



Mayo County Council Annual Report 2011



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Mission Statement

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



Message from Cathaoirleach and County Manager



Mr. Austin Francis O'Malley
Cathaoirleach



Mr. Peter Hynes
County Manager

This report contains details of the activities of Mayo County Council for the year ending 31st December 2011. The range of activities outlined in this report demonstrates that Mayo County Council has managed to maintain and in some cases improve services despite the reduction of resources available to the Council in 2011. This achievement is due to further efficiencies which could only have obtained by close co-operation between the elected members, management and all of the Council's employees.

Mayo County Council continues to provide high quality services to the public with lower budgets and less employees. It is hoped that these efficiencies will place the Council in a sustainable position whereby the delivery and improvement of services going forward can be relied upon. If this is achieved, the Council will be well sufficient to ensure that everybody in the County achieves the maximum benefit of the upturn which will inevitably follow the present downturn.

Members of Mayo County Council

Electoral Areas



Ballina Electoral Area



Cllr. Gerry Ginty
(NP)



Cllr. John O'Hara
(FG)



Cllr. Jarlath Munnelly
(FG)



Cllr. Annie May Reape
(FF)



Cllr. Eddie Staunton
(FG)



Cllr. Seamus Weir
(FG)

Castlebar Electoral Area



Cllr. Cyril Burke
(FG)



Cllr. Frank Durcan
(NP)



Cllr. Blackie K. Gavin
(FF)



Cllr. Henry Kenny
(FG)



Cllr. Michael Kilcoyne
(NP)



Cllr. Eugene McCormack
(FG)



Cllr. Al McDonnell
(FF)

Claremorris Electoral Area



Cllr. Michael Burke
(FG)



Cllr. Tom Connolly
(FG)



Cllr. John Cribbin
(FG)



Cllr. Richard Finn
(NP)



Cllr. Patsy O'Brien
(FG)



Cllr. Damien Ryan
(FF)

Belmullet Electoral Area



Cllr. Rose Conway-Walsh
(SF)



Cllr. Gerry Coyle
(FG)



Cllr. Michael Holmes
(NP)



Cllr. Micheál McNamara
(FF)

Swinford Electoral Area



Cllr. Eugene Lavin
(FG)



Cllr. Jimmy Maloney
(FG)



Cllr. Joe Mellett
(FG)



Cllr. Gerry Murray
(SF)

Westport Electoral Area



Cllr. Margaret Adams
(FF)



Cllr. Peter Flynn
(FG)



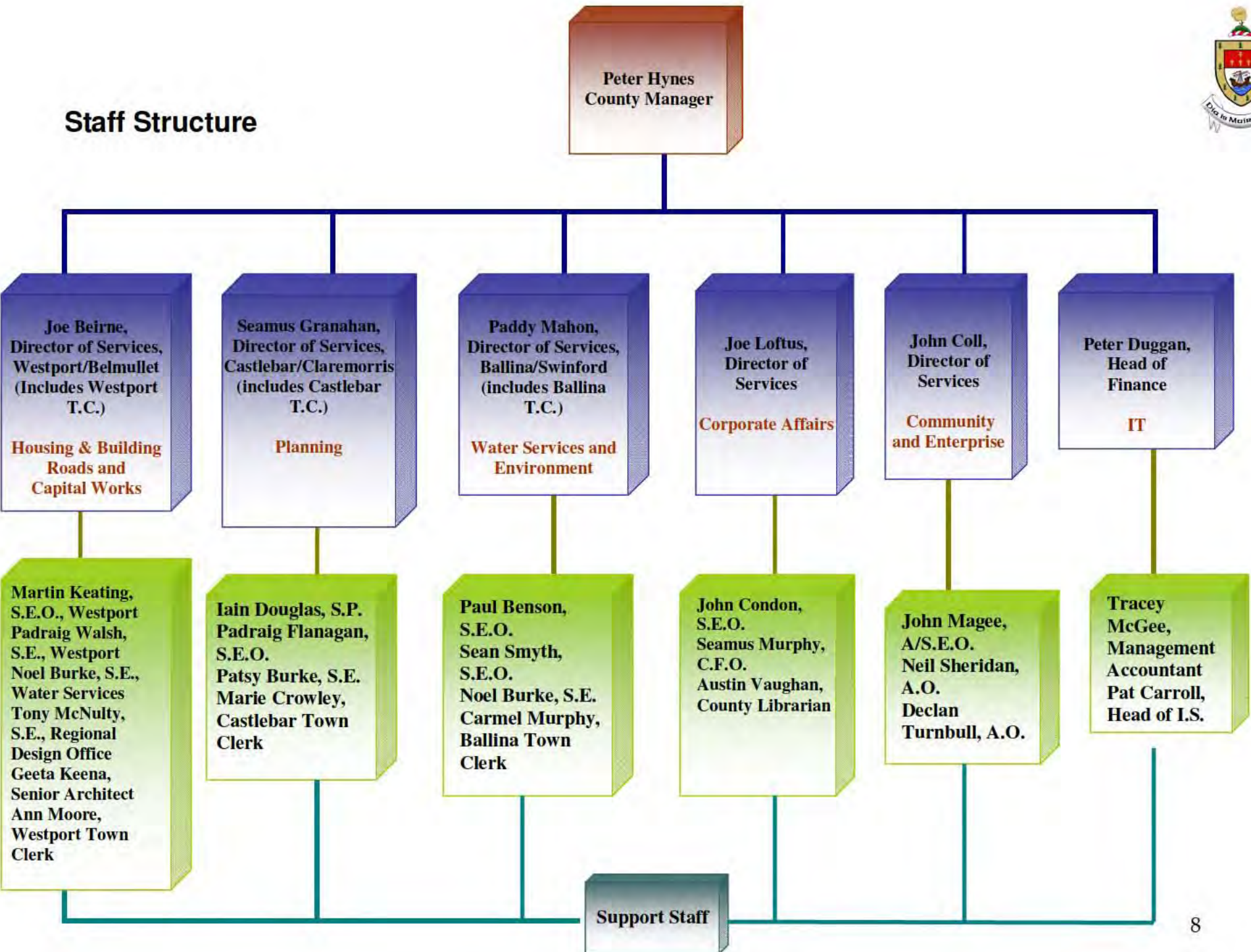
Cllr. Austin F. O'Malley
(FG)



Cllr. John O'Malley
(FG)



Staff Structure



Background

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The annual report is an outline of the main programmes, services and other activities undertaken by the Council in 2011.

Strategic Policy Committees

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

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

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

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

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

Housing Strategic Policy Committee

The Housing SPC held a number of meetings throughout the year.

Topics dealt with included:

- Update on Tenant Purchase and Incremental Purchase Schemes
- Adoption of Draft Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy
- Social Housing Policy
- Provisions for Housing Needs Assessment and new assessment procedures for applicants for Social Housing Support
- Capital Allocations
- A new Fixed Term Tenant Purchase Scheme was adopted in accordance with Section 90 of the Housing Act 1966 and the Housing (Sale of Houses to Long Standing Tenants) Regulations 2011

- Mayo Local Authorities Social Housing Allocations Scheme 2011
- Radon testing of the Council's housing stock
- Review of Traveller Accommodation Programme 2009 to 2010.

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 four meetings during 2011.

During 2011, the following issues were considered by the SPC members, including:-

- Presentation from Deputation on behalf of Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann.
- Irish Diaspora Hall of Fame Initiative.
- Presentation on synopsis version of County Mayo Local Biodiversity Action Plan.
- Approval of Draft County Mayo Heritage Plan 2011-2016.
- Approval of Draft Library Development Plan 2011-2014.
- Commemoration Strategy and Funding.
- Approval of Draft County Mayo Strategic Arts Plan 2011-2016.
- Mayo Heritage Day.
- Presentation - To exploit the economic potential of Mayo's 3 Gaeltacht areas by establishing links with the 30 Universities outside of Ireland, who teach the Irish language, with a view to developing a package of 'language breaks' showcasing the unique linguistic and cultural heritage of the Mayo Gaeltacht.
- Presentation on increased use of the Library Service in local communities.
- Presentation on mayo.ie website.

Roads and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee

This Strategic Policy Committee met on five occasions in 2011.

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

- National Roads Programme for the County
- Non National Roads Programme
- Road Safety
- Hedgecutting
- Road signage
- Local Improvement Procedures / Policy
- Speed limit policy
- Road Works Speed Limits
- Take over of roads

The Committee went on a delegation to the National Roads Authority to advance the national road projects in the County.

Water Supply & Sewerage Strategic Policy Committee

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

Four meetings of the Water Supply & Sewerage SPC were held during 2011 under the directorship of Mr. Paddy Mahon. These meetings were held on the 7th February, 6th May, 09th September and 2nd December.

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

- Water Services Investment Programme 2010-2012
- New Inspection Monitoring System for Septic Tanks;
- Drinking Water Incident Report Plan;
- Western River Basin District Management Plan.

The Committee also had a very successful Site Visit to Carrowholly National School, Westport to see how their gravity fed rainwater harvesting system operates. This system is the first of its kind in any National School in Ireland.

Planning, Economic Development & Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee

Four Meetings of the Planning, Economic Development and Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee Meeting took place during 2011.

At the first meeting which took place on 29th April, 2011, Cllr. Eugene McCormack was welcomed as the new Chairperson following the election of Michelle Mulherin, T.D. Members of the Environment SPC attended this meeting to discuss the Draft Renewable Energy Strategy. It was proposed seconded and resolved that “The Renewable Energy Strategy for Co. Mayo 2010 – 2020 as amended be put forward for adoption at the May Meeting of Mayo County Council”.

