012, the **IGNITE!** partnership consists of: The Arts Council, Arts & Disability Ireland, Mayo County Council, Galway City & County Councils and Cork County Council. Three collaborative projects (one each in Cork, Galway and Mayo) were commissioned to profile excellent arts and disability practice, while working inclusively at local level.

The Mayo Commission was awarded to Ballina Arts Centre and Aideen Barry, working with Scannán Technologies, Western Care's Ridgepool Training Centre and Choreographer Emma O'Kane. Together they produced '**Silent Moves**', a film created using new cutting-edge technologies, including 'green screen' and advanced animation techniques, stylized mime, music and movement, inspired by the silent movies of the 1930s: the films of Buster Keaton and Charlie Chaplin. Shot on location around Ballina, the film was launched to a rapturous audience of over 500 people at Ballina Arts Centre in November, 2014.



'Silent Moves'



Launch at Ballina Arts Centre

LUISNE

This Arts & Disability Project has been operating since 2004 with a group of service users from the **Crann Mór Resource Centre** run by Western Care Association. In 2014, Luisne artists were involved in Féile Na Tuaithe at the National Museum of Ireland -Country Life, Turlough, where they had large scale pieces of work on display in the grounds. In October their stunning '**Onwards**' exhibition was on display at the Museum's Café and featured on Irish T.V. As part of Mayo County Council's UPSTART Programme, Luisne and the Creative Resource Centre Castlebar worked collaboratively on an exhibition, '**At Home In the Universe**', which was launched and exhibited in the Linenhall Arts Centre in December and was also at Turlough. www.artluisne.com.



Cathaoirleach Damien Ryan with Luisne Participant Emer Prendergast



Luisne Group

9. Culture Night

Culture Night 2014 took place on September 19th 2014. The event provided cultural organisations with an occasion to showcase to local communities and visitors, the wealth and variety of cultural activity that exists in Mayo, while also celebrating the county's excellent cultural reputation on a national platform. Twenty three Mayo cultural venues and groups participated in the event and over 2,500 people visited venues on the night. Culture Night events took place right across the county in Acaill, Ballina, Ballinrobe, Ballintubber, Ballycastle, Ballycroy, Belmullet, Bohola, Ceathrú Thaidhg, Castlebar, Claremorris, Lahardane, Louisburgh, Tuar Mhic Éadaigh, Turlough & Westport.

The programme, as always, showed great imagination and also reflected the high quality of cultural activity that exists in the county. In total, 88 free events took place, ranging from film screenings, exhibitions, workshops, theatre events, tours of exhibitions and collections, open studios, music events, craft demonstrations, storytelling, talks etc. The programme mainly consisted of drop-in events that ran throughout the evening as well as a smaller number of scheduled events.



Culture Night 2014

10. Film Mayo:

“Scratch the surface in Mayo, and you’ll find the magic to go along with the hard work of Art” Anthony Foutz, Scriptwriter/Director.

An Arts Office initiative, Film Mayo is a new website, dedicated to the development of film in Mayo. The Arts Office carried out a huge amount of research into the site content and worked closely with Pixel Design to get the right look and feel for the website, while local photographers supplied stunning landscape images. The website is a one stop shop for those wishing to find information on filming in Mayo and includes areas such as a locations database, cast and crew database, filmography and a testimonial section. Film Mayo was formally launched on the 1st of December in Knockranny House Hotel with Director Pat O’Connor (Ballroom of Romance) as guest of honour. The inaugural Film Mayo Network meeting preceded the launch, followed by a panel Q&A/ Interview with Pat O’Connor, Writer/Director/Producer Mike Cockayne (Hardy Bucks), Producer Tim Palmer (Into the West) and Antony Foutz (Saturation 70), which was chaired by Maeve Cooke (Access Cinema). www.filmmayo.ie



Mayo County Councillors, Staff and guest film-makers at the launch of Film Mayo

11. Mayo Ideas Week:

The Arts Service organises an annual event for Mayo Ideas Week. This year Rebecca Smith of Urban Projections gave a fascinating presentation on 3D Projection Mapping for artists, architects, event organisers, DJ's, advertisers and designers at Ballina Arts Centre.

ARTS GRANTS:

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

- Arts Acts Grants (13 grants ranging from €400 to €4,900)
- Visual Arts awards (1 exhibition assistance and 12 materials assistance awards)
- MCC Tyrone Guthrie Awards (2 awards)
- Amateur Drama Awards (1 award)
- Music Recording Assistance Awards (2 awards)

NETWORKING & PARTNERSHIPS**Partnership Projects:**

A number of arts organisations receive annual funding on a partnership basis with Mayo County Council. This support recognises the professional contribution of these organisations towards the strategic development of the arts in the county: The Linenhall Arts Centre (Castlebar), The Heinrich Boll Cottage (Achill), Ballina Arts Centre (Ballina), Custom House Studios (Westport), Ballinglen Arts Foundation (Ballycastle), Town Hall Arts Centre (Charlestown) and Áras Inis Gluaire /Bellmullet Arts Centre (Bellmullet). In 2014, €144,000 was dispersed to assist these organisations with their programmes.

Other Partnerships:

Partnerships with other agencies are crucial to continued outreach and success. The Arts Service has developed and fostered good working partnerships with other sections within Mayo County Council, other LA arts offices, Western Care Association, Department of Social Protection, Health Service Executive Western Area, Age & Opportunity, The Arts Council, Mayo Education Centre & Schools, Sacred Heart Hospital, Mayo Sligo Leitrim Education & Training Board, Music Generation, Údarás Na Gaeltachta, Irish Writer's Centre, Irish Music Rights Organisation and Neighbour Youth Projects among others.

Summary:

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

Mayo Heritage Office

A funding allocation of €25,000 towards the implementation of the County Mayo Heritage Plan was obtained from the Heritage Council in 2014 on a matched funding basis. The *County Mayo Heritage Plan 2011–2016*, is a strategic document, which deals with heritage issues at a countywide level. 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. Contained in the plan are 60 specific actions, formulated to achieve these broad 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 which were undertaken in 2014 are outlined below.

▪ Community Biodiversity Training

Biodiversity training was provided to seven Mayo communities in 2014, including Ballinrobe, Ballycastle, Cong, Kilkelly, Killala, Knock and Louisburgh. The training helped participants learn more about nature and wildlife in their area and demonstrated how to protect and enhance local biodiversity and natural amenities. The main aim of the biodiversity training was to prepare local nature and wildlife plans for the selected towns and villages. The plans consist of a list of projects that will run over a three year period for the benefit of nature and wildlife, and the environment, and the local community. Each community met three to four times to explore the biodiversity of their local area, to exchange information, to discuss initiatives which are being undertaken and to consider actions for inclusion in the plans. The plans will be launched at a community event in 2015.



Biodiversity training workshop Ballinrobe

▪ Habitat Mapping and Biodiversity Management Plans

Mayo County Council, in partnership with the Heritage Council, undertook habitat surveying and mapping within and around four towns and villages in Mayo—Louisburgh, Newport, Claremorris and Cong. The aim of this project is to assess and evaluate the natural heritage of the four towns/villages, with the objective of preparing a biodiversity management plan for each area. The plans identify opportunities for appropriate biodiversity enhancement and conservation, and recommend practical measures aimed at conserving and enhancing the natural heritage of the towns/villages. Opportunities for the development of educational and interpretative facilities in each location are also explored.

▪ **Twite education project: Engaging Primary Schools in delivery of biodiversity conservation objectives**

This innovative education project is regional-specific and curriculum-based, while also designed to deliver multi-stakeholder biodiversity conservation objectives. The focus of the project is the endangered bird species Twite, which breeds only in counties Mayo and Donegal. The project undertaken in partnership with Donegal County Council, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Schools and An Taisce aims to train teachers and students in the implementation of conservation actions for Twite, and thus provide practical experience of biodiversity conservation principles. The training is structured to match the guidelines of the school curriculum under their Social, Environmental and Scientific Education (SESE) guidelines for Primary Schools as set out by the Department of Education and Skills. On completion of this programme, teachers will be in a position to continue its delivery under their SESE guidelines. The process of meeting this aim will have the dual benefit of meeting several of the objectives of the Mayo Heritage Plan. This is a three-year project that targets 5 primary schools in the core Twite breeding areas in year one and envisages involving up to 25 schools in year 2. The primary outputs of this project are training of Primary School teachers to a competent level to enable the future delivery by teachers along with a comprehensive step-by-step 'Teachers' Manual' focused on the practical and theoretical implementation of the programme, a system of assessment of the students to test the effectiveness of the scheme, provision of cereal plots and other conservation-related habitat interventions.

▪ **Mayo Naturalists' Field Club**

An exciting and diverse programme of events was organised for the newly established Mayo Naturalists' Field Club, which was launched in March 2014. At the launch, ecologist Cilian Roden gave a fascinating illustrated talk on the wonderful and diverse natural heritage of Mayo, which is unrivalled in any other county. During the year the Field Club organised outings to some of the most interesting natural habitats to be found in Mayo, including peatlands, sand dunes, lake shores, limestone pavement and woodland. Among the outings was one which took place in April on the south west shores of Lough Mask, where geologist, Ronan Hennessy introduced the story of how this internationally-recognised south Mayo Landscape came into being at a location with wonderful panoramic views of mountainous terrain, limestone lakelands with volcanic lavas, boulder beds and ice-moulded rocks.



Pictured at the launch of the Mayo Naturalists' Field Club (l-r) Gerry

Sharkey, Deirdre Cunningham, Arlene Walsh and Cilian Roden



Mayo Naturalists' Field Club Outing to the shores of Lough Mask

▪ Heritage Week 2014

Funding was obtained from the Heritage Council in 2014, 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 2014. A fund was made available to which community groups could apply for funding to organize and host a Heritage Week event. A total of 18 community groups from all over the county were awarded funding towards their Heritage Week events.

Over 90 heritage events were held throughout the county to celebrate Heritage Week, which ran from 23rd to the 31st August 2014. 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.



Bonamh Market, during Heritage Week, Castlebar



Mayo Heritage Week Event Guide

- **Online Video on the Care and Conservation of Historic Graveyards**

Historic graveyards are an extremely important part of our cultural and archaeological heritage. There is great demand from community groups and the general public for information on historic graveyards and their conservation. An online video to raise awareness of the heritage associated with Mayo's historic graveyards and promote best practice in historic graveyard conservation and management has been developed. The purpose of the video is to (i) showcase the archaeological, built and natural heritage associated with Mayo's historic graveyards (ii) Highlight the importance of historic graveyards and (iii) provide best practice guidance on the care and conservation of historic graveyards. This video will be an effective tool to provide information on historic graveyards and promote best practice in their care and conservation and recording. The video consists of footage from a selection of graveyards in Mayo, highlighting features to be found in them, including sites that have been the subject of successful conservation projects. The video is aimed at graveyard committees, Tidy Towns Committees, Local Authority staff and anyone with an interest in heritage.

- **Mayo Heritage Calendar 2014**

The theme of the 2014 Mayo Heritage Calendar is *Mayo from Above*. The calendar includes aerial images of a variety of landscapes and sites throughout the county, including mountains, rivers, lakes, beaches, islands and farmland to showcase the natural heritage and scenic beauty of the county from a birds-eye perspective.



- **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.

- **Invasive Species**

Work is ongoing with communities in Blacksod, Belmullet, Achill and Louisburgh to develop and implement control programmes for the alien invasive plant species giant rhubarb (*Gunnera tinctoria*). Following the implementation of recent legislative provisions in relation to invasive species a meeting of the Mayo Invasive Species Working Committee was convened. The Working committee comprises of organisations/groups in the county with an interest in the control of invasive species, including Mayo County Council, NPWS, IFI, Teagasc and Leader. The aim of the Working Committee is to look at the issues surrounding invasive species and investigate ways in which to combat the threat of invasive species in the county.

- **Mayo Commemoration Strategy**

A Mayo Commemoration Committee was established in 2013 to develop a Commemoration Strategy for the period 2013 to 2023. The strategy was adopted by Mayo County Council in July 2013. To commemorate the centenary of the outbreak of World War I a number of events were held in the county. Mayo County Council, in association with the Mayo Peace Park Committee, held a series of events on the August bank holiday weekend. These included World War One memorabilia exhibition in Castlebar Library; A talk entitled '*Women and Children First: The Home Front During World War One.*' by Dr. Ciaran Wallace a social historian associated with Trinity College Dublin, an academic and broadcaster; A talk entitled '*Lions, Donkeys and Paddies: The Irish Experience of the Great War*' - by Myles Dungan, presenter of *The History Show* on RTE Radio 1 and is the author of *Irish Voices From the Great War* and *They Shall Grow Not Old*; Performance of *March Away My Brothers*, a play by Brendan MacQuaile. On Saturday 2nd August an Open Day was held at the Mayo Peace Park, followed by a social evening for the many international and local visitors attending the ceremonies. On Sunday 3rd August a special ecumenical ceremony marking was held at the Mayo Peace Park. The guest speaker was the well known journalist and newspaper columnist Mr Kevin Myers.

A partnership project was initiated with NUIG to develop a Mayo Decade of Commemoration website CentenaryMayo.ie. The website was launched in September by Ms Heather Humphreys, T.D., Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. Centenarymayo.ie documents all the major events that occurred in Ireland and also abroad from 1913 to 1923 as they relate to Mayo. World War One, The War of Independence, The Civil War, the women's movement, as well as the every day life of the time are all covered on the site. Centenarymayo.ie also includes a general introduction to the period, a timeline of events, articles on the major episodes, biographies of many Mayo figures of the time, a selection of images (some never seen before), a map showing places where events of the period occurred and locations of commemorative monuments or plaques, a list of the dead, stories

and images from local newspapers of the time and links to the major national and local sources on the subjects. The site was created by Mayo Library and Heritage Office and designed by M.Sc. students from NUIG.



Pictured at the launch of the CentenaryMayo.ie website are (l-r) Ms Heather Humphreys, TD, Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Austin Vaughan, County Librarian, Deirdre Cunningham, Heritage Officer and Cllr Damien Ryan, Cathaoirleach Mayo County Council.

Areas addressed by the Heritage Officer on an ongoing basis:

In addition to the implementation of the Heritage Plan, areas addressed by the Heritage Officer on an ongoing basis include:

- INPUT INTO THE PREPARATION OF THE COUNTY MAYO DEVELOPMENT PLAN, LOCAL AREA PLANS, STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS (SEA) ETC.
- 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 COMMUNITY GROUPS UNDERTAKING HISTORIC 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 OTHER HERITAGE GRANT SCHEMES AND PROVIDE ADVICE TO COMMUNITY GROUPS ON APPLICATIONS AS REQUIRED
- PROMOTE HERITAGE IN SCHOOLS SCHEME
- Human Resources 2014
- Gateway Scheme
- The Gateway Scheme was announced in Budget 2013 and is a County and City Council work placement scheme designed to provide short-term working opportunities for unemployed people.

- The scheme is intended to assist the personal and social development of participants by providing short-term work opportunities with the objective of bridging the gap between unemployment and re-entering the workforce.
- *Gateway* continues to fulfil the obligation in the Government's programme Pathways to Work which sets out specific commitments to widen and deepen the way in which local authorities support activation and labour market training schemes. The programme is expected to accommodate 3,000 participants across all local authorities
- Mayo County Council was set a target to recruit 80 participants onto the Gateway Scheme. Mayo County Council was the first local authority in the Country to reach and exceed its target of 80 participants. A number of participants who were recruited onto the Gateway Scheme have gone on to gain full time employment in the private sector as a result of the training they received with Mayo County Council.
- In 2015 it is anticipated that Mayo County Council will allocate a further 20 placements
- An example of works carried out by our Gateway employees in Mayo County Council are as follows:
- The Gateway employees were involved in the development of Newport Woods and as you can see from the photographs below, the work that the Gateway scheme has done has opened up the woods as an amenity for the local community and for tourists.



- View before works took place



- View after works carried out by Gateway employees



- View before works took place



- View after works carried out by Gateway employees

RECRUITMENT

- There were 21 competitions held in 2014.
- The number of men on the Interview Boards was 34 and the number of women on the Interview Boards was 28.

RETIREMENTS IN 2014

The following employees retired from the service of Mayo County Council in 2014

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| ▪ Pat Carroll | Head of Information Systems |
| ▪ Noel Burke | Senior Engineer |
| ▪ Patrick J. Bourke | Senior Engineer |
| ▪ Luke O'Malley | Senior Executive Engineer |
| ▪ Stephen Verity | Senior Executive Engineer |
| ▪ Patrick Lavelle | Waterworks Caretaker Grade V |
| ▪ Michael Collins | Waterworks Caretaker Grade V |
| ▪ James Connor | Waterworks Caretaker Grade V |
| ▪ Michael Walsh | Driver/ Plant Operator B |
| ▪ John Loftus | Ganger |
| ▪ Michael Kelly | Ganger |
| ▪ Joseph Caine | Ganger |
| ▪ Thomas Howley | Light Equipment Operator |
| ▪ Martin Walsh | Light Equipment Operator |
| ▪ Michael Boyle | General Operative |
| ▪ Virginia Hegarty | Canteen Assistant |
| ▪ Margaret Walsh | Canteen Assistant |
| ▪ Josie Jennings | Cleaner |
| ▪ Eileen Vesey | School Warden |
| ▪ 5 employees left in 2014 under the Voluntary Redundancy Scheme | |

General Purposes

Freedom of Information

The total number of requests received under the Freedom of Information Act for 2014 was 57.

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 2014 was released to Mayo County Council by the Department of Education and Skills in May, 2014.

The total number of Student Grant renewal applications received to-date in the 2014/15 academic year is **236**. The current number of renewal students receiving grants from Mayo County Council is **210**.

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.

Ethics Register

Annual Declarations for 2014 from relevant employees and elected members were received within the statutory period.

Protective Disclosure Act, 2014

There were no complaints received under the above Act in 2014.