Mr. John McMyler, Senior Executive Planner, gave a report on unfinished housing estates. Mayo County Council carried out a survey of 128 estates since Christmas 2010 and site specific reports were ongoing. 23 housing estates have potential public safety issues. The Council refined these down to 11 estates which were referred to the Health & Safety Authority to establish if they fall under their remit. An application was made to the Dept. of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government for funding for one estate which comes under the public safety concern category. The Department issued a Guidance Manual and the Planning Section are using this in resolving issues with these estates through Site Resolution Plans and the Council will continue to work with the developers and relevant agencies to solve outstanding issues.

The adopted Regional Planning Guidelines for the West Region 2010 – 2022 were discussed at the April Meeting and a presentation was given at the July Meeting by Iain Douglas, Senior Planner, on the Mayo County Development Plan Core Strategy. All plans must conform with the Regional Planning Guidelines. The Core Strategy was presented to the Members of Mayo County Council on 11th July. Mayo County Council were legally obliged to adopt the Core Strategy by 19th October, 2011. The aim of the Core Strategy is to bring the Development Plans into line with the adopted Regional Planning Guidelines.

There are four Core Strategies:

1. Ballina Area and Town both adopted by the Town Council with minor amendments in relation to zoning.
2. Castlebar Area and Town Council both adopted with minor amendments in relation to zoning.
3. Westport Area and Town Plan
4. Mayo County Core Strategy

Ms. Tanya Stanaway, Executive Planner, gave a brief presentation on the new planning legislation. There are substantial changes particularly in relation to quarries and at the final meeting of the SPC which took place on 19th December, 2011, Mr. Barry Freeman, Executive Planner, gave a presentation on Section 261 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 as amended on Quarry Regulations. The Development Plan Programme was deferred to the next meeting. New legislation will see the incorporation of the Local Area Plans into the County Development Plan rather than completing individual plans for each town and village. This will streamline the process and will also lead to reduction in the number of strategic environmental assessments, appropriate assessments, flood risk assessments and also the notification processes. It will also eliminate the need to repeat much of the County Development Plan policies in the Local Area Plan. As a result this will allow staff to work on other strategies and will result in better value and reduced costs to the Council and the taxpayer.

Ireland-West Airport Knock, Strategic Development Zone is the priority on the non-statutory workload. Significant extra work has been taken on in the areas of unfinished housing estates and the taking in charge of these estates. Pre-planning consultations are mainly dealing with large development such as windfarms but most people attend the Wednesday Clinics in relation to construction of houses, general planning queries and compliance.

A resolution was passed at the December meeting to invite an official from Eirgrid to address the next SPC Meeting in early 2012.

Environmental Strategic Policy Committee

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

The Committee met on five occasions in 2011 and dealt with the following:

- The formulation of the Litter Management Plan 2011 – 2013 which was subsequently adopted by Mayo County Council.
- Proposals for a new civic amenity site at Belmullet.
- Consideration of draft bye laws for burial grounds
- A Presentation from the Turf cutters Association
- Presentation on Environment Enforcement and Awareness
- Presentation on the Connaught Waste Management Plan and Waste Policy
- Updates on anti litter and agenda 21 grants schemes
- Inspections and monitoring of septic tank proposals
- Review of SPC policy proposals

**Payment to Members of Mayo County Council and
Non-members of Mayo County Council in 2011**

Please see Appendix 1

**Donation Statements by Members of Local Authority
1st January 2011 – 31st December 2011**

Please see Appendix 2

List of External Bodies on which Mayo County Council are formally represented by Councillors in 2011

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

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

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

Service Indicators

Fire Service

F1: Fire Service Mobilisation

A. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of fire	0
B. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of fire	5.54
C. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of all other emergency incidents	0
D. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of all other emergency incidents	5.4

F2: Percentage of attendances at scenes

A. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	35.03
B. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	44.91
C. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	20.06
D. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	37.38
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	50.80
F. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	53.35

- Total number of incidents in respect of fire	648
- Number of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	227
- Number of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	291
- Number of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	130
- Total number of incidents in respect of all other emergency incidents (i.e. not including fire)	313
- Number of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	117
- 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	159
- Number of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	167

F3: Fire Prevention

A. Total number of fire safety certificate applications received	109
B. Total number of fire safety certificate applications processed (including cases deemed invalid)	87
C. Total number of applications deemed invalid	0

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

- Percentage of local schools and youth groups involved in the local Youth Council/ Comhairle na n-Og scheme	89.47
- Total number of local schools and youth groups	38
- Number of local schools and youth groups involved in the local Youth Council/ Comhairle na n-Og scheme	34

CP2: Groups registered with the Community and Voluntary Forum

- Number of groups registered with the Community and Voluntary Forum	704
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Corporate Issues**C1: Working Days lost to Sickness**

A. Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through certified leave	3.54
B. Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through uncertified leave	0.87

- Number of working days lost to sickness absence through certified leave	8528
- Number of working days lost to sickness absence through uncertified leave	2108
Total number of or staff (whole time equivalent) at the end of December 2010 (as per DEHLG staffing return for the end of 2010) N14	1061.5

C2: Staff Training and Development

- Expenditure on Training and Development as a percentage of total payroll	4.77
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E: Environmental Services

WATER

E.1 Unaccounted For Water

- Unaccounted for water (UFW) as a percentage of total volume of water supplied under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for	49.13
- Total volume of water supplied (m3/per day) under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for	56990
- Volume of unaccounted for water (m3/per day) under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for	28000

E.2 Drinking Water Analysis

A. Percentage of drinking water analysis results in compliance with statutory requirements with regard to public schemes	97.90
B. Percentage of drinking water analysis results in compliance with statutory requirements with regard to private schemes (where appropriate)	93.80

WASTE MANAGEMENT

E.3 Waste Segregation

A. Percentage of households who receive a waste collection service and are provided with segregated waste collection for dry recyclables	97.79
B. Percentage of households who receive a waste collection service and are provided with segregated waste collection for organics	19.17
- Total number of households provided with a waste collection service	27490
- Number of households provided with a segregated waste collection service for recyclables	26883
- Number of households provided with a segregated waste collection service for organics	5271

E4: Housing Waste Sent for Recycling

A. Percentage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling	24.59
B. Tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling	8208
C. Tonnage of household waste recycled, which arises from waste collected from recycling facilities (i.e. bring banks, civic amenity centres, transfer stations and other recycling facilities)	4719
- Total tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside	33375
- Tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling	8208
- Tonnage of household waste recycled, which arises from waste collected from recycling facilities (i.e. bring banks, civic amenity centres, transfer stations and other recycling facilities)	25167

E5: Household Waste Sent for Landfill

A. The percentage of household waste collected which is sent to landfill	75.41
B. The tonnage of household waste collected which is sent to landfill	25167

- Total tonnage of household waste collected	33375
- Tonnage of household waste which is sent to landfill	25167

E6: Recycling Facilities

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

Glass

A. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	100
B. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	2
C. The total number of facilities for recycling	102
D. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	3.91

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

Cans

E. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	100
F. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	2
G. The total number of facilities for recycling	102
H. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	3.91

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

Textiles

I. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	54
J. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	2
K. The total number of facilities for recycling	56
L. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	2.14

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

Batteries

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

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

Oils

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

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

Other materials

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

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

LITTER**E7: Litter Prevention and Enforcement**

A. Number of full-time litter wardens	1
B. Number of part-time litter wardens	11
C. Number of litter wardens (both full- and part-time) per 5,000 population	0.46
D. Number of on-the-spot fines issued	164
E. Number of on-the-spot fines paid	69
F. Number of prosecution cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	9
G. Number of prosecutions secured in cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	6
H. Number of notices issued (under sections 9, 15, 16, 17 and 20 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997)	2

I. Total number of prosecutions taken (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	9
J. Total number of prosecutions secured (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	6
K. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are unpolluted (i.e. litter-free)	
L. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are slightly polluted with litter	
M. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are moderately polluted with litter	
N. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are significantly polluted with litter	
O. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are grossly polluted with litter	

- Number of full-time litter wardens	1
- Number of part-time litter wardens	11
- Number of on-the-spot fines issued	164
- Number of on-the-spot fines paid	69
- Number of prosecution cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	9
- Number of prosecutions secured in cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	6
- Number of notices issued (under sections 9, 15, 16, 17 and 20 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997)	2
- Number of prosecutions taken (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	9
- Number of prosecutions secured (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	6

E8: Environmental Complaints and Enforcement

A. Total number of cases subject to complaints concerning environmental pollution (relating to waste, litter, water pollution, noise pollution, air pollution)	1092
B. Number of complaints investigated	788
C. Number of complaints resolved where no further action was necessary	803
D. Number of enforcement procedures taken	674

E9: Percentage of schools participating in environmental campaigns

A. Percentage of primary schools participating in environmental campaigns	82.95
B. Percentage of secondary schools participating in environmental campaigns	100

- Total number of primary schools	176
- Number of primary schools participating in environmental campaigns	146
- Total number of secondary schools	27
- Number of secondary schools participating in environmental campaigns	27

H: Housing

H1: Housing Vacancies

A. The total number of dwellings in local authority stock	2176
B. The total number of dwellings, excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects	2121
C. The overall percentage of dwellings that are empty (excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects)	5.85
D. The percentage of empty dwellings unavailable for letting	51.61
E. The percentage of empty dwellings available for letting	48.39

- The average number of dwellings in local authority stock	2176
- The average number of dwellings excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects	2121
- The average number of dwellings that are empty (excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects)	124
- The average number of empty dwellings unavailable for letting	64
- The average number of empty dwellings available for letting	60

H2: Average Time Taken to Re-let Available dwellings

- The average time taken (in weeks) from the date of vacation of dwelling to the date when all necessary repairs are carried out which are deemed necessary to re-let the dwelling	29
- The average time taken (in weeks) from the works (above) being completed to the date of the first rent debit	11

H3: Housing Repairs

- Number of repairs completed as a percentage of the number of valid repair requests received	86.18
- The number of repairs completed	1964
- The number of valid repair requests received	2279

H4: Traveller Accommodation

- Total number of traveller families accommodated as a percentage of the targets set in the local traveller accommodation programme	78.26
- Number of Traveller families accommodated	18
- Target number of Traveller families to be accommodated in the year, as set out in the local Traveller accommodation programme	23

H5: Enforcement of standards in the private rented sector

A. Total number of registered tenancies	3987
B. Number of dwelling units inspected	567
C. Number of inspections carried out	586
D. Number of dwellings inspected as a percentage of registered tenancies i.e. B as percentage of A)	14.22

- Total number of registered tenancies	3987
- Number of dwelling units inspected	567
- Number of inspections carried out	586

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

A. Average time taken (in weeks) to process applications under the Mobility Aids Grant Scheme, including any necessary inspection(s), from the date of receipt of a valid application to the date of decision on the application	32
B. Average time taken (in weeks) to process applications under Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability, including any necessary inspection(s), from the date of receipt, to the date of decision on the application	25

H7: Pre-Tenancy Familiarisation Courses

A. Total number of new local authority tenants	123
B. Percentage of new local authority tenants who have been offered pre-tenancy familiarisation courses	100

- Total number of new local authority tenants	123
- Number of new local authority tenants who have been offered pre-tenancy familiarisation courses	123

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

A. Average number of opening hours per week for full-time libraries	37.4
B. Average number of opening hours per week for part-time libraries (where applicable)	20.4
C. Percentage of full time libraries that have lunchtime openings	100
D. Percentage of full time libraries that have evening openings	100
E. Percentage of full time libraries that have Saturday openings	100

- Average number of opening hours per week for full-time libraries	37.4
- Average number of opening hours per week for part-time libraries (where applicable)	20.4
- Number of full time libraries that have lunchtime openings	4

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

L2: Library Visits

- Number of visits to full time libraries per 1,000 population	2509.34
- Total number of visits to full-time libraries	327600

L3: Library Stock

A. Annual expenditure on stock per head of population (county/city wide)	1.02
B. Number of items issued per head of population (county/city wide) for books	4.16
C. Number of items issued per head of population (county/city wide) for other items	0.61

- Annual expenditure on stock	133321
- Total number of books issued	543076
- Total number of other items issued	79834

L4: Internet Access through Libraries

- Number of Internet sessions provided per 1,000 population	477.14
- Total number of Internet sessions provided	62292

M: Motor Taxation

M1: Number of Motor Tax Transactions

A. Number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with over the counter	94363
B. Number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with by post	13866
C. Number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with in other ways (e.g. online, by telephone)	46626
D. Percentage of motor tax transactions which are dealt with over the counter	60.93
E. Percentage of motor tax transactions which are dealt with by post	8.95
F. Percentage of motor tax transactions which are dealt with in other ways (e.g. online, by telephone)	30.10

M2: Time Taken to Process Motor Tax Postal Applications

A. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the same day as receipt of the application	3276
B. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the second or third day from receipt of the application	3294
C. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application	3288

D. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) in over five days from receipt of the application	4008
E. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the same day as receipt of the application	23.63
F. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the second or third day from receipt of the application	23.76
G. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application	23.71
H. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) in over five days from receipt of the application	28.90

M3: Time Taken to Process Driving License Applications

A. Number of Driving License applications which are dealt with on the same day as receipt of the application	3783
B. Number of Driving License applications which are dealt with on the second or third day from receipt of the application	1648
C. Number of Driving License applications which are dealt with on the Fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application	799
D. Number of Driving License applications which are dealt with in over five days from receipt of the application	12414
E. Percentage of overall driving License applications which are dealt with on the same day as receipt of the application	20.29
F. Percentage of overall driving License applications which are dealt with on the second or third day from receipt of the application	8.84
G. Percentage of overall driving License applications which are dealt with on the fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application	4.29
H. Percentage of overall driving License applications which are dealt with in over five days from receipt of the application	66.58

M4: Public opening hours

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

P1: Planning Applications - Decision Making Individual Houses

A. Number of applications decided	345
B. Number of decisions in Column A which were decided within 8 weeks	88
C. Number of decisions in Column A which required the submission of further information	258

D. Number of decisions in Column A where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000	13
E. Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	77
F. Percentage of applications granted	93.62
G. Percentage of applications refused	6.38
H. Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	58.33
I. Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	41.67

- Number of applications decided	345
- Number of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	88
- Number of decisions which required the submission of further information	258
- Number of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000	13
- Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	77
- Number of applications granted	323
- Number of applications refused	22
- Number of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	7
- Number of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	5

New Housing Development

A. Number of applications decided	13
B. Number of decisions in Column A which were decided within 8 weeks	3
C. Number of decisions in Column A which required the submission of further information	10
D. Number of decisions in Column A where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000	2
E. Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	80
F. Percentage of applications granted	92.31
G. Percentage of applications refused	7.69
H. Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	100

I. Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	0
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- Number of applications decided	13
- Number of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	3
- Number of decisions which required the submission of further information	10
- Number of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000	2
- Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	80
- Number of applications granted	12
- Number of applications refused	1
- Number of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	7
- Number of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	0

Other: not requiring Environment Impact Assessment

A. Number of applications decided	514
B. Number of decisions in Column A which were decided within 8 weeks	494
C. Number of decisions in Column A which required the submission of further information	219
D. Number of decisions in Column A where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000	13
E. Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	78
F. Percentage of applications granted	96.50
G. Percentage of applications refused	3.11
H. Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	84.21
I. Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	15.79

- Number of applications decided	514
- Number of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	494
- Number of decisions which required the submission of further information	219
- Number of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000	13
- Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	78
- Number of applications granted	496

- Number of applications refused	16
- Number of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	16
- Number of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	3

Other: requiring Environment Impact Assessment

A. Number of applications decided	7
B. Number of decisions in Column A which were decided within 8 weeks	4
C. Number of decisions in Column A which required the submission of further information	4
D. Number of decisions in Column A where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000	0
E. Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	76
F. Percentage of applications granted	100
G. Percentage of applications refused	0
H. Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	75.00
I. Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	25.00

- Number of applications decided	7
- Number of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	4
- Number of decisions which required the submission of further information	4
- Number of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000	0
- Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	76
- Number of applications granted	7
- Number of applications refused	0
- Number of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	3
- Number of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	1

P2: Planning Enforcement

A. Total number of cases subject to complaints that were investigated	132
B. Total number of cases subject to complaints that were dismissed	75
C. Total number of cases subject to complaints that were resolved through negotiations	60
D. Number of enforcement procedures taken through warning letters	94

E. Number of enforcement procedures taken through enforcement notices	35
F. Number of prosecutions	2

P3: Planning Public opening hours

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

A. Number of pre-planning consultation meetings held	2100
B. Average length of time (in days) from request for consultation with local authority to actual formal meeting for pre-planning consultation	0

P5: New Buildings inspected

- Buildings inspected as a percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority	15.00
- Total number of new buildings notified to the local authority	340
- Number of new buildings notified to the local authority that were inspected	51

P6: Taking Estates in Charge

A- The number of residential estates for which the planning permission has expired, in respect of which formal written requests for taking in charge (from residents or developers), were on hands at the beginning of the year	54
B- Number of estates that were taken in charge in the year in question	8
C- Number of dwellings in respect of column B	239
D- Percentage of estates in column A not completed to satisfaction of the planning authority in line with the planning permission	35.19
E- Number of estates in column D in respect of which enforcement action was taken in the year in question and/or the bond was called in	5
F- Number of estates in column D in respect of which works were undertaken by the authority to bring the estate to taking in charge standard	0

- Number of residential estates for which the planning permission has expired, in respect of which formal written requests for taking in charge (from residents or developers), were on hands at the beginning of the year	54
- Number of estates that were taken in charge in the year in question	8
- Total number of dwellings in these estates	239
- Number of estates in column A not completed to satisfaction of the planning authority in line with the planning permission	19
- Number of estates in column D in respect of which enforcement action was taken in the year in question and/or the bond was called in	5
- Number of estates in column D in respect of which works were undertaken by the authority to bring the estate to taking in charge standard	0

Rec: Recreational Services

Rec.1: Children's Playgrounds

A. Number of children's playgrounds per 1,000 population directly provided by the local authority	0.22
B. Number of children's playgrounds per 1,000 population facilitated by the local authority	0.01

A. Number of children's playgrounds directly provided by the local authority	29
B. Number of children's playgrounds facilitated by the local authority	1

Rec.2: Local Authority-Facilitated Leisure Facilities

- Number of visitors to local authority-facilitated leisure facilities per 1,000 population	1807.24
- Number of visitors to local authority-facilitated leisure facilities	235939

Rev: Revenue Collection

Rev.1: House Rent

A. Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due from House Rent	81.54
B. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are up to 1 month old	3.95
C. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are 1-2 months old	2.56
D. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are 2-3 months old	4.42
E. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are more than 3 months old	89

Amount due at year end from House Rent	6485000.20
Amount collected at year end from House Rent	5287875.00
Amount of arrears at year end from House Rent	1197125.20
Amount of arrears on Housing Rent that are up to 4 weeks old	47365
Number of arrears on Housing Rent that are 4-6 weeks old	30672
Number of arrears on Housing Rent that are 6-12 weeks old	52895
Number of arrears on Housing Rent that are more than 12 weeks old	1066193