Water Safety

With it's enormous coastline including 12 Blue Flag beaches, and an abundance of pristine inland waterways, water safety is always a priority for Mayo County Council.

A total of 24 lifeguards were employed by Mayo Co Co during the period June – September 2014 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's beach lifeguards training at Carrowniskey Strand, Louisburgh in June 2014, in advance of their employment for the summer season.

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

Mayo Co.Co. 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 are 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 2014:

Ballyhaunis, Belmullet, Charlestown & Kilmovee Pools

Clare Island, Inishturk, Doega & Lacken Pier

There were 1640 certificates issued to both children and adults from Co. Mayo in 2014, 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 either vandalised, damaged or stolen, is a continuous problem for local authorities. Irish Water Safety developed a website 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 2014.

Mayo County Fire Service

Mayo is a large rural County, which covers an area of 2,159 sq. miles and has a population of approximately 130,600 people, making it one of the largest fire authority areas in the country.



Mayo County Council has a statutory obligation, as a fire authority, under the Fire Services Acts 1981 and 2003, (a) to make provision for the prompt and efficient extinguishing of fire, for the protection of and rescue of persons and property from injury by fire, (b) establish and maintain a fire brigade and premises, and (c) make adequate provisions for the reception of and response to call for the assistance of the fire brigade.

FIRE PREVENTION

Fire Prevention Officers ensure that buildings are planned, designed, constructed and maintained in a safe manner from a fire safety point of view. There is a vast body of legislation under which the Fire Authority works; the two principal pieces of legislation are the Fire Services Acts 1981 and 2003 and the Building Control Acts 1990 and 2007. Under the Building Control Acts 1990 and 2007, the Fire Prevention Officers, assess Fire Safety Certificate Applications. The number of Fire Safety Certificate Applications received in 2014 was 80, down 14% from the previous year. The number of Fire Safety Certificate Applications processed annually for the period 2010 to 2014 is shown in Table 1. A breakdown of the types of applications received in 2014 is given in Table 2.

Table 1: Summary of Fire Safety Certificates (FSC) Processed (2010 to 2014)

Fire Safety Certificates Detail	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Applications Received	137	109	76	93	80
% Annual Change	-20.3%	-20.4%	-30.3%	22.4%	-14.0%
Applications Invalid	0	0	3	1	3
Decisions Made	118	93	68	83	66
Granted (With conditions)	118	71	68	63	54
Granted (Without conditions)	0	22	0	20	12
Applications Refused	0	0	0	0	0

Table 2: Breakdown of Fire Safety Certificates Applications

Fire Safety Certificates Applications	2014
Standard Fire Safety Certificate	59
Regularisation Fire Safety Certificate	6
Revised Fire Safety Certificate	4
7- Day Notice	11

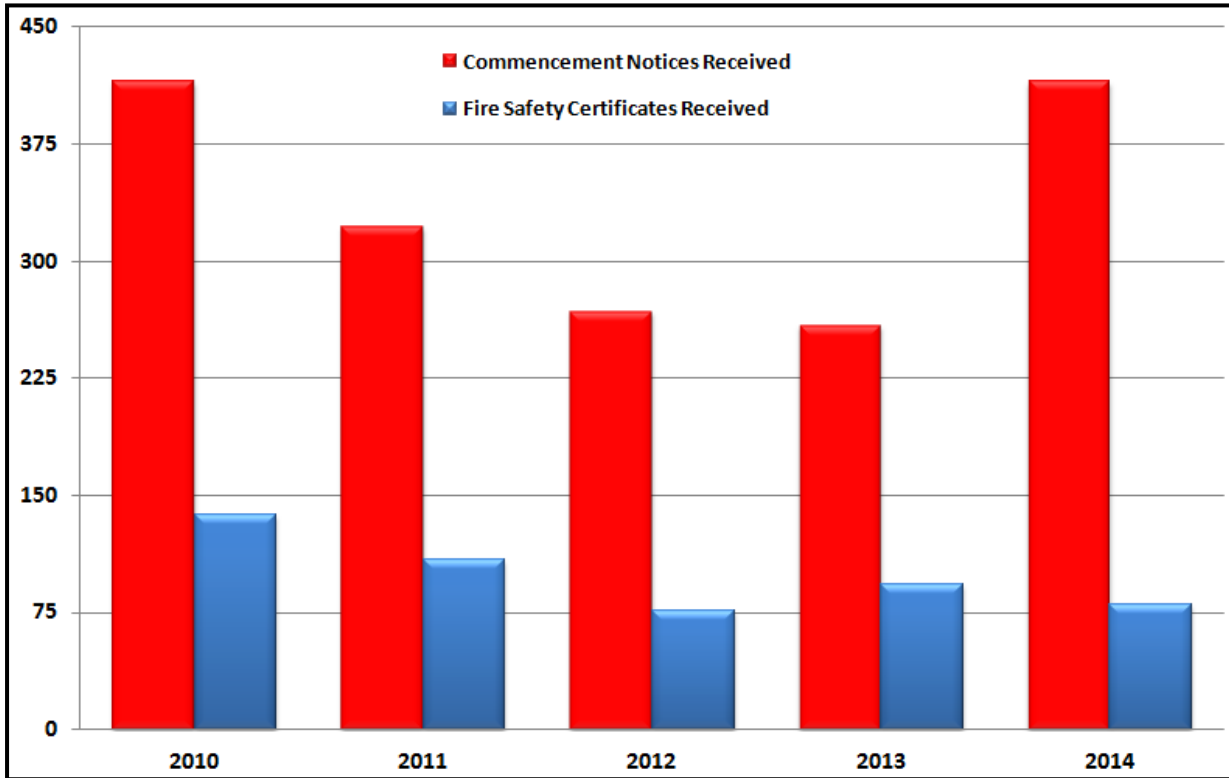
The Council also process Commencement Notice Applications, under of the Building Control Acts 1990 and 2007, within the Fire Service. The number of Commencement Notice Applications received in 2014 was 415, up over 60% from the previous year. The number of Commencement Notice Applications processed annually over the period 2009 to 2014 is shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Summary of Commencement Notices Processed (2010 to 2014)

Applications Detail	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Applications Received	415	322	268	259	415
% Annual Change	-28.3%	-22.4%	-16.8%	-3.4%	+60.2%
Applications Valid	410	318	265	251	400
Applications Invalid	5	4	3	8	15

A summary of Commencement Notice and Fire Safety Certificate Applications received annually over the period 2010 to 2014 is shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Building Control Act Applications Received (2010 to 2014)



Fire Prevention Officers also carry out inspections under Section 24 of the Fire Services Acts 1981 and 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 4.

Table 4: Summary of Inspection carried by Fire Prevention Officers (2010 to 2014)

Inspection Description	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Section 24 Inspection (Licensing Applications)	271	235	308	192	263
Section 13 Inspection (Planning Applications)	11	6	8	5	4
Other Inspections	77	34	114	92	172
Total Inspections	359	275	430	289	439

Community Fire Safety

Fire Service personnel were actively involved in the following activities / events in 2014:

- Mayo Road Safety Roadshow in the Royal Theatre Castlebar
- Mayo Science & Technology Festival in GMIT Castlebar
- NDFEM Primary Schools Programme, delivered to 3,670 students in 165 schools
- School visits of fire stations; 237 students/teachers/parents from 10 schools visited fire stations
- Graduate.ie (online competition for Second Level Students) - Mayo County Fire Service actively participates in this educational initiative, focusing on the topic of general fire safety. Approximately 850 students from Mayo entering the competition on a weekly basis.

Fire Service Operations

The Council currently employs 121 fire fighters in 12 fire stations located around the County, as shown in the adjacent map.

These fire fighters deal with a vast array of incidents annually, ranging from chimney fires, house fires, bog/forest fires, road traffic accidents, rescues and incidents involving hazardous materials. In 2014, Mayo County Fire Service attended 674 incidents, a decrease of 28.7% from 2013. A breakdown of the types of incidents responded to by fire brigades from Mayo are given in Table 5.

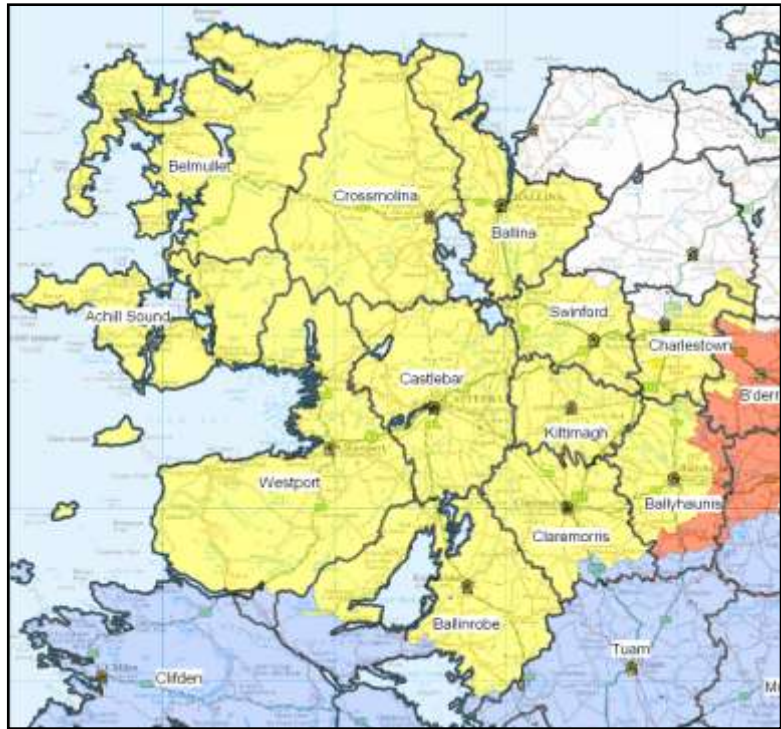


Table 5: Summary of Types of Incidents Attended from 2010 to 2014

Incident Description	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Number of Fires Attended	1064	750	499	694	440
In own area	1033	728	486	663	421
In other fire authority area	31	22	13	31	19
Special Services Incidents	265	205	172	165	159
Road traffic accidents	195	161	141	134	135
Water pumping / flooding	12	0	0	2	1
Water rescue	2	7	2	2	2
Other non-fire rescues	8	15	12	8	12
Haz-Mat in transit	18	1	1	1	0
Miscellaneous	30	21	16	18	9
False Alarms	134	104	94	86	75
Malicious	24	25	17	15	16

Good intent	110	79	77	71	59
Total no. of Incidents	1463	1059	765	945	674
Change from Previous Year	+260	-404	-294	+180	-271
% Annual Change	+21.6%	-27.6%	-27.8%	+23.5%	-28.7%

The 674 incidents in 2014 resulted in 772 fire brigade responses, i.e. actual fire brigades attending incidents.

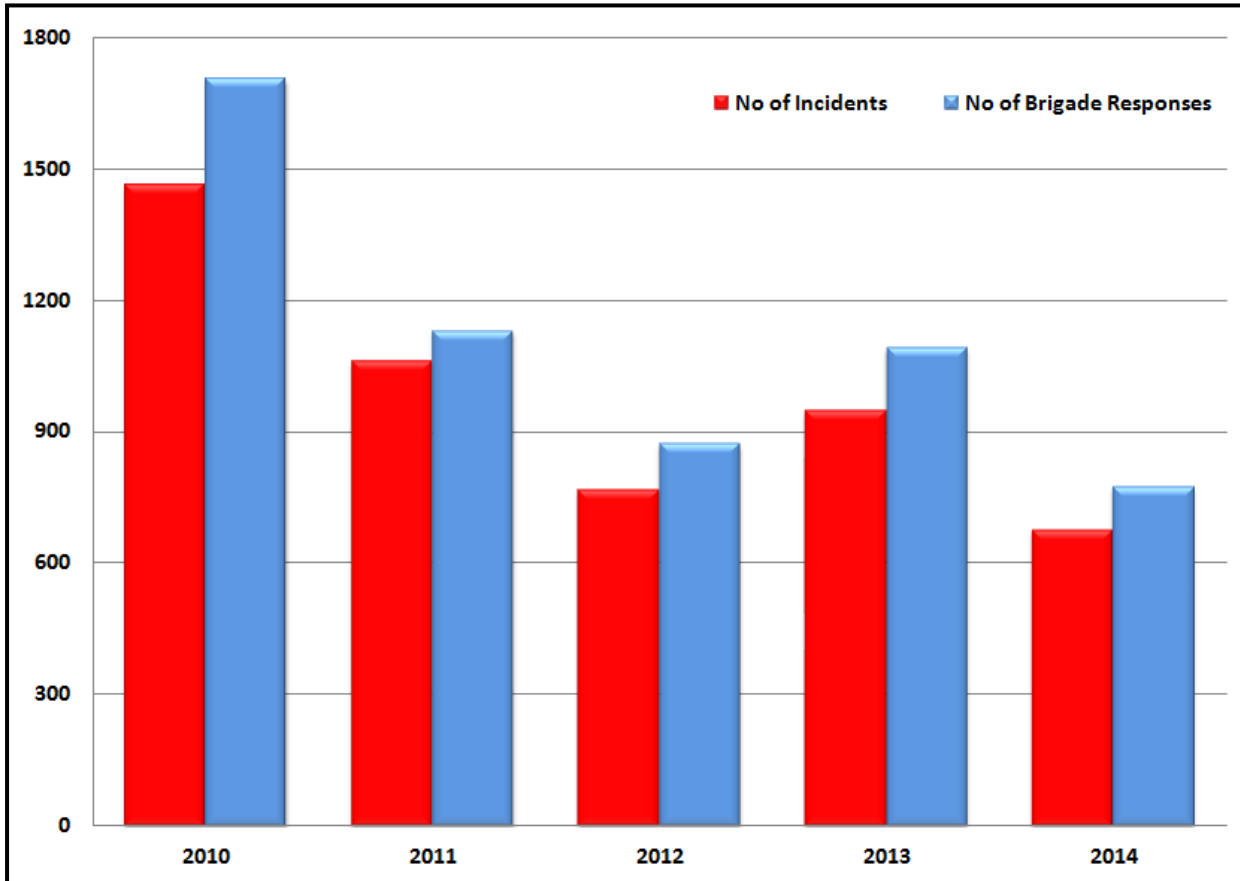
The 2014 figure represented a decrease of 29.2% from that recorded in 2013, as shown in the Table 6 and Figure 2.



Table 6: Summary of Fire Brigade Activity from 2010 to 2014

Fire Brigade Activity	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total no. of Incidents	1463	1059	765	945	674
Total no. of Attendances	1703	1129	870	1090	772
Change from Previous Year	+377	-574	-259	+220	-318
% Annual Change	+28.4%	-33.7%	-22.9%	+25.3%	-29.2%
Ratio of Attendances / Incidents	1.164	1.066	1.137	1.153	1.145

Figure 2: Fire Brigade Activity (2009 to 2014)



Major Emergency Management - Exercises

External Emergency Plans were prepared by Mayo Fire Service in conjunction with the HSE and Gardai for the two Upper Tier Seveso Establishments in Co. Mayo; Atlantic Industries and Bellanaboy Bridge Gas Terminal. The following exercises were conducted:

- The External Emergency Plan for Atlantic Industries was tested through a live inter-agency exercise at the site
- The External Emergency Plan for Bellanaboy Bridge Gas Terminal was tested through an inter-agency table top exercise
- A joint exercise was carried out between Mayo Fire Service and BWJV (Tunnel Contractor) at the Corrib Tunnel Project, Glengad.

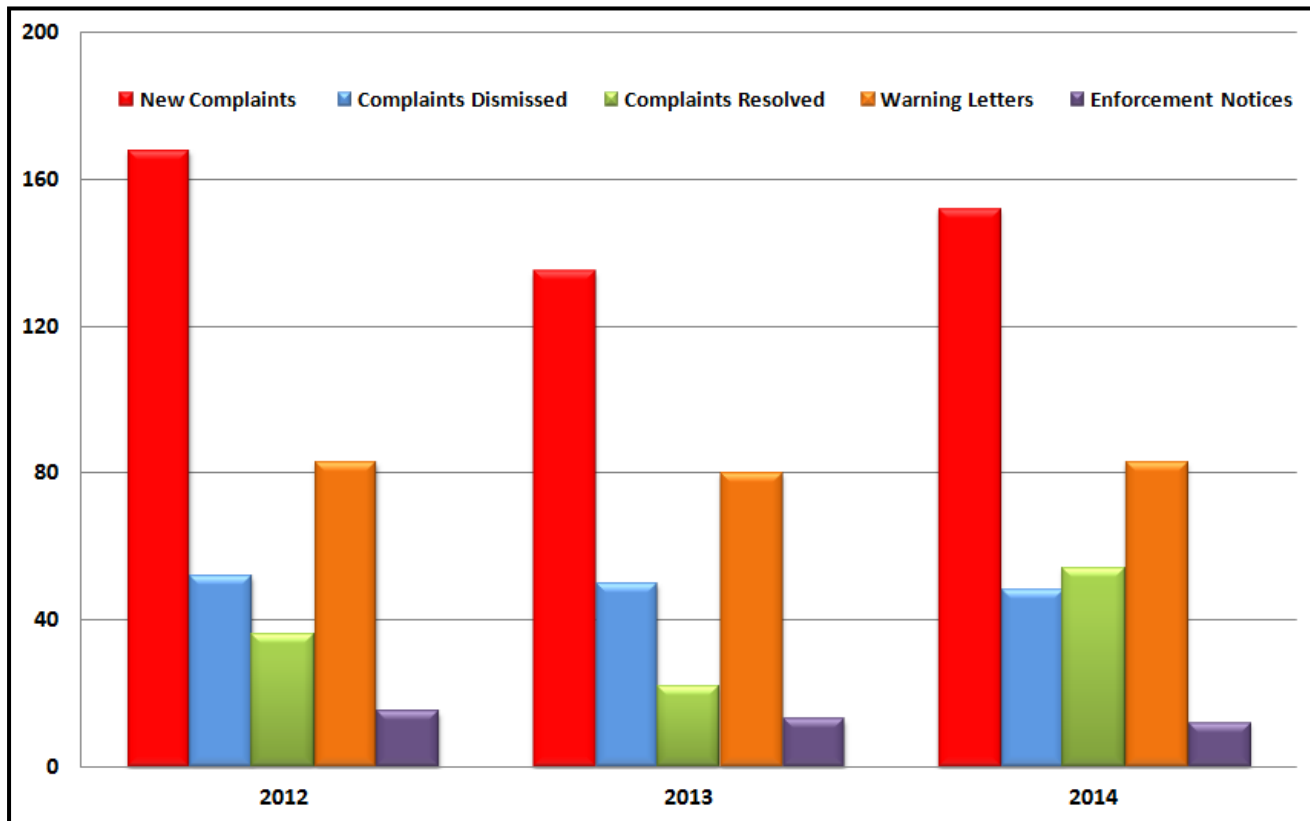
Building Control & Planning Enforcement Section

Mayo County Council is the Building Control Authority and the Planning Enforcement Authority for the administrative area of County Mayo. The main functions 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 2014, to ensure compliance with the Building Control Regulations, 1997 to 2009. A summary of activity for Planning Enforcement Section is shown in Table 7 and Figure 3.