Rev.2: Housing Loans

A. Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due from Housing Loans	63.34
B. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are up to 1 month old	1.30
C. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are 1-2 months old	1.71
D. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are 2-3 months old	1.29
E. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are more than 3 months old	95.70

- Amount due at year end from Housing Loans	4768600.29
- Amount collected at year end from Housing Loans	3020461.29
- Amount of arrears at year end from Housing Loans	1748139
- Amount of arrears on Housing Loans that are up to 1 month old	22690
- Amount of arrears on Housing Loans that are 1-2 months old	29991
- Amount of arrears on Housing Loans that are 2-3 months old	22653
- Amount of arrears on Housing Loans that are more than 3 months old	1672805

Rev.3: Commercial Rates

- Amount collected at year-end as a percentage of amount due from Commercial rates	81
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Rev.4: Refuse Charges

- Percentage of households paying refuse charges (including waivers) at year end	0
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Rev.5: Non-Domestic Water Charges

- Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due for Non-Domestic Water Charges	55
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R: Roads**R1: Road Restoration Programme**

- Number of kilometres of local and regional roads improved and maintained under the Restoration Programme per annum	397.983
- Number of kilometres of local and regional roads constructed under the specific improvement grants scheme per annum	1.1

The Mayo Diaspora Project

Mayo County Council together with the Western Development Commission launched www.mayo.ie, a major online initiative to reach out and connect the three and a half million strong Global Mayo Diaspora in 2011. The website launched by An Taoiseach, Enda Kenny at The Museum of Country Life in June 2011, brings together a wide range of information on all aspects of Mayo from business and social interaction to genealogy and local history.



The aim of the project is to provide a tool for Mayo communities worldwide to connect, share information and form linkages both within their own communities and with other Mayo communities wherever they may have formed and also to link all of those disparate communities back to their home here on the west coast of Ireland.

The website, which was built by the Council's own in-house IT team, is emerging as a 'Master Mayo' website bringing together all information on Mayo and on Mayo communities worldwide. It aims to be a home for 'all things Mayo', including news and information, updates on sports and cultural events and general information about locations and facilities together with business listings and online shopping opportunities.

www.mayo.ie presents a unique opportunity for anyone with ties to Mayo to create and maintain valuable networks for businesses both at home and abroad. Equally it is the perfect place for Mayo people all over the globe to update on local news.

One of the unique elements of the website is the fact that current information on towns and villages of Mayo is available. In addition to news from towns around the County, there is now in excess of 23 parishes in the County publishing their weekly newsletter on the mayo.ie site. This has proven to be really popular with our overseas users.

The team at Mayo.ie are also working with our International Communities, building 'Champions' that are working closely with us in some of the major Irish hubs across the globe. In the 10 months since its launch, the MAYO.IE website has been launched in Chicago, Cleveland, Manchester, Philadelphia and Boston.

In recent weeks, the Diaspora Project, www.mayo.ie, was awarded Silver finalist place at the Nokia Digital Media Awards 2012 in addition to winning the category of 'Promoting Ireland overseas' in the Egovernment awards 2012. Over the weeks and months ahead, plans are in place to extensively promote MAYO.ie to the Global Mayo Family worldwide.

For more information on the Mayo Diaspora project, log on to www.mayo.ie and register as a member.



*Launch of Mayo.ie in Philadelphia in March 2012
(Peter Hynes, Mayo County Manager, Austin Francis O Malley, Cathaoirleach of Mayo County Council together with guests attending the launch of MAYO.IE in Philadelphia in March 2012)*



Launch of Mayo.ie by An Taoiseach Enda Kenny in June 2011
(Peter Hynes, Mayo County Manager, Michael Ring, Minister for Tourism, An Taoiseach, Enda Kenny, Michael Burke Cathaoirleach of Mayo County Council, Martina Hughes, MAYO.IE Project)



Launch of Mayo.ie in Manchester

(Lawrence Hennigan, Manchester Irish Festival, Paula Leavy McCarthy, Mayo.ie, Martina Hughes, Mayo.ie, Lord Mayor of Manchester Cllr Harry Lyons, Tommy Flemming, Joe Gilmore, Managing Director of Ireland West Airport Knock)

Roads and 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 2011 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 2011 a total of €43m was spent on maintaining and improving the network.

Roads Classifications & Finances

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

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

• National Primary Roads	135.0kms.
• National Secondary Roads	271.0kms.
• Regional Roads	622.0kms.
• Local Roads	<u>5,325.0kms.</u>
Total	6,353.0kms

Funding of €20m was received from the National Roads Authority for the National Road network, whilst €20m was received from the Department of Transport for the Regional and Local roads.

The Council itself provided €3.75m for the Road network in the year.

National Primary Roads:

The grants for the **National Primary Roads** for 2011 were broken down as follows:

The grant for **National Primary Improvement Works** totaling €6,114,771 was broken down as follows:

NP Major Schemes:

N5 Charlestown By Pass	€ 192,500
N5 Westport to Bohola	<u>€1,900,000</u>
	€2,092,500

Pavement & Minor Improvement:

NP Pavement & Minor Works:

N17 Cloonturk	€ 750,000
N5 Aughalously	€ 850,000
N26 Stonehall	€ 630,000
N26 Callow	€ 511,000
	€ 3,023,841

NP Safety Measures

HCL N5 Sheeaune	€ 10,000
Staff Regional Road Safety Eng.	€ 125,000
N5 HCL Knockbrack	€ 263,700
HCL N17 Lisduff	€ 40,000
RSMIS Charlestown	€ 15,000
RSRM N26 Cloongullane	€ 44,500
	€ 498,200

The grant for **National Primary Maintenance** totaling €783,071, was broken down as follows:

Ordinary Maintenance	€ 484,948
Annual Resurfacing	€ 25,706
Winter Maintenance	€ 175,000
Route Lighting	€ 90,417
Bridge Maintenance	€ 7,000
	€ 783,071

The following is a summary of the position on major schemes on the **National Roads** in County Mayo in 2010/11:

⇒ *N5 Charlestown By-pass (Swinford–RN Co. Boundary)* [18.2 kms]

This scheme has been in use since its official opening in November 2007. The allocation this year of €192,500 is in respect of outstanding land and contractual issues.

⇒ *N.26 Ballina/Bohola - Phase II* [18.4kms]
[Dual Carriageway]

The Compulsory Purchase Order [CPO] for this scheme was rejected by An Bord Pleanala in February 2010. A Feasibility Study of the revised scheme [from Turlough to Ballina] was submitted to the NRA at the end of 2010. No grant was notified for 2011 for the N26 so substantive planning on the scheme was suspended.

⇒ *N.5 Westport to Bohola* [27kms]
[Dual Carriageway]

The original scheme on the N5, which extended from Westport to Bohola, was reduced in length to 27 kms. because of the rejection of the N26 proposal by An Bord Pleanala.

The scheme now extends from Westport to Turlough including a new southern bypass of Castlebar.

⇒ *N.17 Charlestown Bypass (Knock to Tobercurry)*

No grant was notified for this scheme in 2011.

⇒ *N17 Claremorris to Tuam*

This scheme is being handled by the Galway N.R.D.O. and is at C.P.O. pre-publication stage.

National Secondary Roads:

The 2011 **National Secondary Improvement Grant** of €12,873,900 was primarily for pavement works and safety measures on the Secondary Network and works were undertaken at the following locations:-

National Secondary Safety Measures:

N59 TCALM Ballina Road, Crossmolina	€ 88,000
N59 TCALM Crossmolina Road, Ballina	€ 84,000
N83 RSRM Cappagh Crossroads	€ 50,000
N60 HCL Ballyhaunis	€ 25,000
Total	€247,000

NS Majors:

N59 Westport to Mulranny	€2,612,000
Total	€2,612,000

Pavement & Minor Improvements:

N59 Ballina-Sligo Co Bdy at Dooyeaghny	€ 500,000
N59 Bellacorrick-Crossmolina Rd at Moneyniern	€ 460,000
N59 Bangor Erris-Bellacorrig at Briska (Ph 3)	€ 430,000
N59 Mulranny-Bangor Erris at Bellaveeney & Gorthbrack	€ 730,000
N59 Mulranny Footpaths – Design Grant to proceed to CPO	€ 100,000
N59 Newport-Mulranny at Knockbreaga Realignment Phase 1	€ 800,000
N59 Westport-Leenane Road at Srahlea	€ 550,000
N60 Balla-Claremorris Realignment at Heathlawn	€ 800,000
N60 Castlebar-Balla Road Realignment at Laganamuck	€ 720,000

N60	Castlebar-Claremorris Road Realignment at Manulla Cross	€1,200,000
N59	Newport-Mulranny Road at Knockbreaga Realignment Phase 1(next 1 km)	€ 550,000
N60	Castlebar-Balla Road at Drumnasloheen, Manulla	€ 500,000
N60	Claremorris-Ballyhaunis Road at Hollywell Upper	€ 800,000
N83	Ballyhaunis-Cloonfad Road at Devlis	€ 130,000
N84	Charlestown-Ballyhaunis Road at Cappagh	€ 130,600
N84	Ballinrobe-Kilmaine Road at Cregduff	€ 180,000
N84	Castlebar-Ballinrobe Road @ Cooley	€ 134,300
N84	Castlebar-Ballinrobe Road @ Derrada	<u>€ 500,000</u>
	Total	€9,214,900