Table 7: Planning Enforcement Activity from 2010 to 2014

Description of Activity	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Number of new complaints received	175	110	168	135	152
Number of complaints that were dismissed	87	70	52	50	48
Number of complaints that were resolved through negotiations	63	56	36	22	54
Number of enforcement procedures taken through Warning Letters	139	82	83	80	83
Number of enforcement procedures taken through Enforcement Notices	12	34	15	13	12
Number of files with the County Council’s Solicitor	35	46	38	32	38
Number of prosecutions	5	2	1	0	3

Figure 3: Summary of Planning Enforcement Activity (2012 to 2014)

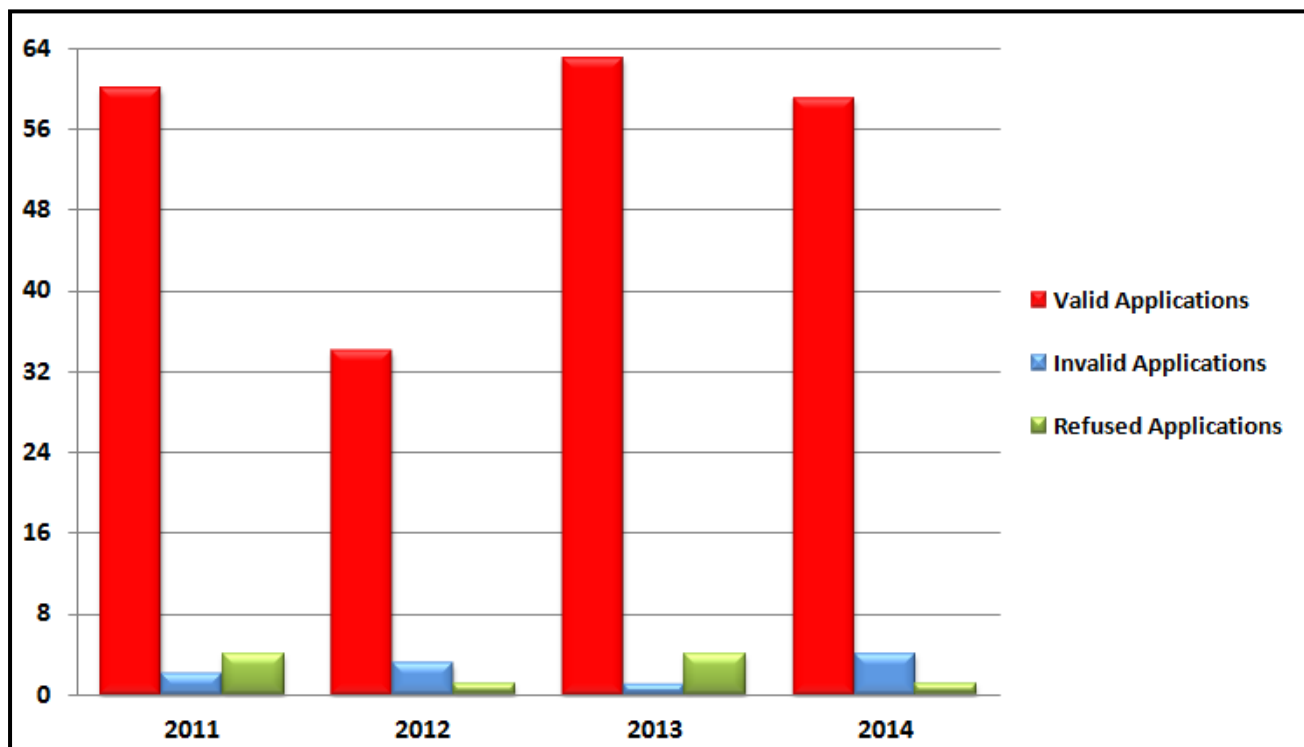


Duties carried out under the Building Control Acts 1990 and 2007, also include the examination of Disability Access Certificate applications and the issuing of Disability Access Certificates. A summary of activity in relation to Disability Access Certificates is shown in Table 8 and Figure 4.

Table 8: Disability Access Certificates Processed from 2011 to 2014

Description of Activity	2011	2012	2013	2014
No. of valid Disability Access Certificates (DAC) applications	60	34	63	59
No. of DAC Applications Rejected as Invalid	2	3	1	4
No. of applications where the applicant was invited to submit Additional Information	36	19	21	28
No. of DAC applications where prescribed maximum period of time for considering applications was extended	12	10	14	11
Disability Access Certificates issued: -	52	37	56	53
Within 2 months	41	29	42	42
Greater than 2 months	11	8	14	11
Granted with conditions	49	34	36	49
Granted without conditions	3	3	20	4
No. of Disability Access Certificates refused	4	1	4	1

Figure 4: Summary of Disability Access Certificate Applications from 2011 to 2014

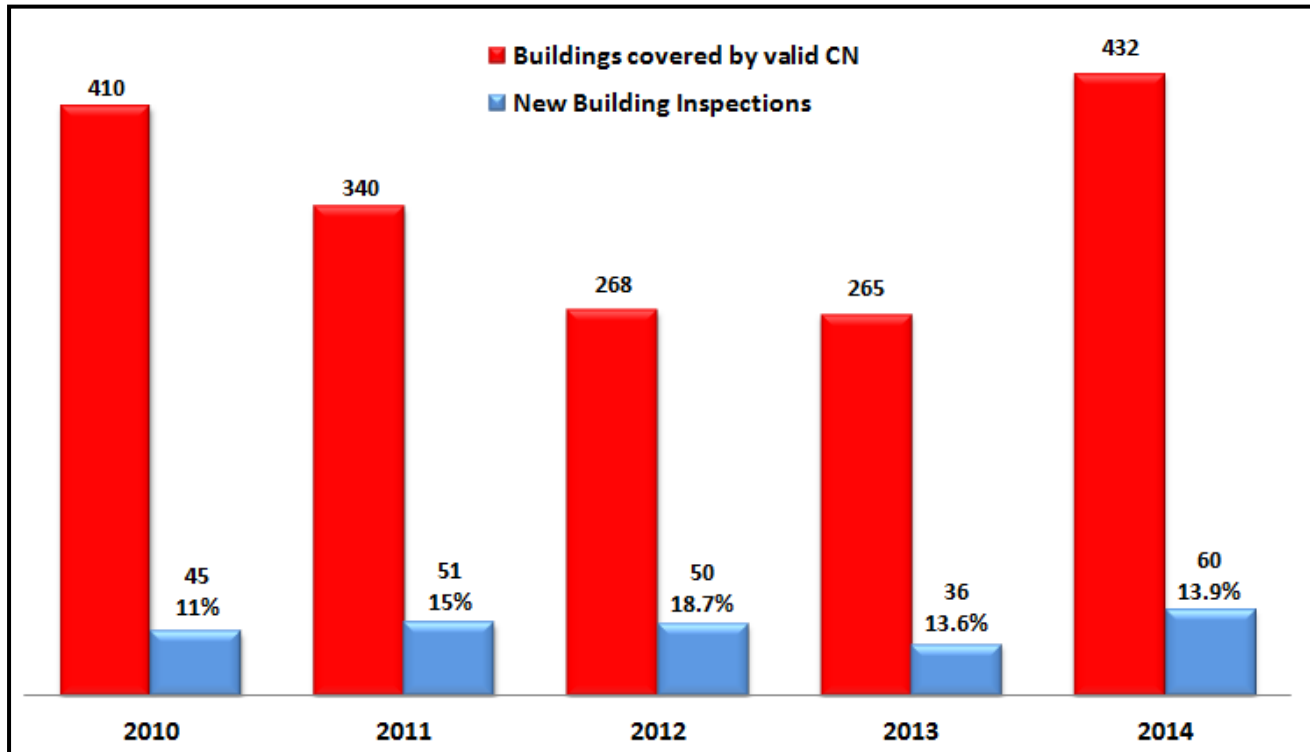


Building Regulations are made for specific purposes, e.g. to provide, in relation to buildings, for the health, safety and welfare of persons, the conservation of energy and access for all. Technical Specifications are relevant to the extent that they relate to these considerations. Building Control 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 5.

Table 9: Building Control Inspections from 2010 to 2014

Description of Activity	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
No. of building covered by valid commencement notices	410	340	268	265	432
No. of buildings where documents were requested	51	7	2	0	0
No. of new building inspections	45	51	50	36	60
% of new building inspections	11.0%	15.0%	18.7%	13.6%	13.9%
No. of inspections carried out, including multiple inspections of the same building	243	232	178	176	179
No. of applications for relaxations & dispensations to the building regulations	5	3	3	0	0
No. of applications for relaxations & dispensations to the building regulations granted	5	3	0	3	0
No. of enforcement notices served	0	1	2	2	1

Figure 5: Summary of Building Control Inspections from 2010 to 2014



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

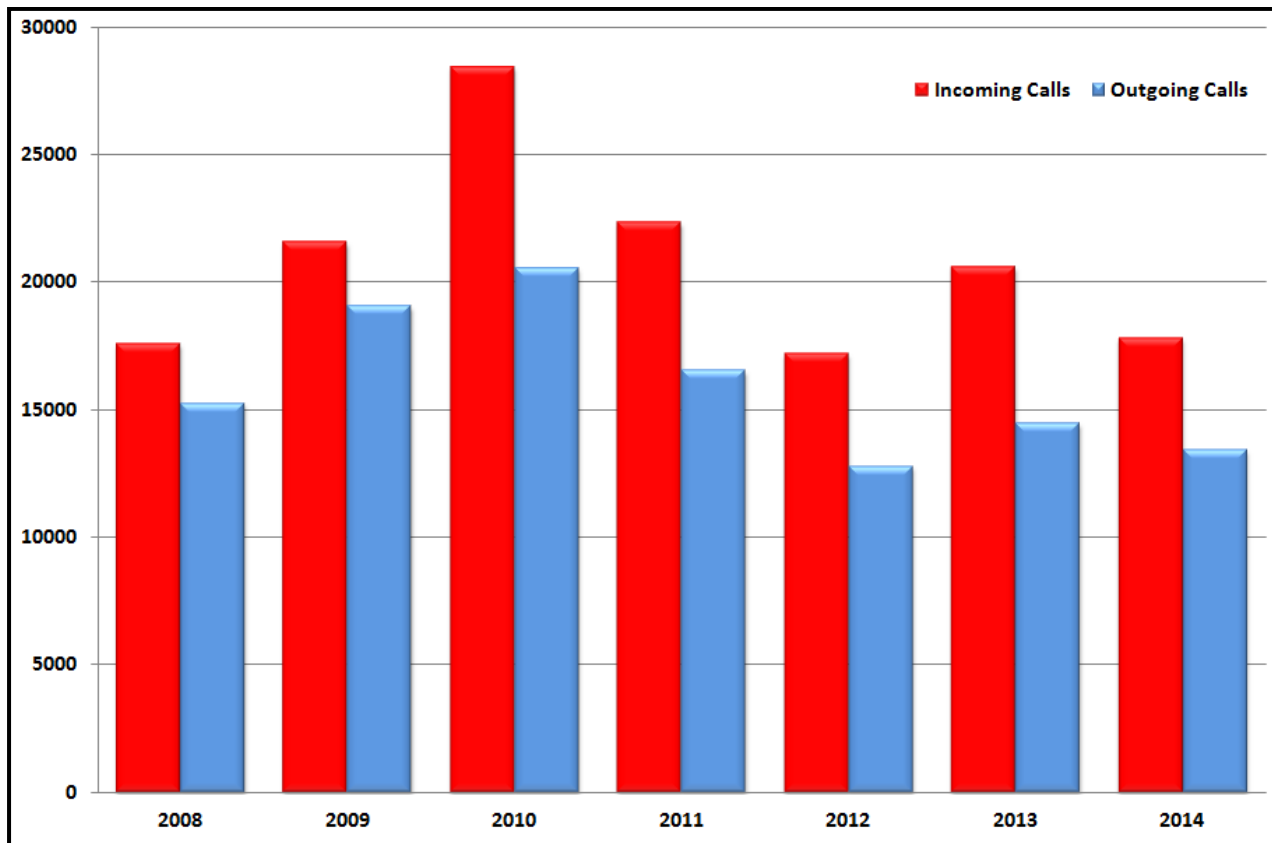
In 2014 Mayo County Council operated the West Region Fire Control (WRFC) on behalf of the local authorities of Connacht and County Donegal. WRFC provides the 112/999 emergency call answering and mobilising service for these Fire Authorities. WRFC also provided the mobilising ICT application and regional communications network infra-structure for the Ambulance Control Centre located in St Mary’s Hospital, Castlebar. Table 10 and Figure 6 summarises the call volume activity of WRFC for the period 2008 to 2014. Incoming call volume activity was down almost 14% on 2013 activity.



Table 10: WRFC Call Activity from 2008 to 2014

Call Description	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Incoming Calls	17566	21547	28425	22310	17163	23589	17778
Outgoing Calls	15234	19044	20536	16503	12755	14451	13405
Total no. of Calls	32800	40591	48961	38813	29918	35040	35040
% Change	+28.67%	+23.75%	+20.62%	-20.73%	-22.92%	+17.12%	+17.12%

Figure 6: Summary of WRFC Call-handling Activities from 2008 to 2014



This call activity resulted in 3,954 fire brigade emergency incidents throughout the region in 2014. This represents a decrease of 19% in fire emergency activity compared with 2013, as shown in the Table 11 and Figure 7. Of the 3954 incidents, Mayo County Fire Service accounted for 17% of the regions activity, as shown in Figure 8.

Table 11: Emergency Incidents from 2008 to 2014

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total no. of Incidents	5273	5773	7080	5291	4088	4882	3954
% Change		+9.5%	+22.6%	-25.3%	-22.734%	+19.4%	-19.0%

Figure 7: No of Emergency Incidents in from 2008 to 2014

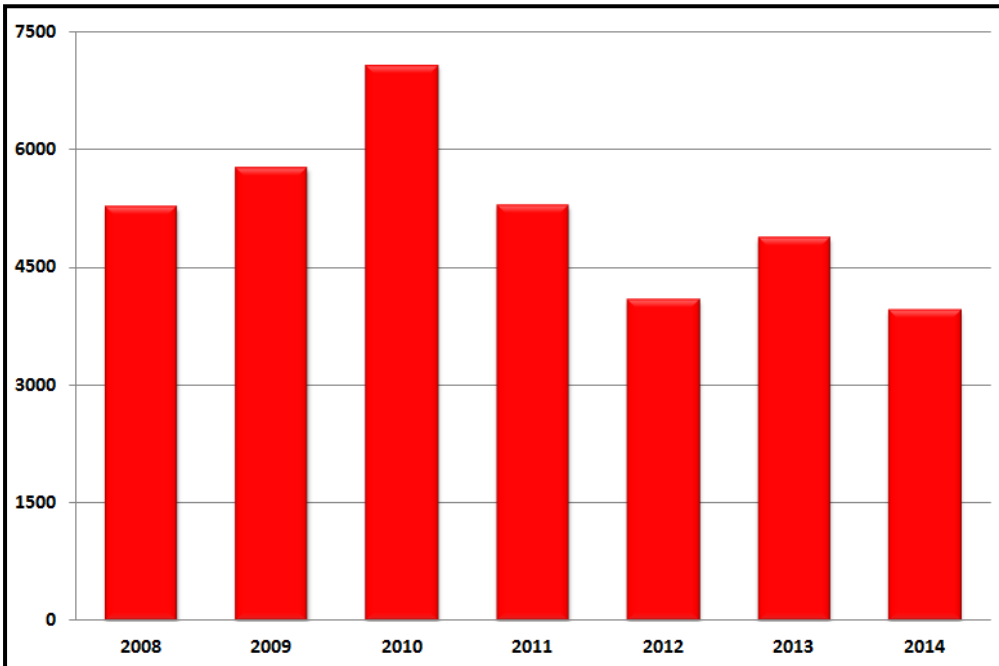
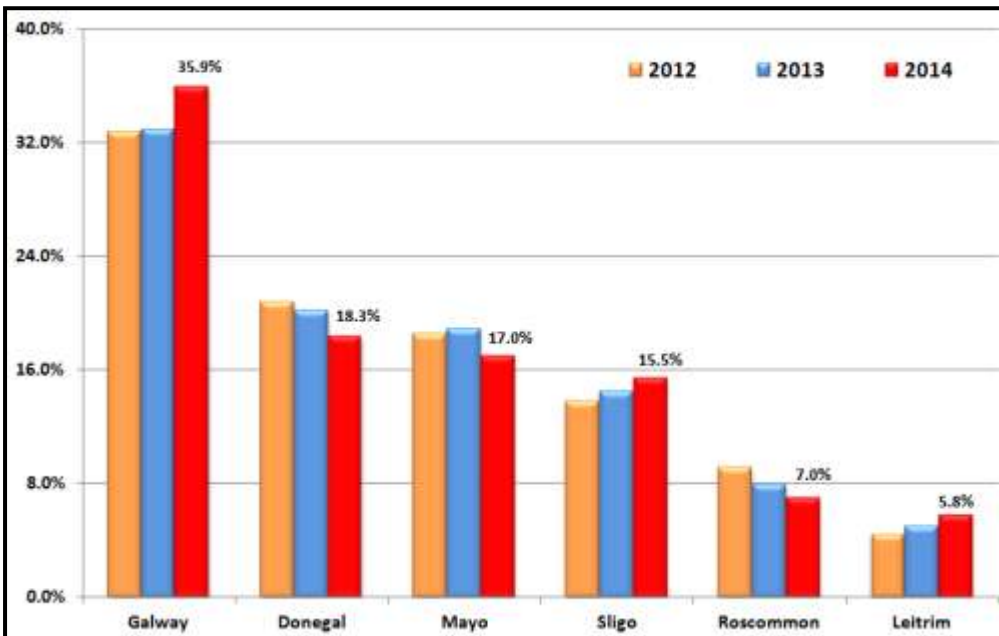


Figure 8: Distribution of Emergency Incidents (from 2012 to 2014)



Mayo Civil Defence

Mayo Civil Defence is a voluntary organisation comprising of approximately 95 volunteers providing support to emergency services and local communities with highly trained members whose activities are valued by local communities and front line emergency services. The strength of the organisation lies in its voluntary ethos and commitment to purpose with its members willingly and freely giving of their time and expertise.

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

Mayo Civil Defence expenditure budget for 2014 was €125,000.00. This is part Grant Aided by the Civil Defence Board / Department of Defence. The Budget for 2014 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
Emergency Response Trailer	2



Highlights of 2014:

Community Support.

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



Road Safety Show



Cycle against Suicide



Feile na Tuaithe

Inter- agency Training

Four members of Mayo Civil Defence attended Westport Coast Guard Station at the invitation of their Officer in Charge to partake in Helicopter familiarisation and Winch training alongside Coast Guard Officers. Rescue 118 (Sligo) attended and the members received training in many aspects of Helicopter operations. In July Mayo Civil Defence boats crews also participated in an exercise with Rescue 118 on Lough Conn



Long Service Medals Awards Ceremony

Frank Gallagher Swinford and Michael O'Donnell, Achill were recognised for their 50 years service and 40 years service respectively with Mayo Civil Defence by a function in Dublin Castle and presentation of medals by Government Chief Whip and Minister for State at the Department of Defence Paul Kehoe TD on the 21st November 2014. Cathaoirleach of Mayo County Council Councillor Damien Ryan and Commander Francis Power Mayo Civil Defence were in attendance.



Mass of Remembrance and Presentation of Certificates

Mayo Civil Defence celebrated a Mass of Remembrance for deceased members of Mayo Civil Defence and deceased family members of all volunteers on the 19th November 2014 in their new base at 8 Golden Mile Industrial Estate, Castlebar.

Mass was celebrated by Father Sean Flynn newly ordained priest from Castlebar and was attended by Cathaoirleach of Mayo County Council, Councillor Damien Ryan ,Director of Services Joe Loftus, Civil Defence Officer Rose Doherty and over fifty volunteers.



This was followed by presentation of certificates by the Cathaoirleach of Mayo County Council who was very high in his praise of the work undertaken by volunteers and their commitment to the organisation.

Civil Defence Officer Rose Doherty sincerely thanked all her loyal volunteers for their help and support during the year.

Certificates presented on the night included:

- Cardiac First Responder
- Advanced First Responder
- Occupational First Aid
- Emergency First Responder
- Radio Operator Level 2
- Food Safety and You.
- Manual Handling
- Search Management

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

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Emergency Planning/Emergency Support

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

In January 2014 Mayo Civil Defence responded to Flooding incidents at the request of The Primary Response Agencies in the Ballina Town area.

We also participated in a Missing Persons Search in January which centred around the Castlebar and Turlough areas. We have offered our assistance when and if required to An Garda Siochana and The Irish Coast Guard in the event of missing persons in the Mayo area.



Mayo Civil Defence Information

If you would like to join Mayo Civil Defence or get more information visit www.civildefence.ie

Facebook – Mayo Civil Defence

Contact :

Rose Doherty (Civil Defence Officer) 094 9024400 / 087 9443634

Mayo Sports Partnership

Background

Launched in 2005 the Sports Partnerships main aim is to increase participation in sport and physical activity among all sectors of the community.

It has three main functions:

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

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

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

We are also involved in facilitating and co-ordinating a number of targeted programmes, projects and initiatives at local level. Target groups include Disadvantaged, Youth at Risk, People with a Disability, Teenage Girls / Women, Older People and Unemployed. The Sports Partnership office managed by Sports Co-ordinator Charlie Lambert also contains Administrator Padraic Durcan, Sports Inclusion Disability Officer Ray Mc Namara and Community Sports Project Worker Anne Ronayne. We also work with a team of up to 30 tutors who deliver training and participation programmes on behalf of the Partnership.

In 2014 our outcomes included:

- *Local Programmes – 10,632 people participated in 78 programmes*
- *Women in Sport – 4259 women participated in 10 programmes*
- *Sports Disability Inclusion Programme – 403 participants in 18 programmes*
- *Training and Education – 259 participants in 17 courses*
- *Code of Ethics – 373 participants in 26 courses from 119 clubs*
- *Childrens Officer – 33 participants in 2 courses from 24 clubs*

Points of Interest in 2014

- *A new Mayo Sports Partnership Board was formed in June 2014 following the local elections. There are 19 members on the Mayo Sports Partnership Board with newly elected Chairman Cllr Brendan Mulroy*
- *The **West of Ireland Womens Mini Marathon**, organised by Mayo Sports Partnership, is the largest womens only participation event in the West of Ireland and takes place on Sunday May Bank Holiday each year. 2014 was the 5th Anniversary.*
- *2013 Irish Sports Monitor Research, conducted by the Irish Sports Council & Ipsos MRBI, found that Mayo and Sligo were the only 2 counties in the country where more women were participating in sport than men.*
- *As an initiative to combat non participation by middle aged men, rural isolationism and to promote positive mental health over 300 Men aged 30 plus participate in the **Men on the Move** physical activity*

programme at 10 locations throughout Mayo. The programme is operational in several other counties and is being proposed as a national initiative to promote mens health and wellbeing.

Some of our major projects and initiatives, for target groups, in 2014 included:

FAMILIES

Operation “Get Active Mayo” and 5K events

Approximately 800 people turned out for the Mayo Operation Transformation walks on Saturday 18th January in Belmullet, Castlebar, Claremorris and Westport. Over 400 alone participated in the Castlebar Lough Lannagh event which was attended by An Taoiseach Enda Kenny, Mayor of Castlebar Cllr Noreen Heston and the 5 leaders of the Connaught Telegraph / Western Care Operation Transformation programme

To coincide with this years Operation Transformation Mayo Sports Partnership made a call for communities, clubs, groups throughout the county to get involved in “**Operation Get Active Mayo**” a 5 week activity campaign. Over 25 groups registered with the Partnership with communities / Groups coming from areas such as Belmullet and Ballina in North Mayo, Achill and Westport in West Mayo, Charlestown and Swinford in East Mayo and Ballinrobe and Kilmaine in South Mayo. Over 600 people participated in these local Get Active programmes

Following the 5 week programme 5K fun run / walks took place in Ballina, Belmullet, Castlebar, Claremorris and Westport on Saturday 22nd February. Over 700 people participated in these locally organised events with 400 participating in the Ballina event alone

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



Pic: Participants enjoying the Castlebar Operation Transformation Walk

CHILDREN

The 'Mini Mini' Marathon 2014

As part of the Mini Marathon Weekend Davitt College Transition Year Students along with Mayo Sports Partnership and the Western People organised the 1st Children's 'Mini Mini' Marathon on Sunday May 4th 2014

The brainchild of Olympic Medallist Sonia O'Sullivan the 'Mini Mini' is a fun run for primary school children only and suitable for girls and boys. 'Kids run for fun' is the theme of the day and the 1km 'Mini Mini' took place at

12.05pm directly after the start of the 2014 Women's Mini Marathon. Approximately 400 children participated with entry free of charge with lots of exciting fun prizes and special medal for participants.



Pic: Participants in the Childrens Mini Mini Event as part of the Mini Marathon in 2014

Erris Little Athletics Jamboree 2014

The 'Little Athletics' Programme for all primary school classes and ages proved to be an outstanding success in the Erris area over the 10 week period. 15 schools in total took part in the programme and received two visits from coaches over the ten weeks. On June 10th all 15 schools with approximately 390 pupils came together for our Little Athletics Jamboree. The day was a brilliant success and thoroughly enjoyed by all pupils, teachers and coaches.

To follow up on this programme and ensure sustainability of the initiative, Mayo Sports Partnership plans to run a training day for teachers of Primary Schools involved in the programme.

For more information contact either Anne Ronayne Community Sports Project Worker or Ray Mc Namara Sports Inclusion Disability Officer at 094-9047025



Pic: Participants at the Little Athletics Jamboree Day at the Belmullet Civic Centre in June 2014

COMMUNITY

CASTLEBAR SPORTS FORUM

Castlebar Children's Soccer Camp from July 9th to July 30th

A 4-week soccer camp for children ages 7+ took place at the New Town Park Castlebar every Wednesday for 4 weeks in July 2014. Approx 20 local children were put through their paces by Paul Byrne development officer with the FAI. The camp was organised by Castlebar Sports Forum [Castlebar Sports forum comprises Mayo Sports Partnership, MTSG, HSE, GMIT, FAI, Gardai, South West Development Company and local representatives.] to target children from the urban area of Castlebar that may not have access to other camps in the area. Paul teaches skills through small sided games including lots of physical activity. The camp is a follow on from an after school camp held in June and it is hoped that further such programmes can be rolled out in the future.



Pic: FAI Development Officer Paul Byrne giving instructions at the Castlebar Childrens Summer Camp in July 2014

Castlebar Hip Hop Camp from July 16th to August 6th

A 4-week hip hop camp for children ages 10+ took place at Scoil Raifteiri Castlebar in August 2014. Approx 20 local girls participated and were taught the fabulous skills of hip hop from instructor Polly Anne.. The camp was organised by Castlebar Sports Forum [Castlebar Sports forum comprises Mayo Sports Partnership, MTSG, HSE, GMIT, FAI, Gardai, South West Development Company and local representatives.]

to target teenage girls/children from the urban area of Castlebar that may not have access to other camps in the area. Polly Ann was a firm favourite with the girls and a dance group in the area would be a dream for the future for some of them.



Pic: Girls participating in the Castlebar Hip Hop Camp in August 2014

Further information from Anne Ronayne, Community Sports Development Worker, Mayo Sports

Partnership 0904 9047022 or aronayne@mayococo.ie

Ballina Children's Multi Sports Camp from July 21st-July 25th

A Multi Sports Camp at the Outdoor Multi Use Games Area at Greenhill's Estate, Ardnaree, Ballina was organised by the Moy Sports Forum [Moy Sports forum comprises Mayo Sports Partnership, Mayo North East, MTSG, Involve, FAI, Sean Duffy Centre and local resident representatives.]. The camps were delivered with the assistance by representatives from Allwin Tennis Foundation, FAI and Ardnaree Sarsfields .

25 local children participated in all the activities and were taught lots of sporting skills. On the Friday Ardnaree Sarsfields coaches put the children through their paces on the Green Areas of Greenhills engaging lots of local children from the Greenhills, Millview and Cluain Na Ri estates. Further information from Anne Ronayne, Community Sports Development Worker, Mayo Sports Partnership 0904 9047022 or aronayne@mayococo.ie



Pic: Participants at the Ballina Multi Sport Camp in July 2014

WOMEN

5th West of Ireland Womens Mini Marathon again a Massive Success

The Mall in Castlebar was a sea of colour and excitement on Sunday 4th May as thousands of men, women and children gathered in the county town for the 5th annual Western People West of Ireland Women's Mini Marathon. Former Olympian and World silver medallist Olive Loughnane was the special guest on the day, alongside the Minister of State at the Department of Tourism and Sport, Michael Ring.

Arguably, it was the children who stole the show on Sunday, with hundreds signing up for the inaugural Mini-Mini event. Similarly, there was a noticeable presence of many more teenagers than in previous years, with a special initiative launched this year to encourage more secondary school students to get involved.

Over the last five years, the Mini Marathon – organised by the Western People and the Mayo Sports Partnership – has helped raise well in excess of €2 million for local charities and once again, scores of worthy causes were well represented on Sunday. This year, approximately 2,500 participants completed the 10km course, while more than 400 others took part in the Mini-Mini event. Undoubtedly, the Western People West of Ireland Women's Mini Marathon has been a tremendous success over the last five year...here's to many more



Pic: Ladies getting that sense of achievement after completing the 5th West of Ireland Womens Mini Marathon in May 2

JOBSEEKERS

Swinford “Goal to Work” Sports Coach Training Programme

A group of jobseekers mainly from the Swinford / East Mayo completed a 9 week long specialised sports coaching course in June 2014. 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 and coaching in local national schools giving many school children some quality participation experiences.

Partners in the programme include Mayo Sports Partnership, Mayo North East LEADER Partnership Company, Mayo Mental Health, Mayo Jobs Club, Mayo GAA, FAI, Connaught Branch of the IRFU and the local Primary Schools where the coaching took place.

58 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. To find out more about the programme log on to www.mayosports.ie or contact Mayo Sports Partnership at 094-9047025 email mSP@mayococo.ie



Pic: Caitheoirleach Mayo County Council Cllr Damian Ryan presenting Goal to Work Certificates to Swinford Goal to Work Sports Coaches

OLDER PEOPLE

Go for Life Games

As a result of interest from local active 55's and active age groups in becoming more physically active the Go For Life Games were a perfect programme to run for interested groups. Following training for leaders in September a Go for Life Games Day took place in November 2014 where 62 people participated from 12 different groups. Groups could obtain equipment on loan from the Sports Partnership or purchase a set through funding obtained from Age and Opportunity. From this event 3 different groups were chosen to participate in a regional games day with the emphasis on participation. In all 180 people in areas throughout Mayo are participating in the programme.



Pic: Participants from 12 groups across Mayo at the Go for Life Games Day in November 2014

PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY

Inclusive Camp at An Sportlann from July 14th to 18th July

A week long 'Inclusive Camp' was held at An Sportlann Castlebar and was attended by 15 participants. The Summer Camp is in its fourth year and is hosted by Sports Inclusion Disability Officer Ray Mc Namara. It is organized on the back of a very successful summer camp last year and a Children's Saturday Club that runs throughout the year. The Camp took place from the 14th – 18th July from 10am – 2pm in An Sportlann Castlebar. The camp is aimed at Children with a disability their family and friends. The camp consisted of various sports with each day having a theme of a different sport as well as lots of fun games. Participants concentrate on Skill, balance, coordination, concentration, confidence building and fun. The participants were aged from 5 – 15 years of age.



Pic: Participants on the week long Inclusive Summer Camp in July 2014

Sportshall Athletics in Special Schools

Sportshall Athletics started in January 2014 and continued every Wednesday in St Antony's Special School Castlebar and St. Dympha's Special School Ballina for 8 weeks. A total of 62 pupils took part in the eight week programme with 45 pupils participating in a jamboree day in March.

Sports hall Athletics was very well received in both schools with both teachers and pupils really enjoying the programme and finding it very beneficial. It has had a huge impact on the pupils from improvement in balance, coordination and skill to developing new skills that they had not developed before. The programme was backed by Ballina athletic club who helped with the coaching over the eight weeks. Teachers thought that the programme was brilliant and that it created such a buzz with the pupils as well as very positive learned outcomes.



Pic: Participants in the Sportshall Athletics Programme at St Anthonys Special School in Castlebar

TRAINING / EDUCATION FOR SPORTS VOLUNTEERS

Mayo Sports Partnership host National Disability Inclusion Training Course

The new Disability Inclusion Training (D.I.T.) which is a nationally recognized course came to Mayo for the first time on the 17th May. It is a theory and practical course that covers terminology, barriers to participation, legislation and guidance and an introduction to disability sports and ways of adapting activities to make them inclusive. This course has been designed for a range of audiences including National Governing Bodies, Coaches, Volunteers, Teachers/SNA, Administrative staff, Leisure Personal and Sports Development Officers. The course can also have a 'sport Specific' focus based on demand. 20 participants took part in the course which was held in Davitt College Sports Hall.

On completion of the course all participant received a Coaching Ireland /CARA APA Centre Certificate of Attendance and a range of course material. The next National Disability Inclusion Training Course is on 8th November in Castlebar for bookings log on to www.caraapa.ie or for more information contact Ray Mc Namara Sports Inclusion Development Officer on 094 9047023 or rmcnamara@mayococo.ie



Pic: Sports Volunteers who completed the 6 hour Disability Inclusion Training in April

GENERAL***Free weekly 5K parkruns now available in Ballina, Castlebar and Westport***

22nd November 2014 saw parkrun come to the scenic Belleek Ballina with meeting point at Ballina Athletic Clubhouse. This free weekly event, taking place at 9.30am sharp, is hosted by Ballina Athletic Club with the support of other organizations such as Mayo Sports Partnership, the HSE through their Get Ireland Active initiative, Ballina Municipal Council and Coillte . The event provides both locals and visitors with a safe and fun environment for the perfect Saturday morning jog or walk. Facilities available to walkers & runners include toilets at the clubhouse, enjoy a tea /coffee at the Runaway Café and carparking.