Storm Damage – Supplementary Pavement Overlay

N84	Castlebar-Ballyheane Road @ Cloonshinnagh	€100,000
N84	Castlebar-Ballinrobe Road @ Aughadrinagh & Ballintubber/Partry	€ 60,000
N60	Castlebar-Claremorris Road @ Devlis/Ballinphuill	€ 70,000
N84	Castlebar-Ballinrobe Road @ Rossakeera	€100,000
N60	Castlebar-Claremorris Road @ Ballinastanford	€ 20,000
N83	Ballyhaunis-Cloonfad Road @ Coolnaha South, Kilmannin	<u>€ 50,000</u>
		€400,000

Storm Damage – Supplementary Emergency Repairs

N84	Castlebar- Claremorris Road @ Ballytrasna	€ 31,000
N84	Castlebar-Claremorris Road @ Carramore	€ 31,243
N59	Dillon Terrace, Ballina	€ 40,000
N59	Various locations	<u>€297,757</u>
		€400,000

The **National Secondary Maintenance Grant** for 2011 was €1,084,507 broken down as follows:

Winter Maintenance	€ 180,000
Bridge Maintenance	€ 13,000
Resurfacing	€ 301,132
Ordinary Maintenance	€ 512,146
Route Lighting	<u>€ 78,229</u>
	€1,084,507

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

Regional Road Grants

Regional Roads – Maintenance	€1,162,000
Regional Roads – Winter Maintenance	€ 756,981

Regional Roads – Surface Dressing	€1,188,900
Regional Roads – Other Works	€ 720,000
Regional Roads – Improvement Grant	€1,150,000
Low Cost Safety Improvement Grants – Regional Roads	€ 140,000
Bridge Inspections	€ 200,000
Signposting Grant	€ 200,000
R312 Design	€ 100,000
	€8,180,703

Local Road Grants

Improvement Grant	€ 5,979,918
Surface Dressing	€ 3,094,100
Contributions to Local “Community Schemes”	€ 210,000
International Roughness Index – IRI Survey	€ 15,000
Minor Improvements	€ 200,000
Councillors N.O.M Allocations	€ 976,500
Local Roads Maintenance	€ 100,000
Verge Trimming/Hedgecutting	€ 100,000
Low Cost Safety Improvement Grants	€ 44,000
Training Grant	€ 111,746
Specific Improvement Grant	€ 200,000
Ineligible Expenditure	€ 600,000
	€14,748,009

Specific Improvement Grants were allocated for the following schemes:

LS5634 Streamstown Bridge	€ 200,000
R311 Link Road Castlebar	€ 750,000
R319 River Bridge, Achill	€ 200,000
R335 Delphi Bridge, Louisburgh	€ 200,000

Local Improvement Schemes (L.I.S.)

The 2011 grant for L.I.S Schemes totaled €657,000. All of these Schemes were carried out in accordance with the Policy on L.I.S. adopted at S.P.C. and Council level.

Regional Road Signposting

An allocation of €200,000 was received in 2011 in respect of a programme of signposting on the regional road network. The programme will take account of the Official Languages Act, 2003, in respect of Gaeltacht locations.

Road Safety

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

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

Road Safety Awareness for 2011 was concentrated in 4 main areas.

1. Promotion of Road Safety in the Primary Schools

This activity is conducted in conjunction with the Gardai. The County Council provides support to the Gardai when visiting schools by providing leaflets, reflective arm bands and other road safety promotional material.

2. Junior Warden Schemes

Again, the activity in this area is to support the 4 Junior Warden Schemes in Ballina Town and Westport Town, at the Girl's National School, Convent Hill and the other at Scoil Padraig, Pound Street, the Quay School, Ballina and the Boys National School Westport.

Uniforms and signs are provided by the County Council. Road markings are updated regularly. Again, this Council is fortunate to have the enthusiastic support of the Principals in the 4 schools. Without their enthusiastic support it would not be possible to maintain the scheme. The teachers, parents and pupils appreciate the benefits of the Junior Warden Scheme to the pupils.

3. General Promotion of Road Safety through the Local Media

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

4. Road Safety Plan

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

ROAD ACCIDENT STATISTICS – MAYO

Year	Fatalities
2001	8
2002	14
2003	10
2004	13
2005	14
2006	11
2007	09
2008	10
2009	10
2010	8
2011	12

N59 Kilbride Road Improvement Scheme

The *N59 Kilbride Road Improvement Scheme* was identified as a section of the overall *N59 Westport to Mulranny* scheme that could be delivered in advance of the rest of the project. Work started on the construction of this project on December 12, 2011 and it is expected to be completed by the end of August 2012. This road project will incorporate the 1.95km final section of the *Great Western Greenway* which will complete the 40km off road cycleway from Westport to Achill.

The final development will consist of the following: -

- Improvement of the existing N59 National Secondary route comprising the construction of a Type 3 Single Carriageway road (6.0m carriageway road with 0.5m hard strips and verges of approximately 2.0m to 3.0m) for a distance of approximately 2.85km;
- Construction of a cycleway 2.5m wide alongside the improved N59 for a distance of approximately 1.95km;
- Improvement of sideroad junctions at the following roads: L-54264, L-5426, L-5433, L-54331, L-54267, L-5426, L-54268;
- Associated earthworks, drainage, landscaping and diversion of services.

The proposed scheme traverses the townlands of Sandymount, Carrowbaun, Kilbride, Carrowmore, Shandrum and Corragaun (D.E.D. Derryloughan), Newport, County Mayo. Land was bought by agreement for the construction of the road from twenty-two landowners.

Wills Brothers Ltd are the main contractors for the scheme and contracts were signed on November 22, 2011. The overall cost for the scheme is estimated at €5.1 million including design and land costs.

The *N59 Kilbride Road Improvement Scheme*, in conjunction with the *Great Western Greenway*, will provide an improved transport link to this region and will enhance economic growth and employment, particularly in the area of tourism.

On Monday, December 5, 2011, Mr. Michael Ring, T.D., Minister of State at the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport performed the N59 Kilbride Road Improvement Sod Turning Ceremony at Shandrum, Newport.



Signing of the contract by Mayo County Council and Wills Bros Ltd for the construction of the N59 Kilbride Road Improvement Scheme in Newport. Front row, left to right: James Wills and Charles Wills, Directors of Wills Bros Ltd; Austin Francis O'Malley, Cathaoirleach Mayo County Council; Peter Hynes, Mayo County Manager; Tony McNulty, SE, Mayo National Roads Design Office. Back row, left to right: John Stretton, Contracts Manager Wills Bros Ltd; Martin Ruddy, Comercial Manager Wills Bros Ltd; Gerry Carty, Director RPS Group; Christy O'Sullivan, Project Manager RPS Group; Marian McHugh, SEE, Mayo National Roads Design Office (Photo Tom Campbell)



Mr. Michael Ring, TD, Minister of State at the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport turning the First Sod of the N59 Kilbride Road Improvement Scheme in Newport on Monday December 5, 2011 with the Cathaoirleach Austin Francis O'Malley, Cllr John O'Malley, Cllr Michael Holmes, landowners, Peter Hynes Mayo County Manager, Joe Beirne Mayo Director of Services & County Engineer, Charles and James Wills Directors of Wills Bros Ltd and Wills Bros Ltd staff and staff from the Westport Area and Mayo National Roads Design Office. (Photo Frank Dolan)



Mr. Michael Ring, TD, Minister of State at the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport with Mr. Peter Hynes Mayo County Manager following the turning the First Sod for the N59 Kilbride

Road Improvement Scheme in Newport on Monday December 5, 2011 Front Row (L to R): Joe Beirne Mayo Director of Services & County Engineer; Tony McNulty, SE, Mayo National Roads Design Office (NRDO); Peter Hynes Mayo County Manager; Mr. Michael Ring, TD; Cathaoirleach Austin Francis O'Malley; Cllr John O'Malley; Cllr Michael Holmes; Back Row (L to R): Marian McHugh, SEE and Patrick Staunton, A/SEE Mayo NRDO; Ger Reidy, EE Westport Area Mayo County Council; Walter Sammon, landowner; Charles Wills, Director of Wills Bros Ltd; John Stretton, Contracts Manager Wills Bros Ltd; James Wills, Director of Wills Bros Ltd; Caroline Hession, Mayo NRDO; Martin Ruddy, Commercial Manager Wills Bros Ltd; Noel Cribben, Mayo NRDO; Joe McGovern, landowner (Photo Frank Dolan)

N59 Westport to Mulranny

The N59 Westport to Mulranny Road Scheme proceeded to preliminary design in 2011 and the CPO Order was published on December 27, 2011. The road scheme has been designed along the route of the N59 between Westport (Attyreece) and Mulranny (Murrevagh), excluding sections at Kilbride (2.85km), Newport Town (2km) and Knockbreaga (1km).

The proposed development will consist of the following: -

- Improvement of the existing N59 National Secondary route comprising the construction of a Type 3 Single Carriageway road (6.0m carriageway road with 0.5m hard strips and verges of approximately 2.0m to 3.0m) for a distance of approximately 21.2km;
- The road project is divided into three sections - Section A: Mulranny to Knockbreaga (8.0km), Section B: Knockbreaga to Newport (6.4km) and Section C: Corragaun to Westport (6.8km);
- The project will predominantly be an online improvement with two offline sections within Section C – at Rossow (0.6km) and at Barleyhill (1.0km);
- Enhancements to the existing Great Western Greenway by the removal of two at-grade crossings of the cycle and walkway route and the construction of an underpass, an overbridge and 3.2km of cycleway typically 2.5m wide alongside the improved N59;
- Improvement of 55 No. sideroad junctions;
- 31 No. road closures/ junction realignments;
- The widening of 5 No. existing bridges and the construction of 4 No. new bridge structures;
- The widening of 13 No. existing culverts and the construction of 5 No. new culverts;
- Construction of tourist lay-bys at scenic areas;
- Associated earthworks, drainage, landscaping and diversion of services.