Mayo now has the largest number of parkruns outside of Dublin with 3 sites in Ballina, Castlebar and Westport and information on each can be found on www.parkrun.ie .

Castlebar parkrun meets every Saturday morning at 9.30am at the Castlebar Tennis Club and the Westport event meets at the Mill St / High St car park at the same time. Even if you did not have a barcode the organizers invite anyone who wishes to try parkrun out to come along on the Saturday morning at any of the above locations.

If you wish to find out more about the initiative you can contact Mayo Sports Partnership at 094-9047025 or email msp@mayococo.ie



Pic: Representatives from Ballina Athletic Club, parkrun Ireland and MSP at the launch of Ballina parkrun

€19,000 in funding distributed to 37 Sports and Recreation groups

€19,000 was allocated to 37 clubs / organisations in Mayo through both the Partnerships 2014 special participation grant scheme. Special guest at a recent presentation evening, Minister of State for Sport and Tourism Michael Ring, complimented the work being done on the ground by many volunteers and how it was important to recognise their contributions in whatever way possible.

This year the scheme has funded initiatives including the set up of a new Athletics Club in Ballycastle, a basketball club in Ballintubber, the development of girls soccer in Kiltimagh / Knock Utd, Camogie programmes in Ballina and Westport, the development of a Mayo Table Tennis Academy, a Fit4Youth teenage fitness initiative with Ballina Athletic Club, swimming and exercise classes in the travelling community, sports / activity programmes for autistic children, a sports / activity initiative for youth in Ballinrobe and much more.



Pic: Representatives from Westport Camogie Club receiving funding from Minister Michael Ring under Mayo Sports Partnerships Annual Grant Scheme

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

Brief Summary of Mayo County Childcare Committee work during 2014



During 2014 Mayo County Childcare Committee (Mayo CCC) continued to provide training, information, support and guidance to early years services, parents and agencies to develop and sustain quality early years education and care programmes in the county. These programmes include the Early Childhood Care & Education Programme (i.e. the Free Pre School Year), Community Childcare Subvention Programme (CCS), Training Employment Childcare programme (TEC), the small scale capital scheme, the childminders development grant scheme, the parent & toddler grant scheme and the two national quality frameworks (Siolta & Aistear).

Mayo CCC is happy to report that there are 121 early years services operating throughout the county, 118 of which are part of the Early Childhood Care & Education Programme (ECCE). There are 56 community 'not for profit' services and 65 private early years services spread across the county engaged in the ECCE programme. Of the overall 121 services there are 50 engaged in the Community Childcare Subvention Programme (CCS) (which is only open to community based services) and 43 services contracted to deliver the Training Employment Childcare (TEC) programme which provides financial support to enable parents to attend certain Solas and Education & Training Board courses.

Also, during 2014, 10 early years services in Mayo were successful in attaining small scale capital funding. The total amount of capital funding invested for early years services in Mayo from the small scale capital funding scheme amounted to €153,949.

In relation to provision of information to parents, early years services and the general public Mayo CCC produced 3 Newsletters which we distributed to parents who have children attending early years services. The Mayo CCC newsletters are distributed through the 121 early years services in the county. Mayo CCC are also happy to report a wide usage of our web site www.mayochildcare.ie. The Mayo CCC web site continues to be updated regularly and has received 6,281 visits from 4,066 visitors, with 15,172 page views during 2014. This represents an increase in activity from our 2013 figures. Visitors to our web site access information about the national childcare funding programmes, early years issues and general early years information. Mayo CCC would like to acknowledge 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 2014 including exciting work with Mayo music generation, to deliver the unique 'Soundsworld' programme. This programme brings the learning and joy of music to pre-school children in a fun, friendly and educational way which has engaged participating children. The programme incorporates the themes of Aistear (the national early years curriculum framework) and it continues to grow and develop. Mayo CCC also engaged with the Road Safety Authority and participating early years services to deliver the road safety pre-school

programme 'Simon & Friends'. 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 Fetac level 6 early childhood care & education equality & diversity training. This training took place in Ballina and in Castlebar with 34 participants attending the training. Mayo CCC continue 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 as many children as possible 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 2015.

Another main dimension to the work of Mayo CCC during 2014 was to deliver the new child protection and welfare training programme to early years services in the county. 2014 was the first year that Mayo CCC was delegated this work by the Department of Children & Youth Affairs. 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 early years services in Mayo during 2014. Mayo CCC delivered 5 sessions to 79 early years workers from 55 services.

With the continued implementation of Aistear (the national early childhood curriculum framework) the nature and depth of understanding regarding the impact early years education and care has on very young children continues to grow. In Mayo we have many examples of how Aistear is being implemented.

One such element of early years education which is gaining increasing attention is the value of outdoor education. While outdoor childcare provision is common in the Nordic countries and more recently in Scotland with Forest Schools, preschool provision which is exclusively or predominantly outdoors is rare in Ireland. However, an outdoor learning environment is such a natural fit in nurturing young children's self-directed, holistic learning and an outdoor preschool allows for extended periods of time to play and discover. Not only does outdoor play and learning allow for greater physical health benefits to young children but recent research also suggests that children need to connect with nature both emotionally and spiritually due to their inborn attraction to the natural world. Gardner's theory of Multiple Intelligences identifies Naturalistic Intelligence as one of the several intelligences. Naturalistic intelligence includes having a strong affinity for the natural world and being able to sense patterns in and make connections to elements in nature. People in Mayo who are surrounded by such a rich natural landscape have a definite advantage in this area.

Just an interesting and encouraging figure which has emerged over the past few years is that there are now 30 Mayo early years services in receipt of the higher capitation rate. This represents an increase of 24 services since 2010 and shows a trebling of ECCE services in the county who qualify for this higher capitation from the Dept of Children & Youth Affairs. This indicates a significant increase in the quality of ECCE services in the county. A higher capitation fee is payable to pre-school service providers where all the pre-school leaders delivering the pre-school service hold a nationally accredited major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 7 on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ) or equivalent and have 3 years experience working in the sector, and where all the pre-school assistants in the service hold a relevant major award in childcare/early education at level 5 on the NFQ or its equivalent.

Some Facts and Figures for the National Childcare Funding Programmes in Mayo

There are currently 121 formal services in the county.

There are 10 Notified Childminders

There are currently 57 childminders voluntary notified to Mayo CCC

118 services are in the ECCE Programme

50 services are in the CCS Programme

43 services are in the TEC Programme

38 services are in the ASCC category of TEC

38 services are in the CEC (AS) category of TEC

38 services are in the CEC (PS) category of TEC

(Please note the ASCC, CEC (AS) & CEC (PS) are sub programmes of the TEC programme)

There are currently 65 private early years services

There are currently 56 community early years services Up to June 2014 there were 1,714 children in Mayo participating in the ECCE programme, with a total payment of €4,062,987 coming into Mayo under the ECCE programme alone during the academic year of September 2013 to June 2014.

10 early years services from Mayo received a total grant allocation of €153,949 under the small scale capital funding scheme during 2014.

19 childminders from Mayo received a total grant allocation of €18,187 under the childminders development grant scheme during 2014

25 Parent & Toddler Groups from Mayo received a total grant allocation of €12,430 under Parent & Toddler Grants Initiative during 2014

Finally, to provide you with just a brief snap shot of some examples of the quality, innovative and exciting early years work being carried out on a daily basis by the dedicated early years sector in Mayo, we have included some photos. There are many examples of quality early years work being carried out in Mayo by many early years staff and management and so to provide just a taste of that work here is just one example...

In 2014 *Outdoor Explorers* preschool celebrated the successful completion of its first preschool year in operation. *Outdoor Explorers* nestles in the beautiful landscape of Derryharriff, Castlebar. Its owner/manager, Avril Grufferty, has successfully achieved making her vision a reality by lots of hard work and determination to be true to the innovative concept of outdoor play and learning in all weather. Avril has worked with both Mayo County Childcare Committee and the Local Enterprise Office of Mayo County Council to achieve successful business planning at both strategic and operational levels.





Figure 2: Developing early mathematical concepts of pattern



Figure 3: An emotional and spiritual connection



Outdoor Explorers preschool is an example of how a pre-school can work with children to reclaim nature as part of the young child’s holistic development and using the outdoors to provide them with a fascinating classroom of awe-inspiring learning. Mayo County Childcare Committee is delighted to support this unique learning experience where all children can avail of free preschool provision as part of the Early Childhood Care and Education Scheme the year prior to beginning national school.

Motor Tax

The Motor Taxation Offices in Mayo deal 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.

The County Councils Motor Tax website is continuously updated to reflect changes in policy and procedures as well as legislative requirements and can be accessed at <http://www.mayococo.ie/en/Services/MotorTax/>

A Motor tax online service also available to customers at www.motortax.ie. The following tax classes are available for online processing:-

- Private Cars
- Motorcycles
- Agricultural Tractors, Excavators/Diggers, and Combine Harvesters
- Hearses
- Vehicles adapted for use by disabled persons
- Motor Caravans (not for first taxing)
- Vintage/Veteran Vehicles
- Commercial Vehicles (renewal only)

The use of the online motor tax facility continues to grow year on year which reflects the user friendly nature of the service.

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. 4000 declarations of non use were received in 2014.

The total income for Motor Taxation for County Mayo in 2014 was €34,576,000 while the income for 2013 was €33,400,000. €17,246,000 was collected through the online Motor Tax service while €17,330,000 was collected through the Mayo Motor Tax Offices.

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.

FINANCE

The Finance Department is responsible for the financial operations in the Council with particular emphasis on ensuring that adequate arrangements are in place to finance revenue and capital activity.

Included among the wide range of services provided by the Finance Section are:

- Financial & Budgetary Control, Cash Flow & Treasury Management
- Preparation of the Annual Budget
- Preparation of Annual Financial Statement
- Administration of the Financial Management Systems
- Payroll Administration
- Commercial Rates Billing & Collection
- Non-Domestic Water Charges Billing & Collection on an agency basis for Irish Water
- Housing Rents and Loans Billing & Collection
- Payment of supplier accounts
- Cash Receipting
- Administration & Collection of the Non Principal Private Residence Charge.

The Finance Department also ensures that statutory and financial accounting principles, which apply to all money, paid by, or to, the Council are complied with.

Mayo County Council operates a Revenue Account to meet the day-to-day costs of the organisation and a Capital Account for the provision of assets such as houses and roads. The level of expenditure for the Revenue Account in 2014 was €144m, where as the Capital Account was €59m.

The Council's revenue or day-to-day expenditure is defrayed from sources such as:-

- Government Grants
- Commercial Rates
- Housing Rents
- Planning application fees
- Non principal private residence charges
- Other goods and services such as Landfill/Civic Amenity Charges, Pay and Display charges.

The amount of money available for capital or infrastructural developments is dependent on State Grants, borrowing and/or development levies.

Council Budget

The Finance Department prepares the overall Draft Annual Budget in consultation with each department of the Council. The Revenue Budget for the financial year ended 31 December 2014, as adopted by Council, was €140m.

Annual Financial Statement

The Finance Department also prepares the Annual Financial Statement of the Council. The Annual Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December 2014 was presented to the Members at their statutory meeting on 11th May 2015.

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT STATEMENT)

FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2014

The Income and Expenditure Account Statement brings together all the revenue related income and expenditure.

It shows the surplus/(deficit) for the year. Transfers to/from reserves are shown separately and not allocated by service division.

Note 17 allocates transfers by service division in the same format as Table A of the adopted Local Authority budget.

Expenditure by Division

	Gross Expenditure	Income	Net Expenditure	Net Expenditure
	2014	2014	2014	2013
	€	€	€	€
Housing & Building	16,143,926	15,434,703	709,223	1,758,761
Roads Transportation & Safety	35,878,405	26,139,595	9,738,810	10,058,402
Water Services	20,815,722	21,754,983	(939,262)	14,567,276
Development Management	8,983,714	2,460,616	6,523,098	6,151,418
Environmental Services	18,040,550	10,294,261	7,746,289	8,802,118
Recreation & Amenity	9,769,386	2,554,529	7,214,857	7,295,678
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	3,780,900	2,825,094	955,806	999,875
Miscellaneous Services	18,769,648	12,708,757	6,060,891	6,111,796
County Charge	-	-	-	2,465,204
Total Expenditure/Income	132,182,251	94,172,539		
Net cost of Divisions to be funded from Rates & Local Government Fund			38,009,713	58,210,528
Rates			25,807,879	25,297,138
Local Government Fund - General Purpose Grant			17,492,594	30,134,270

Pension Related Deduction	2,319,750	2,370,769
County Charge	-	2,465,204
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year before Transfers	7,610,510	2,056,852
Transfers from/(to) Reserves	(7,276,333)	(4,926,358)
Overall Surplus/(Deficit) for Year	334,177	(2,869,506)
General Reserve @ 1st January 2014	(5,394,107)	(2,524,601)
General Reserve @ 31st December 2014	(5,059,930)	(5,394,107)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (BALANCE SHEET) AT 31st DECEMBER 2014

	Notes	2014 €	2013 €
Fixed Assets	1		
Operational		387,547,842	385,028,326
Infrastructural		2,986,296,803	3,550,065,114
Community		8,415,434	8,581,798
Non-Operational		57,552,844	56,038,561
		3,439,812,923	3,999,713,799
Work in Progress and Preliminary Expenses	2	13,121,376	35,607,135
Long Term Debtors	3	68,296,497	72,161,479
Current Assets			
Stocks	4	291,499	1,176,620
Trade Debtors & Prepayments	5	55,244,482	24,991,328
Bank Investments		-	2,580,525

Cash at Bank		8,435,745	-
Cash in Transit		230,929	106,434
		64,202,654	28,854,907
Current Liabilities (Amounts falling due within one year)			
Bank Overdraft		-	3,638,818
Creditors & Accruals	6	71,387,575	29,984,045
		71,387,575	33,622,863
Net Current Assets / (Liabilities)			
		(7,184,920)	(4,767,956)
Creditors (Amounts falling due after more than one year)			
Loans Payable	8	119,928,557	144,194,937
Refundable deposits	9	6,943,869	8,728,592
Other		1,005,318	293,385
		127,877,745	153,216,914
Net Assets			
		3,386,168,132	3,949,497,544
Represented by			
Capitalisation Account	10	3,439,812,923	3,999,713,799
Income WIP	2	13,008,785	40,616,201
Specific Revenue Reserve		1,238,512	1,238,512
General Revenue Reserve		(5,059,932)	(5,394,109)
Other Balances	11	(62,832,156)	(86,676,858)
Total Reserves		3,386,168,132	3,949,497,544

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Annual Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31 December 2014

The Annual Financial Statements (AFS) for the year ended 31st December 2014 have been prepared in accordance with the Accounting Code of Practice (ACOP) and Accounting Regulations for Local Authorities in Ireland, and the directions of the Minister for the Environment, Community & Local Government.

The ACOP has been updated leading to the following changes to the format of the 2014 AFS:

- A revised Certificate of Chief Executive and Head of Finance;
- A revised Appendix 8;
- The adoption of the new naming conventions for the Financial Statement under FRS 102
 - Statement of Comprehensive Income (Income & Expenditure Account)
 - Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet)
 - Statement of Funds (Funds Flow Statement)

The Annual Financial Statement is subject to external audit by the Local Government Auditor from the Local Government Audit Service whose purpose is to form an independent opinion of the accounts, to certify the correctness of the Annual Financial Statement and to submit an Audit Report to the Members of the Council. A copy of the Auditor's Report will be circulated to each Member of the council when it is received, in accordance with normal practice.

There have been two significant items which have been impacted on the Annual Financial Statements for 2014:

1. Transfer of responsibility for the delivery of Water Services;
2. Amalgamation of former Towns Councils of Ballina, Castlebar and Westport with Mayo County Council.

1. Transfer of Responsibility for the Delivery of Water Services

THE WATER SERVICES ACT 2013 AND THE WATER SERVICES (NO. 2) ACT 2013 PROVIDES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF IRISH WATER AS AN INDEPENDENT SUBSIDIARY WITHIN ERVIA (FORMERLY THE BORD GÁIS ÉIREANN GROUP).

FROM 1ST JANUARY 2014, THE LEGISLATION PROVIDED FOR:

- The transfer of Local Authority water services assets and liabilities to Irish Water.
- That all functions of a Local Authority relating to Water Services, shall transfer to Irish Water other than those related to Rural Water Services, notably Group Water Schemes and individual domestic wastewater treatment systems.
- Local Authorities will deliver services on behalf of Irish Water through service level agreements for an agreed payment. It is provided that these agreements will run for an initial 12 year period with reviews after two years and seven years.

The impact of the transfer to Irish Water on the County Council accounts was:

1. The transfer of assets with a net book value of **€567,602,851**;
2. Inclusion of €20,832,635 in Debtors which relates to borrowings outstanding on Water Services loans which are to be recouped by the Department; and
3. The Balancing Statement agreed with Irish Water will result in the County Council being the net beneficiary of **€15.94** million which primarily represents balances on Water and Waste Water Capital projects. This has been accrued in the Debtors figure at the year end.

2. Amalgamation of Town Councils with County Council

On 1st June 2014, the Town Councils of Ballina, Castlebar and Westport were abolished and the assets and liabilities of the Town Councils were transferred to the County Council.

The results of the Town Councils for the period 1st January to 31st May 2014 are consolidated with the results of the County Council for the year and the comparative figures included in the AFS includes the comparative figures for the three Town Councils.

Summary Results

Total Income and Expenditure for the year with a comparison with the previous year are:

<u>Income</u>		
	2014	2013
	€	€
<i>Revenue</i>	144,698,959	150,785,088
<i>Capital</i>	66,266,947	49,171,165
<i>Total</i>	210,965,906	199,956,253

Expenditure

	2014	2013
	€	€
<i>Revenue</i>	144,364,781	153,654,594
<i>Capital</i>	59,291,947	58,639,380
<i>Total</i>	203,656,728	212,293,974

This level of expenditure indicates the on-going extent of day to day service delivery, infrastructural development, together with forward planning and design undertaken by the Council across the County during 2014. It also indicates the significance of the operations of the County Council on the local economy.

REVENUE ACCOUNT

This account covers the everyday expenses of the Council, such as maintenance of housing, roads, water & sewerage schemes, land-use planning, administration and support costs, repayment of loan charges, etc. This account is prepared on a Service and Subservice basis in line with the costing structure which was introduced for all Local Authorities in 2008.

The account may be summarised as follows:

	2014	2013
	€	€
<i>Income</i>	144,698,959	150,785,088
<i>Expenditure</i>	(144,364,782)	(153,654,594)
<i>Surplus/(Deficit) for Year</i>	334,177	(2,869,506)
<i>Debit Balance at 1st January</i>	(5,394,109)	(2,524,603)
<i>Debit Balance at 31st December</i>	(5,059,932)	(5,394,109)

The Local Government Fund Allocation for the 2014 Annual Budget amounted to €17,492,594 (2013 - €30,134,270). The 2014 allocation was reduced due to the transfer responsibility for Water and Waste Water Services to Irish Water on 1st January 2014.

The comparison between the Budget as adopted and the out-turn for the year is:-

	€
<i>Receipts in excess of adopted Budget</i>	3,381,975
<i>Expenditure in excess of adopted Budget</i>	(4,868,520)
	(1,486,545)
<i>Surplus L.G/ Fund Pension Levy/ Rates</i>	1,820,722
<i>Surplus for year</i>	334,177

A more detailed report on the variations between budgeted expenditure and income at service level is outlined in the Annual Financial Statement Financial Review.

Revenue Collections

Details are given in Appendix 7 to the Annual Financial Statements.

The continuing challenging economic environment makes debt collection a particularly difficult task at the present time. Notwithstanding this, there is an onus on this Council to collect debts owing to it. Mayo County Council continues to appreciate the difficult operating environment for the Business Community at present and it is acknowledged that 2014 was a challenging year for many of our customers. This has been recognised in our policies of dealing with the range of Commercial and Non Commercial debtors and we aim to continue to work with them in a manner commensurate with their particular financial capacity at a given time. We will continue with the policy of engaging proactively with all of our customers, with a view to, over time reducing the level of arrears. In certain instances, unfortunately, where no reasonable means is taken to pay outstanding debts, we have no choice but to take appropriate court action to pursue these debts.

Of the arrears of Rates of €6.37 million at 31st December 2014, €1.40 million had been paid in the period January to date. The provision for Bad Debts has been increased to €1.91 million.

Arrears of housing loans have decreased by €42,749 whilst Rent arrears have increased marginally by €1,137 at 31st December 2014.

Summary of Revenue Account:

There was a **surplus of €334,177** on the revenue account in 2014 bringing the accumulated debit balance on the general revenue reserve to €5,059,932. However we will be taking all reasonable steps in 2015 to ensure that the accumulated deficit on the Revenue Account is further reduced.

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

In the Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet) the capital account has been split and the balances that comprise the Capital Account have been included under various headings in the Statement of Financial Position. Details of the transactions of the Capital Account at Programme level and Programme Group level are given in Appendices 5 & 6 of the Annual Financial Statements.

As a general principle, capital expenditure may be described as that which is incurred on the creation of an asset having a life extending beyond the year in which it is provided such as, purchase of land, house building, major road improvement works, new fire stations, new and improved office buildings etc.

A summary of the transactions on this account with the comparison with the previous year is as follows:

	2014	2013
	€	€
Income	66,266,947	49,171,165
Expenditure	(59,291,947)	(58,639,380)
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year	6,975,000	(9,468,215)
Debit Balance at 1st January	(1,539,163)	7,929,052
Debit Balance at 31st December	5,435,837	(1,539,163)

The improvement in the balance on the Capital Account results primarily from the drawdown of bridging loans of €10.4 million to fund Water & Sewerage capital. Following the transfer of functions to Irish Water, it is anticipated that this loan as well as all Water and Waster Water related loans will be redeemed with funding from the DOECLG.

Capital Expenditure has increased in the following areas:

	€'000s
Road Grants	6,955
Parks & Amenities	3,104
Development Contributions – Increase in Provision	711
Estate Take Over	546
Piers/Harbours – Storm Damage	4,162
Total Expenditure Increases	15,478

Capital Expenditure has decreased in the following areas:

	€'000s
Housing CAS – Mayfield, Claremorris	2,748
Agency Works – Roads	952
Development Contributions – PPP Costs	1,735
Rural Water/GWS	1,239
Humbert Street, Ballina - CPO	5,695
Total Expenditure Decreases	12,369

Capital Debt

The Council's Capital Debt at 31st December 2014 was €156,718,197. Repayments of borrowings in 2014 amounted to €11,382,461. During 2014 the Council repaid loans of €2,223,510 and drew down an additional €19,048,000 of borrowings. These drawdowns were for the following:

<i>Application of Borrowings</i>	€'000s
PPP - Water & Sewerage Schemes	10,400
House Purchase Loans	6,248
Gratuities/Voluntary Redundancy Scheme	2,400
Total Expenditure Increases	19,048

Of the total debt of **€156.7 million**, **€20.8 million** relates to borrowings to fund the Councils PPP contribution for Water and Sewerage Capital Schemes. These loans will be redeemed during 2015 from monies recouped from the DOECLG. Total repayments made on these loans during 2014 amounted to €1.1 million.

Approximately **€34.7 million** of the Councils borrowings relates to borrowings to fund loans issued to housing customers, whilst a further **€3.9 million** relates to the councils equity share in loans issued under the Shared Ownership Scheme. There is a corresponding amount included in debtors which represents the total principal outstanding on loans issued to customers together with rented equity outstanding on shared ownership loans. A further **€27.5 million** of the Council's debt relates to borrowings for Voluntary housing and Water Services, which is funded by the DOECLG. Also **€1.6 million** of the debt relates to offices provided to the NRA and the EPA for which the Council receives rental income. A further **€0.7 million** relates the Councils refurbishment programme which is funded by Internal Capital Receipts. The balance of borrowings (**€67.5 million**) represents expenditure on items such as Landfill sites, land purchase, offices and buildings for which a revenue stream is provided for.

CONCLUSION

The Council's cumulative deficit in the Revenue Account as set out in the General Revenue Reserve at 31st December 2014 was **€5,059,932**. It is important that this deficit is reduced and eliminated over the coming years and that this is taken into account when framing the Budgets for 2016 and future years. We will continue to closely monitor the Council's Expenditure and Income in order to maintain and improve the Council's financial position.

The Council's cumulative credit balance on the Capital Account at 31st December 2014 was €5,435,837.

Mayo County Council has a long tradition of prudent financial management involving the adoption of realistic Budgets by the elected members and the co-operation of the staff in the control of expenditure, the generation of income and the securing of value for money. As we become accustomed to a new structure of Local Government in Mayo we will continue to manage our finances in a prudent fashion striving always to ensure that essential services are delivered to a high quality and represent value for money. We will also continue to maintain strict financial and budgetary controls, strive for a further reduction in our cost base and prioritise our services according to the greatest need so as to sustain our financial capacity to deliver core essential services.

2014 was another challenging year for Mayo County Council. The challenging economic conditions have impacted considerably on the Council's financial circumstances since 2008. Income sources have particularly suffered while at the same time demand has increased for many of the services provided by the Council. This evolving financial situation places pressures on the Council and requires very focussed and ongoing financial management of available resources and appropriate discipline to work within available budgets and affordability thresholds. The reductions in state funding together with increasing pressures in collecting local sources of income mean that cashflow management to fund Council payments for payroll, goods and services has become ever more critical.

Procurement

This report is primarily is focused on keeping you up-to-date about how public procurement is changing and the Office of Government procurement (OGP’s) programmes and activities, including how the OGP are ensuring that the contracts and frameworks that are put in place meet the needs of our customers. In this report, you will therefore find information on the Procurement Reform Programme, how Category Councils operate and new frameworks that the OGP has put in place.

The Procurement Reform Programme is now well underway. Communication of the reform programme has been disseminated by the OGP and all relevant information is made available to all staff through Mayo County Council’s intranet.

Procurement Reform Programme

One of the key priorities set out in the Public Service Reform Plan is to reduce costs and achieve better value for money through reform of public procurement.

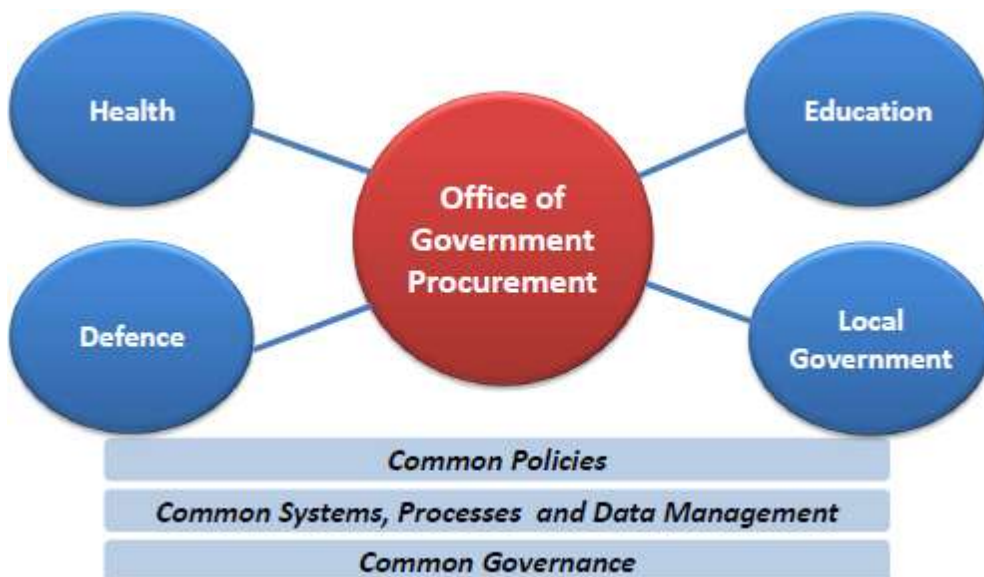
The Office of Government Procurement was officially launched in July 2013 and operates as an office of the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, with its own Vote.

Currently, public service procurement activity is transacted by several hundred contracting authorities throughout the State.

The Office of Government Procurement will in due course take full responsibility for procurement policy and procedures and, together with four key Sectors, for sourcing all goods and services on behalf of the public service. The OGP will have key partners in the Health, Defence, Education and Local Government sectors.

Reform—what it looks like...

Through the Office of Government Procurement and the four sector retained procurement functions, the public service will speak with ‘one voice’ to the market for each category of expenditure, eliminating duplication and taking advantage of the scale of public procurement to best effect.



Savings

The Government has set the Procurement Reform Programme a savings target of up to €500m over three years, starting with a target of €127m for 2014. These savings will be delivered by:

- (a) transforming the existing fragmented procurement model to new centre-led structures, underpinned by common policies, processes and systems and
- (b) driving a programme of collaborative savings projects across the state sector.

Who will buy what?

The goods and services currently bought by the public service can be grouped into 16 categories. Eight of these categories cover goods and services that are common across the public service. When fully established, the OGP will put in place contracts for these categories from which all public service bodies will buy.

The other 8 categories of goods and services are predominately sector-specific. These categories will be procured by the retained sector procurement functions on behalf of all public bodies.

OGP Led Categories	Sector Led Categories
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional Services • Facilities Management and Maintenance • Utilities • ICT and Office Equipment • Marketing, Print and Stationery • Travel and HR Services • Fleet and Plant • Managed Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Minor Building Works and Civils – Plant Hire • Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Medical Professional Services – Medical and Diagnostic Equipment and Supplies – Medical, Surgical and Pharmaceutical Supplies • Defence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Defence and Security • Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Veterinary and Agriculture – Laboratory, Diagnostics and Equipment

For purchases that are not covered by an OGP framework/contract, and which represent a reasonable level of expenditure, the OGP will have spot buying capabilities.

For non-repeating low value purchases that are not covered by an OGP framework/contract, the customer organisations can avail of the OGP's low value purchasing cards framework.

Professionalisation

Procurement has evolved into a professional business discipline over the last decade in particular.

The OGP will concentrate develop and leverage that expertise across the public service and will offer procurement professionals a procurement-centred career path, with opportunities for development.

The establishment of the OGP will therefore foster the continuing professionalisation of procurement in the public sector.

Procurement in Mayo County Council

The Procurement Team is responsible for designing, developing, implementing and maintaining systems that provide the OGP with the data, systems and process frameworks they need.

To do this, we are working closely with various budget holders, section heads and their management teams to ensure that we can learn from the expertise that they have built up in their respective areas and to ensure that the systems and processes being designed by the OGP will benefit everyone.

The section is consistently working on our spend which include among other things, collecting, analysing and reporting on past, current and future procurement data and identifying opportunities to ensure our spend represents best value for money.

Collaboration is fundamental to Operations being able to successfully deliver on our remit. We recognise that centralising procurement at National level and putting in place standardised systems and processes will impact on staff, not just in Mayo County Council but across the public sector. It is therefore critical that our systems and processes reflect best agreed practices and that is why our focus will continue to be on working collaboratively with those who have proven expertise in this area and who will jointly use the systems and processes being developed by the OGP.

What are your priorities for the next 12 months?

One of our primary objectives in the next 12 months is to continuously raise awareness of the importance of compliant procurement with all purchasing staff.

Another priority is the collection and reporting of historical spend data.

The focus of the Procurement section will be on continuous improvement of the tendering system and procedures. For example, we want to encourage greater use of the LAQuotes system for under-threshold tenders. We will assist the Local Enterprise Office to help SMEs be considered for closed competitions and to ensure they are receiving tender alerts.

We also have other systems and processes to be delivered over the next 12 months which will help provide the foundations for a compliant, efficient and user-friendly procurement service.

Information Communications Technologies (ICTS)

Throughout 2014 the IS Department continued to maintain and support the ICT requirements of Mayo County Council and at the same time, planned for the future requirements of the Local Authority. During the year the Section dealt with approximately 16,000 HelpDesk Calls from Staff Members. In addition to the normal day to day support issues the following is a list of some of the tasks undertaken by the ICT Section.

- A major project was undertaken in which all Users PC's were upgraded from Windows XP to Windows 2007
- Local Authority Unification:
 - AGRESSO in conjunction with Finance Section
 - iPlan in conjunction with the Planning Section
 - Docuware: (Document Management System) This was a major project as the three Town Councils stored documents under a range of differing headings
 - Parking Fine Systems. The Town Councils used a different system to that in use in Mayo County Council and all these records had to be amalgamated into one database
 - Two Handheld Revenue Collection Systems were initially amalgamated
 - Fit out of the Castlebar Municipal District Meeting Room
 - Transfer of ICT Hardware Structure where necessary for the integration of Town Council Staff into the main Office building
- Irish Water. Approximately 60 computers were connected to the Irish Water Network, each required configuration changes involving Citrix Client and Cert installation
- ISO - 27001:2005 Re-Certification. The Section successfully retained our ISO Standard for a further three years
- A new Hand Held Revenue Collection System was introduced. This involved the acquisition of a new system together with new hardware and was rolled out to all Revenue Collectors
- New Air-conditioning System was commissioned in the Main Server Room
- Wireless WAN Upgrade completed
- A project was commenced to replace existing UPS Systems in vital sites. Objective being to provide a minimum of 12hr Uptime in the case of a power outage
- The Section was involved in the refurbishment of the office accommodation for the Áras Building
- A new Travel and Subsistence System was successfully implemented. The implementation involved the system rollout and training of all Mayo County Council Staff in the use of same
- Microsoft Licence Audit was completed
- Virtualisation of existing Servers continued on target with 70% of the project being completed by December 2014
- Provided support to DCENR (*Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources*) during the installation of Dark Fibre as part of the National Broadband Plan
- IT Staff continued to maintain all Mayo County Council Web Sites and Services. There were approximately three million hits on Mayo County Council Websites throughout 2014
- IT Staff involved in the implementation of the www.mayo.ie website
- Completed the acquisition and upgrade of GIS Surveying Equipment
- GIS continued to provide technical support to all Sections of the Local Authority
- GIS involved in a pilot project to audit the Record of Protected Structures (RPS) in Mayo
- The Houses of Mayo Project continued apace and is on schedule for completion in Summer 2015.

CORPORATE POLICY GROUP

Mayo County Council's Corporate Policy Group met four times in 2014.

STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES

SPC's	COUNCILLORS	REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSING	Mr. Paul Benson, A/Director of Services Cllr. Gerry Ginty, Chair Cllr. Annie May Reape Cllr. Blackie Gavin Cllr. Henry Kenny Cllr. John Cribbin Cllr. Gerry Murray Cllr. Richard Finn	Kevin Kirrane, Kirrane Auctioneering, Main Street, Ballyhaunis, Co. Mayo Padraig Heverin, Ashfield, Ballyglass, Claremorris, Co. Mayo Anne Chambers – Western Care Association, John Moore Road, Castlebar, Co. Mayo Willie Walsh, Moyhastin, Ballinrobe Road, Westport. Co. Mayo
CULTURAL, EDUCATION, HERITAGE, CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY SERVICES	Mr. Joe Loftus, Director of Services Cllr. J. Munnely, Chair Cllr. John Caulfield Cllr. Blackie Gavin Cllr. Tereasa McGuire Cllr. John Cribbin Cllr. Thérèse Ruane Cllr. Richard Finn	Michael McLaughlin, Photography, Ballinrobe Road, Westport, Co. Mayo Tony Deffely, Glenisland, Castlebar, Co. Mayo Mary Heanue, Inishturk, Renvyle, Co. Galway Marie Farrell – Linenhall Art Centre, Castlebar, Co. Mayo
ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION	Mr. Paddy Mahon, Director of Services Cllr. Annie May Reape, Chair Cllr. Damien Ryan Cllr. Brendan Mulroy Cllr. Patsy O'Brien Cllr. Cyril Burke Cllr. Rose Conway-Walsh CLLR. SEAMUS WEIR	John McMillan, Carlton Cheese & Olives, Carton North, Tooreen, Ballyhaunis, Co. Mayo Michael Moran, Michael Moran Electrical, Knockranny, Westport, Co. Mayo Matt Farrell, Centre of the Unemployed, Ballina, Co. Mayo Majella Palasz, Castlebar Road, Newport, Co. Mayo

<p>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENTERPRISE SUPPORT</p>	<p>Ms. Joanne Grehan, Head of Mayo Enterprise Cllr. Michael Kilcoyne, Chair Cllr. Lisa Chambers Cllr. Al. McDonnell Cllr. Tom Connolly Cllr. Neil Cruise Cllr. Rose Conway-Walsh Cllr. Christy Hyland</p>	<p>Pat Staunton, Staunton Pharmacy, Main Street, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p> <p>Neill O'Neill, Westport Chamber, The Fairgreen, Westport, Co. Mayo</p> <p>Deirdre Carroll, Centre of the Unemployed, Ballina, Co. Mayo</p> <p>Seamus Heverin, Cloongtakilla, Ballina, Co. Mayo</p>
<p>PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE</p>	<p>Mr. Martin Keating, A/Director of Services Cllr. Michael Smyth, Chair Cllr. Al McDonnell Cllr. Paul McNamara Cllr. Tom Connolly Cllr. Neil Cruise Cllr. Gerry Murray Cllr. Michael Holmes</p>	<p>James O'Doherty, The Creel, The Quay, Westport, Co. Mayo</p> <p>Peter Jordan, Ballina Chamber, 41 Pearse Street, Ballina, Co. Mayo</p> <p>Padraic Joyce, Islandeady, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p> <p>Tony Ruddy, Glencullen Lower, Bangor Erris, Ballina, Co. Mayo</p>
<p>TOURISM AND FOOD</p>	<p>Ms. Joanne Grehan, Head of Mayo Enterprise Cllr. Gerry Coyle, Chair Cllr. Michael Loftus Cllr. John Caulfield Cllr. John O'Hara Cllr. Tereasa McGuire Cllr. Thérèse Ruane CLLR. FRANK DURCAN</p>	<p>Michael Lennon, Westport Woods Hotel, Quay Road, Westport, Co. Mayo</p> <p>Padraig Heverin, Ashfield, Ballyglass, Claremorris, Co. Mayo</p> <p>Patrick Chambers Jnr, Derrycooldrin, Newport, Co. Mayo</p> <p>Michael Carey, Glencullen Lower, Bangor Erris, Ballina, Co. Mayo</p>

ROAD TRANSPORTATION & SAFETY STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

THE ROADS STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE COMPRISES OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

CLLR. GERRY COYLE [CHAIRMAN] CLLR. JARLATH MUNNELLY, 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

THE COMMITTEE WENT ON A DELEGATION TO THE NATIONAL ROADS AUTHORITY IN JANUARY 2014 TO DISCUSS:

- **MAJOR ROUTES IN THE COUNTY**
- **LOW VOLUME SCHEMES**
- **PAVEMENT AND MINOR WORKS**
- **SAFETY SCHEMES.**

THE ROADS TRANSPORTATION & SAFETY POLICY COMMITTEE MET ON THE 09TH APRIL 2014, THIS BEING THE LAST MEETING OF THE CURRENT SPC MEMBERSHIP.

LOCAL ELECTIONS WERE HELD ON THE 23RD MAY 2014. A NEW STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE (SPC) CONSISTING OF ELECTED AND NON-ELECTED MEMBERS WAS THEN CONSTITUTED.

CLLR. ANNIE MAY REAPE [CHAIRPERSON] CLLR. DAMIEN RYAN, CLLR. PATSY O'BRIEN, CLLR. BRENDAN MULROY, CLLR. CYRIL BURKE, CLLR. ROSE CONWAY-WALSH, CLLR. SEAMUS WEIR.

MR. JOHN McMILLAN, MAYO COUNTY COMMUNITY FORUM

MR. EDDIE LAVELLE, TRADE UNION PILLAR REPRESENTATIVE

MR. MICHAEL MORAN BUSINESS PILLAR REPRESENTATIVE

MS. MAJELLA PALASZ ENVIRONMENTAL PILLAR REPRESENTATIVE

THIS COMMITTEE MET FOR ITS INAUGURAL MEETING ON THE 20TH NOVEMBER 2014.

THE COMMITTEE HAS CONSIDERED AND DEALT WITH THE FOLLOWING ISSUES AMONGST OTHERS:

- **NATIONAL ROADS PROGRAMME FOR THE COUNTY**
- **NON NATIONAL ROADS PROGRAMME**
- **ROAD SAFETY**
- **Community Involvement scheme**
- **Speed Limits in Housing Estates and**
- **Hedge Cutting Policy**
- **Land Transport Investment**
- **Mayo Public Transport**

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 2 meetings during 2014.

Following Local Elections 2014, under the Chairmanship of Cllr Jarlath Munnely and the Directorship of Mr Joe Loftus, the Cultural, Education, Heritage, Corporate Affairs and Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee held 1 meeting in 2014.

During 2014, the following matters were considered by the SPC members, including:-

- Recommendation that Commemoration Strategy funding for 2014 be allocated to the following commemoration activities for 2014, included in adopted Mayo Commemoration Strategy 2013-2023 :-
 - Produce a publication on the continuation of the history of Mayo County Council during the period 1910-1919 - €7,000.00.
 - Cumann na mBán Centenary - €10,000.00.
 - Mayo Peace Park Committee - €5,000.00.
- To hear progress report regarding implementation of 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”*.
- To hear presentation on the following commemoration activity for 2014 included in adopted Mayo Commemoration Strategy 2013-2023 :-
 - Produce a publication on the continuation of the history of Mayo County Council during the period 1910-1919.
- To hear presentations from the three Mayo Historical Societies of Castlebar, Ballina and Westport.
- Review of the Workings of the Cultural, Education, Heritage and Corporate Affairs Strategic Policy Committee, for the period 2009-2014.
- To note Part 15 of the Local Government Act, 2001, for Non-Councillor Members of Local Authority Committees.
- To note Standing Orders.
- To hear report regarding Emergency Services.
- To note report on Action Plan for Cultural, Education, Heritage, Corporate Affairs and Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee.
- To make submission to Draft Corporate Plan 2015-2019.

Planning, Environment & Agriculture Strategic Policy Committee.

A new Planning, Environment and Agriculture Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) was set up in November 2014. This was necessary as a result of the formation of a new Council, following the Local Election results in May 2014.

The Committee is as follows:

Cllr. Michael Smyth, Chair

Cllr. Al McDonnell

Cllr. Paul McNamara

Cllr. Tom Connolly

Cllr. Neil Cruise

Cllr. Gerry Murray

Cllr. Michael Holmes

Mr. James O'Doherty, Westport Chamber of Commerce Representative

Mr. Peter Jordan, Ballina Chamber of Commerce Representative

Mr. Tom Fitzpatrick, County IFA Environmental Representative

Mr. Sean Carolan, Tourism Community Representative.

Environmental Strategic Policy Committee

This committee comprises of elected members and members of the business and farming communities. The committee oversees the development and implementation of policy for the environment function.

The Committee met on 2 occasions in 2014 and discussed inter alia

- Regional Waste Management Policy
- Storm Damage to Blue Flag Beaches
- Environmental Awareness Strategy
- RMCEI Enforcement Plan
- Burial Ground Bye-laws

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Performance Indicators - Returns Report 2014

F:	Fire Service
J:	Economic Development
C:	Corporate
E:	Waste / Environment
H:	Housing
L:	Library / Recreational Services
P:	Planning
Y:	Youth / Community
M:	Finance
R:	Roads
W:	Water

F1: Cost per capita of the Fire Service

A. Cost per Capita	40.41
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In order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

The Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme E 2014 data consisting of E11 - Operation of fire Service and E12 - Fire Prevention and the relevant proportion of the central management charge for Programme E	€5,278,478
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F.2 Service Mobilisation

The following indicator will be presented in the performance indicators report and in order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

A. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of fire	N/A
B. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect fire	6
C. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of all other (non-fire) emergency incidents	N/A
D. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of all other (non-fire) emergency incidents	5.93

F.3 Percentage of Attendances at Scenes

The following indicator will be presented in the performance indicators report:

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

In order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

Total number of call-outs in respect of fires from 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014	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 call-outs in respect of incidents of all other emergency incidents (i.e. not including fire) from 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014	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

J: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**J.1 - No. of jobs created**

The following indicator is presented in the Performance indicators report and in order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

A. The no. of jobs created with assistance from the Local Enterprise Office during the period 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014	45
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C: CORPORATE**C.1 / C.2 - Total Number of WTEs / Working Days lost to Sickness**

The following indicator is presented in the service indicators report:

C1-A. The whole time equivalent staffing number as at 31 December 2014 (consistent with figures provided to DECLG by way of staffing returns for December 2014)	935.21
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C2-A. Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through medically certified leave	3.96
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C2-B. Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through self-certified leave	0.32
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In order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

Number of working days lost to sickness absence through medically certified leave	8414
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Number of working days lost to sickness absence through self-certified leave	684
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Number of unpaid working days lost to sickness absence included within the total of medically certified sick leave days	1906
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Number of unpaid working days lost to sickness absence included within the total of self-certified sick leave days	185
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C.3 - No. of page visits lo LA website

The following indicator is presented in the performance indicators report and in order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

A. The cumulative total page views for the period 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014 obtained from a page tagging on-site web analytics service	1,679,000
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C.4 - Overall Cost of ICT provision per WTE

The following indicator is presented in the performance indicators report and in order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

A. All revenue expenditure on hardware and software plus depreciation divided by WTE under 'C1' above	€2648.34
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E: WASTE ENVIRONMENT

E1: Number of Licensees operating in LA Area

The following indicator is presented in the performance indicators report and in order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

The number of waste facility permits and certificates of registration granted by the LA and not yet expired as at 31/12/2014	Supplied by NWCP0
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E.2 - Number / % of Households with access to a 3 bin service

A. The number of households, based on the 2011 Census , who are situated in an area covered by a licensed operator providing a 3 bin service at 31/12/2014	Supplied by NWCP0
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B. The percentage of households within the LA area (also as per the 2011 Census) that the number at 'A' above represents	Supplied by NWCP0
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E.3 - No. of Waste complaints lodged with the EPA Office of Environmental Enforcement

The following indicator is presented in the performance indicators report and in order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

A. The number of distinct complaints relating to waste within the LA area that were referred to the OEE in the period 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014 because the problem persisted after investigation of the complaint by the LA	0
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E.4 - Percentage of other environmental pollution complaints closed

The following indicator is presented in the service indicators report:

Percentage of Litter pollution cases closed by 31/12/2014	84.2%
Percentage of Air pollution cases closed by 31/12/2014	81.63%
Percentage of Noise pollution cases closed by 31/12/2014	100%
Percentage of Water pollution cases closed by 31/12/2014	78.67%

In order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

The total number of Litter pollution cases in respect of which a complaint/s was/were made through any medium during 2014 whether instigated by the public or by the LA itself	848
Number of Litter pollution cases received in 2014 on which either a decision was taken that no investigation was warranted or an investigation was finalised (whether through prosecution or otherwise) during the year	714
The total number of Air pollution cases in respect of which a complaint/s was/were made through any medium during 2014 whether instigated by the public or by the LA itself	49
Number of Air pollution cases received in 2014 on which either a decision was taken that no investigation was warranted or an investigation was finalised (whether through prosecution or otherwise) during the year	40
The total number of Noise pollution cases in respect of which a complaint/s was/were made through any medium during 2014 whether instigated by the public or by the LA itself	9
Number of Noise pollution cases received in 2014 on which either a decision was taken that no investigation was warranted or an investigation was finalised (whether through prosecution or otherwise) during the year	9
The total number of Water pollution cases in respect of which a complaint/s was/were made through any medium during 2014 whether instigated by the public or by the LA itself	75
Number of Water pollution cases received in 2014 on which either a decision was taken that no investigation was warranted or an investigation was finalised (whether through prosecution or otherwise) during the year	59

E.5 - Percentage of LA area within the 5 levels of litter pollution

This data will be submitted directly from Tobin Consulting Engineers to the LGMA:

The percentage of the area within the LA that when surveyed was unpolluted or litter free	Supplied by Tobin Consulting Engineers
The percentage of the area within the LA that when surveyed was slightly polluted	
The percentage of the area within the LA that when surveyed was moderately polluted	
The percentage of the area within the LA that when surveyed was significantly polluted	
The percentage of the area within the LA that when surveyed was grossly polluted	

H: HOUSING

H.1 / H.2 - Social Housing Stock / Housing Voids

The following indicator is presented in the performance indicators report and in order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data

H1-A. The overall total number of dwellings provided by the local authority in the period 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014; comprising:	192
H1-B. The number of dwellings directly provided (constructed or purchased) by the LA in 2014	3
H1-Ba. Number constructed (from B. above)	2
H1-Bb. Number Purchased (from B. above)	1
H1-C. The number of units provided under the Rental Accommodation Scheme in 2014	144
H1-D. The number of units provided under the Housing Assistance Payment Scheme in 2014 if operated (or else indicate if scheme not yet being operated in the LA)	0
H1-E. The number of units provided under the Social Housing Leasing Initiative (including unsold Affordable Scheme units and NAMA sourced properties and Mortgage to Rent Scheme) in 2014	45
H1-F. The overall total number of social housing dwellings in the LA at 31/12/2014; comprising:	3098
H1-G. The total number of dwellings directly provided (constructed or purchased) by the LA	2044
H1-H. The number of units provided under the Rental Accommodation Scheme	958
H1-I. The number of units provided under the Housing Assistance Payment Scheme if operated (or else indicate if scheme not yet being operated in the LA)	0
H1-J. The number of units provided under the Social Housing Leasing Initiative (including unsold Affordable Scheme units and NAMA sourced properties and Mortgage to Rent Scheme)	96
H2-A. The percentage of the total number of dwellings at H1-G above that were vacant on 31/12/2014	6.85
The number of dwelling units within their overall stock that were not tenanted on 31/12/2014	140

H3: Average Re-letting Time and Cost

The following indicator is presented in the performance indicators report:

A. The time taken from the date of vacation of dwelling to the date in 2014 when a new tenancy had commenced in the dwelling, averaged across all units re-let in 2014	0.31 weeks
B. The cost expended on getting the re-tenanted units in 2014 ready for re-letting, averaged across all units re-let in 2014	€7281.15

In order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

The number of units that were re-tenanted on any date in 2014 (but excluding all those that had been vacant due to an estate-wide refurbishment scheme)	122
The number of weeks from when the previous tenant vacated the dwelling up to the date of the new tenant's first rent debit, with any partial week decimalised to two decimal places, totalled for all units included above	38 weeks
Total expenditure on repairs necessary to enable re-letting of the units included above	€888300

H.4 - Housing Maintenance Cost

The following indicator is presented in the performance indicators report and in order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

A. Expenditure during 2014 on the repair and maintenance of housing bought or built by the LA compiled on a continuous basis from 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014, divided by the no. of directly provided units in the LA stock at 31/12/2014 (H1G above)	0
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H.5 - Private rented sector inspections

This information will be supplied directly to the LGMA by the PRTB

A. Total number of registered tenancies in the LA area (obtained directly from the PRTB)	13856
B. Number of inspections carried out	322

H.6 - Long-term Homeless Adults

The following indicator is presented in the performance indicators report:

A. Number of adult individuals that are long-term homeless as a percentage of the total number of homeless adult individuals	0 %
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In order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

The number of adult individuals classified as homeless in the Pathway Accommodation and Support System (PASS) as at 31/12/2014	74
The number of homeless adult individuals who, on 31/12/2014, have been in emergency accommodation for 6 months continuously, or for 6 months cumulatively over the previous 12 months	0

L: LIBRARY SERVICES**L1: Library Visits**

The following indicator is presented in the service indicators report:

Number of visits to libraries per 1,000 population	
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In order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

Total number of visits to libraries	
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Not available as we have not been asked to collect this data to date.	
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L2: Cost of operating a Library Service

The following indicator is presented in the service indicators report:

A. Cost of operating a Library Service per 1,000 Population	17299.71
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In order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

The Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme F 2014 data consisting of F02 - Operation of Library and Archival Service and the relevant proportion of the central management charge for programme F	2260000
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P: PLANNING**P.1 - New Buildings Inspected**

The following indicator is presented in the service indicators report:

A. Buildings inspected as a percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority	13.89
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In order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

Total number of new building notified to the local authority	432
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Number of new buildings notified to the local authority in 2014 that were the subject of at least one inspection undertaken by the local authority under section 11 of the Building Control Act 1990	60
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P2: No. / % of Planning decisions confirmed by An Bord Pleanála

The following indicator is presented in the service indicators report:

A. Number of LA planning decisions which were the subject of an appeal to An Bord Pleanála that were determined by the Board on any date in the last year	18
B. Percentage of the determinations at 'A' above which were to confirm either with or without variation the decision made by the LA	83.33

In order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

Number of determinations confirming the LA's decision with or without variation	15
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P.3 - Percentage of Planning Enforcement cases closed as resolved

The following indicator is presented in the service indicators report:

A. Total number of planning cases (as opposed to complaints) referred to or initiated by the local authority in the period 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014 that were investigated	152
B. Total number of cases that were closed during 2014	100
C. % of the cases at 'B' above that were dismissed under section 152(2), Planning and Development Act 2000	47
D. % of the cases at 'B' above that were resolved to the LA's satisfaction through negotiations	53%
E. % of the cases at 'B' above that were closed due to enforcement proceedings	68%
F. Total number of planning cases being investigated as at 31/12/2014	115

In order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

Number of cases at 'B' above that were dismissed under section 152(2), Planning and Development Act 2000	47
Number of cases at 'B' above that were resolved to the LA's satisfaction through negotiations	53
Number of cases at 'B' above that were closed due to enforcement proceedings	68

P.4 - Cost per Capita of the Planning Service

The following indicator is presented in the service indicators report:

A. Cost per Capita	22.88
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In order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

The Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme D data consisting of D01 - Forward Planning, D02 - Development Management, D03 - Enforcement and the relevant proportion of the central management charge for Programme D	2989412.89
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Y: YOUTH / COMMUNITY

Y1: Participation in Comhairle na n-Óg scheme

The following indicator is presented in the service indicators report:

Percentage of local schools and youth groups involved in the local Youth Council/ Comhairle na n-Óg scheme	96.55%
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In order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

Total number of second level schools and youth groups in the LA area at 31/12/2014	29
Number of second level schools and youth groups in the LA from which representatives attended the local Comhairle na n-Óg AGM held in 2014	28

Comment: Comhairle na nOg is increasing the number of representatives it has from all of the local schools every year. We have 40 members with representatives from all over county Mayo.