View of Clew Bay from the proposed N59 Westport to Mulranny tourist lay-by at Rosgalliv, Mulranny.

Launch of Ballina Urban Cycle Network

Mr. Michael Ring, T.D., Minister of State at the Dept. of Transport, Tourism & Sport launched the **Ballina Urban Cycle Network**, which has been funded under the Dept. of

Transport, Tourism and Sport's *2011 Smarter Travel Funding package*, on 25th November, 2011. The project grant aid amounted to €194,000.



Noel Gibbons, Road Safety Officer, Kevin Keegan, Ex. Architect, Orla Bourke, Ballina Town Engineer, Cllr. John O'Hara, MCC, Mark O'Donnell, Project Manager, Paddy Mahon, Director of Services, Mr Michael Ring, T.D., Paul Dolan, A/Sen. Engineer; Cllr. Willie Nolan, BTC., Paul Benson, Sen. Ex. Officer, Michael Timlin, GSS, & Theresa Durkin, Dis. Ex. Engineer.

Killala Pier and Harbour

The Old Pier at Killala Harbour (situated opposite Connacht Gold Store) had fallen into disrepair and the north side of the Pier had totally collapsed. The pier was located in an inter-tidal area and was important for boat maintenance and repairs, but it was unusable in recent years due to its dangerous condition.



An application for funding under the *Fishery, Harbour & Coastal Infrastructure Development Programme* was made to Dept. of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food in 2011, and a total grant of €138,750 was secured, representing 75% of the cost of the project. Mayo County Council contributed €46,205 towards the cost of works, which amounted to total project expenditure of €185,000.

The work on the new Pier was completed between September and December 2011, and this project entailed the construction of a reinforced concrete pier wall 47m in length (comprising 40m along side and 7m at the end), the placing of a new reinforced

concrete deck (40m x 7.5m), extensive masonry wall repairs on the southern side, the installation of 3no. Ladders, mooring rings, edge protection rails, and other ancillary works.



This new Pier, as the picture will 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.

Motor Tax

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

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

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

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

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

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

	2011 Local	2011 Online
No. of New Registrations	2300	
No. of Tax discs issued	88400	46626
No. of drivers Licences issued	20000	
Receipts	8000	4281
CRW's	12900	
Trade Licences	142	
Miscellaneous	102	
Total Issues	131844	50907
Total Income	€19,386,000	€10,273,000

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

Water Supply and Sewerage (Water Services)

In 2011, Mayo County Council continued to ensure that the quality of drinking water and the quality of waste water discharging into our waterways was of the highest possible standard and in compliance with the appropriate regulations.

The year saw the completion of a number of Sewerage Schemes in the County and the introduction of the Operation Phase of the Design Build Operate (DBO) schemes in Achill Sound, Castlebar and Kiltimagh.

Water Quality

It is imperative that the public has confidence in the drinking water provided by Mayo County Council. In this regard, Mayo County Council is developing a water quality management system which will incorporate source protection, risk management taking of supplies, and publishing details of water quality. A draft Drinking Water Incident Response Plan (DWIRP) has been prepared.

In 2011 water quality results were made available on the Council's website, www.mayococo.ie. Water Supplies are independently tested for Mayo County Council by the Health Service Executive and other private accredited laboratories in accordance with a monitoring programme agreed with the Environmental Protection Agency (E.P.A.). This monitoring is carried out on a continuous basis and includes specific cryptosporidium monitoring. Mayo County Council will continue to work with the E.P.A. and Health Service Executive (H.S.E.) regarding the ongoing monitoring of water supplies.

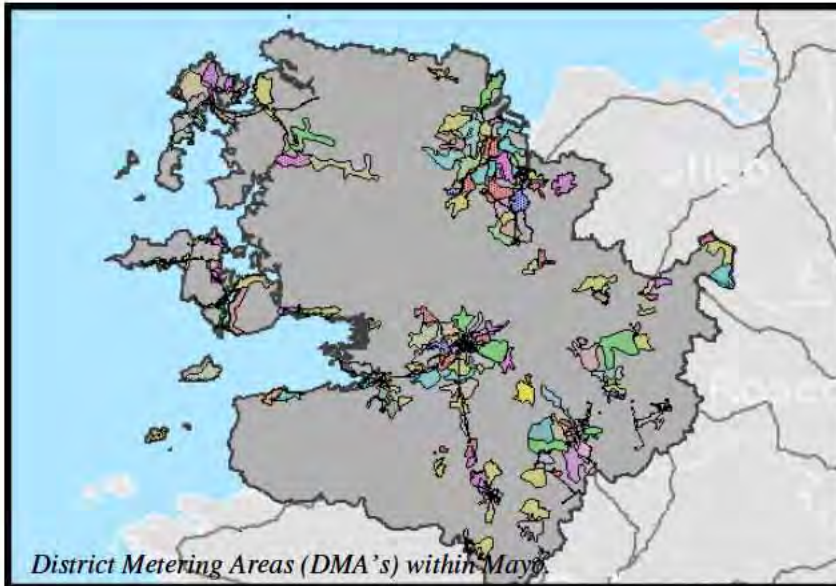
Remedial Action List and EPA Audited Schemes

In its role as a supervisory authority under the 2007 Drinking Water Regulations the Environmental Protection Agency has audited many public water supplies in Mayo and has issued a direction on 6 of these supplies. The EPA has reduced the number of public water supplies on its Remedial Action List from 11 to 7 in 2011.

Countywide Water Conservation Project

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

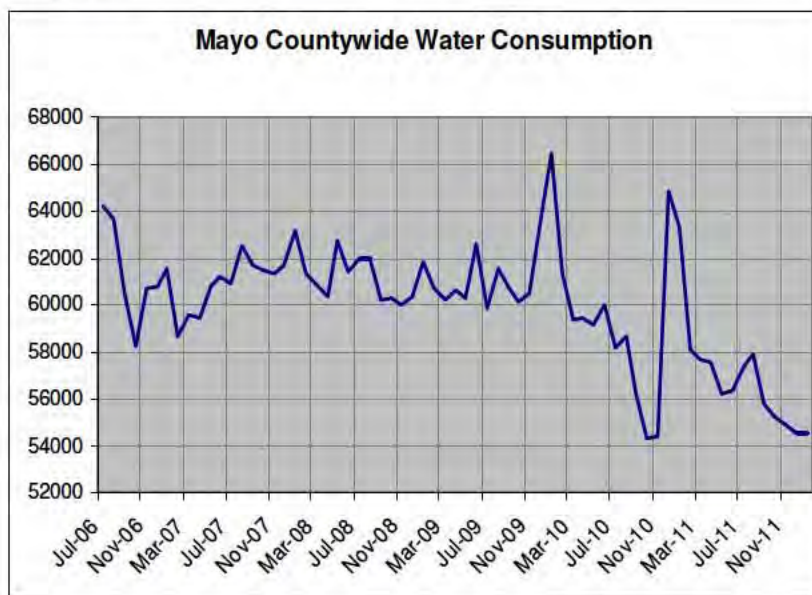
- Stage 1:- Mapping the networks, and setting up District Metering Area's (DMA's)
- Stage 2:- Leak detection and repair.
- Stage 3:- Mains Rehabilitation works.



To date stage 1 & 2 works will be completed in 2012 for a total cost of €6 million, with the installation of 189 DMA's monitoring 2,180km of water mains within 22 water supply schemes...

Each of these DMA meters are linked to a telemetry system which can then be seen across all of the Area Offices and many of the Water Treatment plants. Area Engineers and Caretakers can now monitor water consumption on a daily basis.

Water audits are carried out on a weekly basis and the information gathered is used to prioritise the workload of the counties 5 waste water inspectors. Typically 1300 leaks are repaired annually across the entire network. When the project commenced in 2004 it was estimated that countywide consumption was almost 68,000m³ per day. In 2006, the total countywide consumption for our Public water supply schemes was recorded as 64,000m³ per day. Today the consumption is 55,000m³ per day (12 million Gallons per day) with further savings expected when Stage 3 rehabilitation works are completed.



Graph of Water Consumption within Mayo. Note the spikes in the graph indicate the increase in flows over the recent severe winters.



560m³/day leak at Air Valve

To date 6.5km of mains have been replaced under stage 3 works, with a further 105km of mains proposed for rehabilitation at an estimated cost of €26.6 million.

Waste Water Discharge Licences

Under legislation introduced in 2007 Mayo County Council must apply to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for Waste Water Discharge Licences or Certificates of Authorisation for all of its Waste Water Treatment Plants and this process is on-going.

The current status of the application process is as follows:

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

The application fee to the EPA for these 33 licences and 12 certificates has cost Mayo County Council €616,000. The Council has requested a reduction in the application fees from the EPA. The EPA has agreed to a partial refund for certificate applications.

Three new licences were granted to Mayo County Council during the last year. The annual contribution to the EPA for 2012, with respect to overseeing the 10 licences that have been issued to date, will amount to €43,526.

Twelve Certificates of Authorisation were granted to Mayo County Council between October 2010 and March 2011. There is no annual contribution to the EPA for overseeing Certificates of Authorisation.

Water Services Investment Programme

In 2011 works continued under the Water Services Investment Programme 2010 – 2012.