Y2: No. of Gateway participants employed as % of target

The following indicator is presented in the service indicators report:

A. Number of Gateway participants who commenced a work placement during 2014 expressed as a percentage of the placements allocated to the LA	108.75%
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In order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

No. of employed Gateway participants who commenced a work placement at any time during 2014 (inclusive of those who dropped out before the year-end)	87
No. of Gateway placements allocated to the LA as agreed between the Department of Social Protection and the CCMA	80

Y3: % of nominees to LCDC membership via the PPN structures from the most marginalised SICAP groups

The following indicator is presented in the performance indicators report and in order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

The overall number of private sector members of the LCDC at 31/12/2014 nominated via the PPN structures who are of any of; Travellers, Roma, Unemployed, People with Disabilities, Lone Parents or Families in Disadvantages Areas and Disadvantaged or New Communities (including Refugees / Asylum Seekers)	4
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Y4: Number progressing to FT, PT or self-employment within 6 months of receipt of a Goal 3 employment support

The following indicator is presented in the performance indicators report and in order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

The no. of people in the 'Individuals supported into employment or self-employment' category, who commenced that employment within 6 months of receiving a Goal 3 support, included in the 2014 Local Community Dev. Programme Annual Report	
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Comment: This information is not available within the Local Authority.

R: ROADS

R.1 - Ratings in Pavement Surface Condition Index

The following indicator is presented in the service indicators report and in order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

REGIONAL ROAD SURFACE	
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 1	0%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 2	0%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 3	0%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 4	2.24%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 5	3.44%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 6	4.89%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 7	3.69%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 8	1.92%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 9	4.39%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 10	0.5%
Overall Percentage (based on length) of condition recorded on MapRoad	21.07%

LOCAL PRIMARY ROAD SURFACE

At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 1	0.03%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 2	0.12%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 3	0.89%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 4	3.02%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 5	2.75%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 6	2.74%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 7	2.18%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 8	2.09%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 9	4.79%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 10	0.05%
Overall Percentage (based on length) of condition recorded on MapRoad	14.66%

LOCAL SECONDARY ROAD SURFACE

At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 1	0
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 2	0.26%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 3	0.85%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 4	2.49%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 5	2.21%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 6	3.2%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 7	1.29%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 8	1.45%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 9	4.61%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 10	0

LOCAL TERTIARY ROAD SURFACE

At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 1	0.16%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 2	0.4%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 3	0.92%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 4	1.62%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 5	1.77%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 6	1.63%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 7	1.23%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 8	0.69%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 9	3.26%
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 10	0.06%

R.2 - Percentage of motor tax transactions conducted online

This data will be obtained directly from the Vehicle Registration Unit

A. The percentage of motor tax transactions which are dealt with online (i.e. transaction is processed and the tax disc is issued)	46.26
Total number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with over the counter	78168
Total number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with by post	8347
Total number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with online	74482

Rev: REVENUE COLLECTION

M1: 5 Year summary of Revenue Account balance

The following indicator is presented in the performance indicators report and in order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

A. The debit/credit balance at 31/12/2010 in the Revenue Account from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the Annual Financial Statement (AFS)	€ -1975405
B. The debit/credit balance at 31/12/2011 in the Revenue Account from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the Annual Financial Statement (AFS)	€ -1699871
C. The debit/credit balance at 31/12/2012 in the Revenue Account from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the Annual Financial Statement (AFS)	€ -2524603
D. The debit/credit balance at 31/12/2013 in the Revenue Account from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the Annual Financial Statement (AFS)	€ -5394109
E. The debit/credit balance at 31/12/2014 in the Revenue Account from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the Annual Financial Statement (AFS) - (even if unaudited)	€ - 5059932

M2: 5 Year summary of % collection levels for major revenue sources

The following indicator is presented in the performance indicators report and in order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

2010	
Rates	83%
Rent and Annuities	83%
Housing Loans	69%
2011	
Rates	81%
Rent and Annuities	83%
Housing Loans	66%

2012	
Rates	78%
Rent and Annuities	82%
Housing Loans	61%

2013	
Rates	77%
Rent and Annuities	83%
Housing Loans	63%

2014 (even if unaudited)	
Rates	75%
Rent and Annuities	83%
Housing Loans	65%

W: WATER

W.1 - Unaccounted for Water as % of total volume of water supplied under LA schemes

The following indicator is presented in the service indicators report:

A. Unaccounted for water (UFW) as a percentage of total volume of water supplied in 2014 under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for under a Service Level Agreement.	53.40%
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In order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data:

Total volume of water (m3) supplied from 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014 under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for under an SLA, divided by 365 days	57300
Volume of unaccounted for water (m3) lost from 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014 under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for under an SLA, divided by 365 days	30596

**W.2 - % of Drinking water (public and private schemes) in compliance with statutory requirements
Data will be obtained directly from the EPA**

The indicator that will be presented in the performance indications report is the data supplied to the EPA in respect of the monitoring of water quality of public and private water supplies during 2013	97.4%
	86.7%

Public Schemes

Private Schemes

APPENDIX 1

Register of Electors/Edited Register 2014/2015

REGISTRATION AUTHORITY: MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL

Part I

1	Dáil Constituency	Presidential Electors	Dáil Electors
	Mayo	94,795	97,209
	Total	94,795	97,209

2	European Parliament Constituency	European Electors	Potential European Electors
	Midlands-North-West	97,622	1,124
	Total	97,622	1,124

3	Local Electoral Areas	Local Government Electors
	Ballina	25,186
	Castlebar	25,761
	Claremorris	24,428
	West Mayo	24,345
	Total	99,720

Part II – Postal Voters

Part III – Special Voters

Dáil Constituency	Gardaí	Defence Forces	Diplomats	Physically Disabled	Occupation etc.	Prisoners	Special Voters
Mayo	0	67	1	82	2	1	174
Total	0	67	1	82	2	1	174

Part IV – Edited Register

Dáil Constituency	Presidential Electors	Dáil Electors	European Electors	Local Electors
Mayo	11,681	12,355	12,479	13,259
Total	11,681	12,355	12,479	13,259

Part V - Postal Voters on Edited Register							Part VI – Special Voters on Edited Register
Dáil Constituency	Gardaí	Defence Forces	Diplomats	Physically Disabled	Occupation etc.	Prisoners	Special Voters
Mayo	0	10	0	5	0	0	14
TOTAL	0	10	0	5	0	0	14

<i>Supplement to the Register of Electors, 2014/2015</i>				
European & Local Elections – 23 rd May, 2014				
Dáil Constituency	Ordinary Electors	Postal Voters	Special Voters	
Mayo		175	110	
	2,692			
Total	2,692	175	110	

APPENDIX 2

List of External Bodies on which Mayo County Council are formally represented by Councillors in 2014

Group	Councillors plus External Members
Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim Education and Training Board	Cllr. J. Caulfield Cllr. L. Chambers Cllr. T. McGuire Cllr. T. Connolly Cllr. C. Hyland (Period 3 years) Cllr. R. Finn (Period 2 years) Cllr. T. Ruane
Local Community Development Committee	Cllr. A. McDonnell Cllr. N. Cruise Cllr. R. Finn
The Northern & Western Regional Assembly	Cllr. J. Caulfield Cllr. P. O'Brien Cllr. C. Hyland
Community Futures Management Committee	Cllr. M. Loftus
The Regional Health Forum, West	Cllr. L. Chambers Cllr. B. Mulroy Cllr. M. Kilcoyne Cllr. H. Kenny
Mayo County Council Audit Committee	Cllr. A. McDonnell Cllr. R. Finn Mr. Robert Grealis, F.C.C.A Mr. Joe Queenan, A.C.C.A Mr. Jim Fennell, F.C.C.A
The Joint Policing Committee	Cllr. C. Hyland Cllr. G. Ginty Cllr. M. Kilcoyne Cllr. M. Holmes Cllr. B.K. Gavin Cllr. A. McDonnell Cllr. B. Mulroy Cllr. M. Loftus Cllr. D. Ryan Cllr. J. O'Hara Cllr. P. O'Brien Cllr. G. Coyle Cllr. N. Cruise Cllr. T. Ruane
Steering Committee of the Jackie Clarke Library, Ballina	Cllr. G. Ginty Cllr. H. Kenny Cllr. A.M. Reape Cllr. J. Caulfield Cllr. S. Weir Cllr. G. Murray
Mayo County Council Local Consultative Committee on Traveller Accommodation	Cllr. M. Smyth Cllr. P. McNamara Cllr. J. Caulfield Cllr. P. O'Brien Cllr. G. Coyle Cllr. R. Finn

	Cllr. G. Ginty Cllr. T. Ruane
The Lough Corrib Navigation Trustees	Cllr. D. Ryan
The Board of Ballinrobe Racecourse Committee	Cllr. A. McDonnell Cllr. R. Finn
The Board of Linenhall Arts Centre, Castlebar	Cllr. M. Kilcoyne
The Board of the Fr. Patrick Peyton CSC Memorial Company Ltd, Attymass, Ballina	Cllr. G. Ginty Cllr. J. O'Hara
The Board of Ballina Arts Events Ltd, Ballina	Cllr. A.M. Reape
The Board of the Custom House Studios Ltd, Westport	Cllr. B. Mulroy Cllr. T. McGuire
The Board of Belderrig Research and Study Centre	Cllr. M. Loftus Cllr. G. Coyle
The Board of Directors of Clarke Lake Development Committee	Cllr. R. Finn
The Board of Maghu's Castle/Kiltimagh Indoor Fun Park	Cllr. M. Smyth Cllr. H. Kenny
The Board of Foxford Railway Station Restoration Society	Cllr. M. Smyth Cllr. A.M. Reape Cllr. N. Cruise Cllr. S. Weir
The Board of Lacken Sports and Recreation Centre	Cllr. M. Loftus Cllr. G. Ginty
The Board of Knockmore/Rathduff Recreation and Resource centre	Cllr. S. Weir Cllr. A.M. Reape
The Mayo Local Sports Partnership	Cllr. H. Kenny Cllr. B. Mulroy
To Act as Council Director to Mayo Energy Agency Limited	Cllr. S. Weir
The Board of Fionntar Comhraic Teoranta	Cllr. J. Caulfield Cllr. M. Loftus Cllr. G. Coyle Cllr. R. Conway-Walsh
The Western River Basin District Advisory Council	Cllr. D. Ryan Cllr. J. O'Hara
The Shannon River Basin District Advisory Council	Cllr. J. Caulfield Cllr. T. Connolly
The FAI Mayo Football Partnership	Cllr. B.K. Gavin
The Board of Comhar Na nOilean Teo	Cllr. M. Holmes
Trustees to the Abbey Trust, Ballyhaunis	Cllr. J. Caulfield Cllr. J. Cribbin
(A) Nominee from each Municipal District as a voting Delegate at the Annual Conference of the	Cllr. C. Burke (Castlebar M.D) Cllr. C. Hyland (West Mayo M.D)

Association of Irish Local Government (B)Nominees to serve as Permanent Delegates to the standing policy council of the Association of Irish Local Government	Cllr. A.M. Reape (Ballina M.D) Cllr. D. Ryan (Claremorris M.D) Cllr. C. Burke (Castlebar M.D) Cllr. C. Hyland (West Mayo M.D) Cllr. A.M. Reape (Ballina M.D) (Period 3 years) Cllr. D. Ryan (Claremorris M.D) (Period 2 Years)
The Board of the Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurance Company Ltd, Dublin	Cllr. A. McDonnell
The Local Authorities Members Association	Cllr. B. Mulroy
The Western Inter-County Railway Committee	Cllr. R. Finn Cllr. M. Smyth Cllr. L. Chambers Cllr. P. O'Brien Cllr. G. Murray
The Local County Rural Water Monitoring Committee	Cllr. P. McNamara Cllr. P. O'Brien Cllr. G. Murray
The County Mayo Heritage Forum	Cllr. B. Mulroy Cllr. J. Caulfield Cllr. R. Finn Cllr. G. Ginty Cllr. T. McGuire Cllr. H. Kenny
The Ballycastle (Mayo) Enterprise Committee	Cllr. A.M. Reape Cllr. M. Loftus Cllr. G. Ginty Cllr. J. Munnelly
The Board of the Louisburgh Rent-A- Cottage Scheme	Cllr. B. Mulroy Cllr. T. McGuire Cllr. C. Hyland
Directors to the Belcarra Community Centre	Cllr. M. Kilcoyne Cllr. A. McDonnell Cllr. C. Burke
Directors on the Claremorris Swimming Pool Committee	Cllr. R. Finn Cllr. T. Connolly Cllr. D. Ryan
Directors to the Castlebar Sports Complex Ltd	Cllr. B.K. Gavin Cllr. M. Kilcoyne
Directors to the Claremorris Sports Complex Ltd	Cllr. D. Ryan Cllr. R. Finn Cllr. T. Connolly
Directors to the Swinford Sports Complex Ltd	Cllr. M. Smyth Cllr. N. Cruise
Directors to the Crossmolina Community Centre Ltd	Cllr. M. Loftus Cllr. J. O'Hara Cllr. G. Ginty
Directors on the Charlestown Swimming Pool and Recreational Company Ltd	Cllr. J. Caulfield Cllr. R. Finn
Directors to the Kiltimagh Community Centre	Cllr. M. Smyth

Ltd	Cllr. L. Chambers Cllr. M. Kilcoyne Cllr. H. Kenny
Directors to Ballintubber Community Community Centre Ltd	Cllr. L. Chambers Cllr. A. McDonnell Cllr. C. Burke
Directors to Cushlough Community Centre Ltd	Cllr. B. Mulroy Cllr. C. Hyland
Castlebar Swimming Pool Advisory Committee	Cllr. B.K. Gavin Cllr. A. McDonnell Cllr. L. Chambers Cllr. C. Burke Cllr. M. Kilcoyne
Ballina Swimming Pool Advisory Committee	Cllr. A.M. Reape Cllr. G. Ginty
Directors of Lacanvey Community Centre Ltd	Cllr. B. Mulroy Cllr. C. Hyland
Directors to Barnacarroll and Cuiltibo Enterprise Ltd	Cllr. J. Caulfield Cllr. D. Ryan Cllr. R. Finn Cllr. T. Connolly
Directors of Killasser Community Centre Ltd	Cllr. M. Smyth Cllr. N. Cruise
Directors to Westport Sports Complex	Cllr. B. Mulroy Cllr. T. McGuire
Directors to Michael Davitt Museum	Cllr. B.K. Gavin Cllr. M. Kilcoyne
Directors to Manulla Community Centre Ltd	Cllr. M. Kilcoyne Cllr. A. McDonnell
Directors to Sportlann, Ballinrobe	Cllr. D. Ryan Cllr. R. Finn
Directors to Killala Community Centre Ltd	Cllr. A.M. Reape Cllr. G. Ginty
Directors to Aughagower Community Centre Ltd	Cllr. B. Mulroy Cllr. T. McGuire
Directors to Comhlucht Forbartha Bheal an Mhuirthid Teo	Cllr. M. Holmes Cllr. P. McNamara
Directors to Louisburgh Community Centre Ltd	Cllr. B. Mulroy Cllr. M. Holmes
Directors to Bonniconlon Community Centre Ltd	Cllr. A.M. Reape Cllr. J. O'Hara
Directors to Ballinrobe Enterprise Ltd	Cllr. D. Ryan Cllr. R. Finn
The Board of Westport Town Hall Ltd	Cllr. B. Mulroy Cllr. T. McGuire Cllr. C. Hyland
Directors of Westport Leisure Park Company Ltd	Cllr. P. McNamara Cllr. T. McGuire
Representatives to Sharkey Hill Community Centre Management Committee	Cllr. B. Mulroy Cllr. T. McGuire

Representatives to Quay Community Centre Management Committee	Cllr. B. Mulroy Cllr. C. Hyland
Representatives to Westport Multi Agency Enterprise Group	Cllr. B. Mulroy Cllr. C. Hyland Cllr. R. Conway-Walsh
Representatives to Plougastel Community Building	Cllr. B. Mulroy
Representatives to Limavady Twinning Committee	Cllr. R. Conway-Walsh Cllr. T. McGuire
Representatives to Plougastel Twinning Committee	Cllr. M. Kilcoyne Cllr. T. McGuire

Representatives to WRFM Westport Radio	Cllr. B. Mulroy Cllr. T. McGuire
Representatives to Ballina Twinning Committee	Cllr. A.M. Reape Cllr. G. Ginty

APPENDIX 3

Ctrl & Click on link below to view

[..\Appendix 3 Annual report 2014](#)

APPENDIX 4

Ctrl & Click on link below to view

[..\Appendix 4 Disclosure of Donations & Expenditure 2014](#)