Schemes Completed in 2011

Ballina Main Drainage (Bachelor's Walk Storm Water Overflow)	€ 4.8m
Castlebar Environs Sewerage Scheme Wastewater Treatment Plant	€15.8m
Achill Sound Sewerage Scheme	€6.8m
Kiltimagh Sewerage Scheme Wastewater Treatment Plant	€4.0m
Water Conservation Stage 3 Rehabilitation Works:- Wherrew Rising Main	€1.0m

Schemes in Progress in 2011

Water Supply to Cong from The Neale	1.0m
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Schemes to Commence in 2012 -2013 (subject to finance being available)

Lough Mask Water Treatment Plant upgrade – <i>At Tender Stage</i>	€10.0m
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Schemes to be advanced through Planning

Belmullet , Foxford and Charlestown Waste Water Treatment Plants (as a bundled scheme)	€14.3m
Killala Sewerage scheme	€ 5.1m
Water Conservation Stage 3 Rehabilitation Works	€ 5.0m

Small Schemes

No Small Schemes were completed in 2011.

The reduction in funding, particularly Clár funding, has had a detrimental effect on the provision of Small Schemes in Mayo.

Water Metering/Water Charges

2008 was the first year when all Non-Domestic customers were charged Water and Sewerage charges on a volumetric basis. A dedicated office was set up in 2008 dealing solely with Water Services Charges and water conservation.

Mayo County Council has 7,954 non domestic water customers with 10,843 meters in operation. 1730 customers have more than 1 meter.

New customers are continuously coming on line with the take over of group water schemes throughout the county.

Invoices are issued on a monthly, three monthly or six monthly basis depending on the consumption of the customer, at present the Water Services office is processing 2000 bills per month. Advice on managing your water supply is issued to customers with their invoices, this is a great assistance in water conservation by encouraging customers to deal with leakage promptly.

Customers can now pay their Water Services Charges in any Mayo County Council office or online at www.mayococo.ie/epayments and they can also monitor their water consumption by registering at www.mymayo.ie

The charges for 2011 were €0.97/m³ for water and €1.43/m³ for sewerage.

Group Water Schemes

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

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

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

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

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

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

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. These schemes supply water to 3,300 households.

Bundle No. 2:

A second Bundle comprising of 10 No. Treatment Plants serving 20 Group Water Schemes have been completed. These schemes supply water to 4,530 households.

- 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.



*Nephin Valley
Treatment Plant*

*PBKS Treatment
Plant (Prizon,
Ballyvary,
Keelogue, Straide)*



The following DBO Advance Works Contracts commenced in 2011 and are due to be completed in 2012.

- Advance Works Contract 4 for construction of watermains and ancillary works at Callow Lake GWS Co-Operative Society.
- Nephin Valley Group Water Scheme Critical Mains Replacement Contract.

2. TAKE-OVER OF GROUP SCHEMES

Any Group Water Scheme which is connected to a Public Main can apply for Takeover by the Council provided two thirds of the members agree to same.

Enquiries regarding take-over of Schemes have been received from in excess of 50 Groups. Schemes proposed for takeover are assessed by the Rural Water Section. 11 Schemes were taken in charge in 2011.

An allocation of €600,000 was granted to Mayo County Council for Take-over of Group Water Schemes in 2011.

3. UPGRADING/WATER CONSERVATION

There is an 85% Grant for upgrading/water conservation works on Group Water Schemes subject to maximum funding of €6,475.66 per house.

Mayo County Council received an allocation of €500,000 in 2011 for upgrading of Group Water Schemes.

4. NEW GROUP WATER SCHEMES

An allocation of €150,000 was granted to Mayo County Council for new Group Water Schemes in 2011.

New GWSs can only be considered where the source of supply is being provided by way of an extension to an existing GWS or via connection to a local authority mains supply. Maximum Grant in 2011 was €7,475.66 per house.

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

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

6. 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. 525 applications have been received to date.

7. NEW SCHEMES / UPGRADING OF EXISTING SCHEMES

UPGRADING IN PROGRESS 2011
Caherduff/Neale Carha (Bonniconlon) Cushin/Ayle (Westport)

UPGRADING COMPLETED 2011	
Kilcolman/Facefield (Claremorris)	Shammer (Kilkelly)
Oxford/Greyfield (Kiltimagh)	Doohoma Head (Geesala)
Ballymartin (Kilmaine)	Killasser

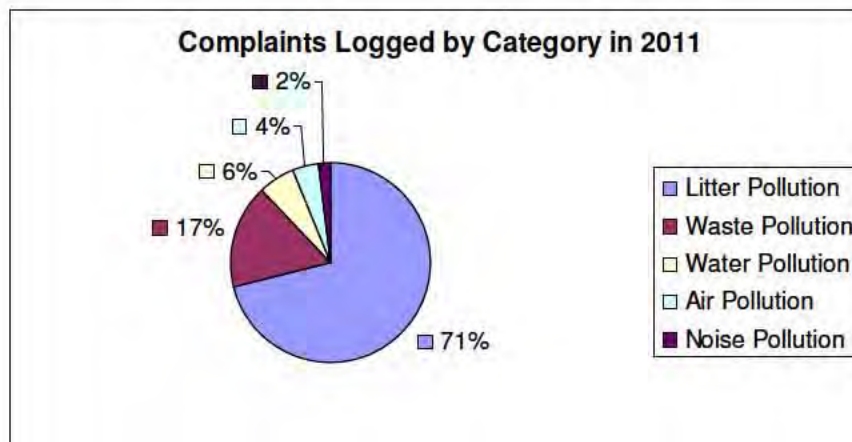
SCHEMES TAKEN-IN-CHARGE IN 2011	
Cahir Callacoon	Knocksbarrett
Cooneal	Cloonalaghan
Cloonlara	Bengeary
Woodfield/Ballure	Breaffy/Ratheskin
Faranoo	Bushfield (Charlestown)
Ballintean	

Our Environment Awareness.... Enforcement Protection

The Environment Section deals 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. 2011 saw the continuance of this role of striving to achieve the quality environment that is a key component of sustainable development.

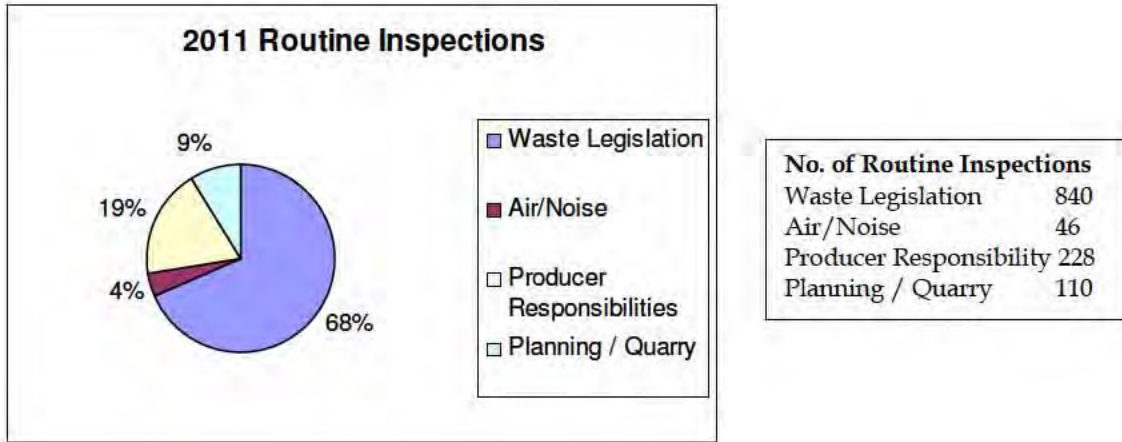
Environmental Enforcement

A total of 1,070 complaints were received by the Environment Section in 2011 of which 801 complaints were resolved. Complaints or enquires on environmental issues can be received by office calls, e-mail complaints, free phone or through the Councils website. The 1070 complaints comprised mainly of litter/waste 944 (88%) with the balance made up of water air and noise.



In addition to complaints etc received which are classified as Non Routine Inspections, there is a programmed Routine Inspection programme which is carried out by the Councils team of enforcement officers, litter wardens and environmental technical staff.

A total of 1,224 such inspections were carried out in 2011 with 68% of the inspections categorised under waste. Producer responsibilities accounting for almost 20% of the inspections included visits to businesses/premises under WEEE and battery regulations, end of life vehicles, farm plastics, plastic bag levy and packaging regulations.



The combined Routine / Non Routine inspections resulted in 645 warning letters and legal notices being issued with 9 prosecutions successfully taken under Waste Management legislation.

In addition, 164 litter fines were issued of which 69 were paid at the end of the 2011.

Planning of the workload of the enforcement team is set out in the Councils annual RMCEI plan (Recommended Criteria for Environmental Inspections) which is prepared annually and sent to the EPA for their information.

Civic Amenity Sites

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

In December plans for a new civic amenity site at Belmullet were presented to the Environmental Strategic Policy Committee for their information.

Waste Collection Permits (WCP)

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

A National Waste Collection Permitting Office (NWCPO) is currently being set up. This office is to be based in and managed by Offaly County Council and will have sole responsibility for processing of all waste collection permits within the country as

a whole. It will deal with all aspects of waste collection permitting, heretofore dealt with by the ten separate Nominated Authorities.

Currently there are 303 active waste collection permits with authorisation from Mayo County Council to collect various waste streams within the region and of these 38 are Multi Regional WCPs covering up to all ten regions nationally. In addition a further 258 Multi-Regional Waste collection permits have been issued by other Waste Management Regions which authorise Waste collectors to collect wastes in Connaught. Mayo County Council was consulted on these WCP applications and where appropriate has ensured the inclusion of specific conditions to enable implementation of the Connaught Waste management Plan. Similarly Multi Regional WCP applications to Mayo County Council are circulated electronically to all 33 local authorities for comment.

Waste Facility Permits and Certificates of Registration

Mayo County Council process and issue applications for Waste Facility Permits and Certificates of Registration for the County. New Waste Management (Waste Facility Permit and Certificate of Registration) Regulations were introduced on 1st June 2008. The fees have increased and are set out in the regulations. The minimum fee is €300 and the maximum is €2000. The fee relates to the class of activity being authorised. Thresholds (set out in the Regulations) relate to quantity and types of waste determine whether an application is Waste Facility Permit or a Certificate of Registration. Permits issued under the new regulations may have a five year lifespan and may be reviewed prior to expiry date (the fee for review is chargeable at 50% of the original permit fee). A valid application must include evidence of planning permission or planning exemption for the proposed activity. In 2011, nine applications were received.

Currently there are 25 Mayo County Council authorised facilities. These include waste transfer stations, authorised treatment facilities (for depollution of end-of-life vehicles), one municipal sludge treatment facility and sites for the recovery of waste from construction and demolition activities.

There continues to be a deficiency (within the county) of permitted facilities for recovery of construction and demolition waste; in particular there is a shortage of sites to accommodate surplus spoil from larger civil engineering/construction projects. This aspect may result in bottlenecks with regard to the proper management of waste on larger proposed projects.

Landfills

The Council operate two EPA licensed landfill/civic amenity sites at Derrinnumera near Newport and Rathroeen Ballina. Waste was only accepted at Derrinnumera in 2011 while a newly constructed cell for waste acceptance was being planned and under development at Rathroeen. The capacity at Derrinnumera will expire in early 2012.

Litter Action League

2011 saw the continuation of the Litter Action League which was first introduced in November 2002. The competition is open to Tidy Towns Committees and Community Groups in all towns and villages in County Mayo, with the exception of the towns of Ballina, Castlebar and Westport. It is run on a league basis i.e. each of the participating towns and villages compete against all other towns and villages in its group in successive months.

The purpose of this initiative is to encourage Local Community Councils and Tidy Towns Committees to further their involvement in the eradication of litter in towns and villages in County Mayo. The competition also helps to raise awareness of the extent and effect of litter in local communities with awards being given to the winners and runners up. This competition received great interest with 27 groups participating in 2011. It is envisaged that the number of entrants will increase next year and have a positive effect of heightening litter awareness in our towns and villages. Entrants were divided into the following categories:

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

Group A	Winner	Newport
	Runner Up	Foxford
Group B	Winner	Kilmaine
	Runner Up	Bangor Erris
Group C1	Winner	Partry
	Runner Up	The Neale
Group C2	Winner	Keelogue
	Runner Up	Polranny

Cleaner Community Campaign

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

The 2011 competition had five categories as follows:

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

The winners under each category for 2011 were as follows:

Environmental Endeavour Award

- 1st Bangor Erris
- 2nd Crossmolina
- 3rd Geesala

Best Kept Housing Estate

- 1st Rockwell Housing Estate, Ballina
- 2nd Lui na Greine/Barr na hAille, Claremorris.
- 3rd Castlecourt Estate, Ballina.

Best Kept School

- 1st Killala National School
- 2nd Glencastle National School
- 3rd Boys National School, Claremorris

Best Kept Burial Ground

- 1st Shrule Burial Ground
- 2nd Addergoole Burial Ground
- 3rd Drum Burial Ground

Best Slogan

The winning slogan was from Ms Gillian Donnellan, Ballyhaunis:

‘Paper, bottles, can and plastic.....Recycle them all – it’s fantastic’

Environmental Awareness

Environment Awareness is an integral part of the role-out of the current Connaught Waste Management Plan. Environment Awareness is focused on all sectors of the community – school children, young adults, householders, business and community groups. The highlights of the 2011 year include the launch of the freetrade Ireland website and GMIT being awarded with a Green Flag for achieving green campus status.

School programmes

Mayo County Council has continued to promote environment awareness on the issues of litter, waste, recycling, composting, energy and water conservation with both primary and secondary schools. School visits continued to be carried out during 2011 and schools were offered compost bins and other promotional and awareness information free of charge. Several other school based projects took place during 2011 to encourage better environmental awareness. These included

- Magician Marvin's Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
- The Food We Eat Programme
- Christmas Decoration Competition
- Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland's Energy Workshops.
- The Carra-Mask-Corrib Water Protection programme on water pollution & conservation.



Sharon Cameron, Environment Awareness Officer with Mayo County Council - teaching Junior Children in Drumgallagh National School the importance of energy conservation.



Children learn about energy conservation in SEAI workshops organised by Mayo County Council in February 2011 at Aras Inis Gluaire, Belmullet.





Green Schools

There are now 179 schools registered for the Green Schools Programme in County Mayo and 130 schools have achieved Green School status. Preschools, Primary and Secondary schools are involved in the programme. In April 2011, the Castlebar Campus of GMIT became the first Institute of Technology in the World to achieve Green Campus standard. Schools working on the programme work on waste and litter reduction and then embrace new environmental themes as the programme progresses. The themes running at present are Litter and Waste, Energy, Water, Travel, Biodiversity and Citizenship.

GMIT – Castlebar Campus become the first Institute of Technology in the World to be awarded Green Campus Status by An Taisce .An Taoiseach, Mr. Enda Kenny, T.D raises their Green Flag in April 2011.

Ballyheane NS, one of primary schools that received Green Flag Status in 2011 – Picture Michael Donnelly.



Business and Community Environmental Awareness

Information presentations and demonstration days have been delivered to community groups and businesses during 2011. These presentations involve the delivery of information about recycling centres, bring banks, the principles of “reduce, reuse recycle”, composting, free trade, shopping for the environment, the dangers of back-yard burning and the safe disposal of hazardous materials, WEEE and batteries.

Leaflets and brochures on litter, waste, recycling, landfill/recycling centres, composting and back-yard burning are distributed to those in attendance at these events.



Mayo County Council's Environmental Awareness Stand at the West of Ireland Baby Fair.



Environment Awareness day held for staff of Mayo County Council in 2011

Free Trade Launch

In May 2011, An Taoiseach, Mr. Enda Kenny, T.D. officially launched www.freetradeireland.ie. This is a free national service where householders and businesses in County Mayo can pick up and pass on quality items such as home and office furniture, baby goods, electronics, DIY / construction materials and tools, sports equipment, musical instruments, toys, gardening accessories and motoring items. The online service is free to use and people can view ads for items as well as post items of their own once they are a member of the site. Arrangements to collect items are made directly with the person advertising the item and no cost applies to either party. Items posted up on the website are generally in good condition, full working order and ideal for re-use.

The Free trade Ireland service is supported by the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government and funded by Mayo County Council and the Local Authorities across Ireland. The website aims to help prevent usable items going to landfill and increase the lifespan of items for re-use.



An Taoiseach, Mr. Enda Kenny T.D launches the free trade Ireland website in Castlebar in May 2011

Reuse Day in Ballina.

As part of European Week of Waste Reduction a reuse day was held in November 2011 at Ballina Landfill site. Several items were recued on the day including three bikes, a sewing machine, a rocking horse, a pram, a bread maker, a coffee maker, a suitcase and an ironing board.

A much loved and still working perfectly “Knit Master 323” machine also got a new owner as a result of the event.



Phyliss Jordan from Ballaghderreen taking possession of a knitting machine at the Reuse event held at Ballina Landfill site – photo Keith Heneghan.

Mayo County Council Dog Fouling Litter Campaign.

In 2011, anti-litter awareness campaigns continued. The focus of this year was in particular on dog fouling. A new poster and information leaflet were developed based on the theme “dog litter is not funny”



Composting

Mayo County Council offer householders “home composting bins” at the reduced rate of €30. The composters (including information booklet and kitchen caddy) may be purchased at all Area Offices, both Recycling Centres and at Aras an Chontae, Castlebar. Composters are offered free to all schools.

Ballinrobe Tidy Towns Committee hosted a Composting Workshop in Ballinrobe in April. The workshop was delivered by the Irish Peatland Conservation Council with co-funding from Mayo County Council.

The workshop also discussed ways of improving our gardens for the benefit of the local environment and wildlife.



Members of Ballinrobe Tidy Towns Committee learn about composting garden waste in a talk given by Sharon Cameron, Environment Awareness Officer



Section of the audience who attended the composting and wildlife gardening workshop in Ballinrobe. The workshop was hosted by Ballinrobe Tidy Towns Committee.

FREE Electrical Recycling Days for Householders

During 2011, Mayo County Council in association with WEEE Ireland carried out FREE Electrical and Battery Recycling Days for the public. The area's covered in 2011 were:-

- Claremorris
- Ballinrobe
- Castlebar
- Crossmolina
- Louisburgh
- Ballyhaunis
- Belmullet
- Achill
- Westport
- Swinford
- Charlestown

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

In December 2011, Mayo County Council worked closely with WEEE Ireland in a battery fund raising recycling campaign for the Children's Sunshine home & Laura Lynn House.

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. In County Mayo thousands of people participated in An Taisce's National Spring Clean throughout April.

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



The Communities of Kilboyne & Aughadrinagh participate in National Spring Clean during April 2011

Christmas Campaign.

In January 2011, a Christmas card recycling campaign was ran to coincide with the Christmas tree recycling campaign. In December 2011, a very successful Christmas Decoration Competition was run by Mayo County Council whereby primary school children were encouraged to make decorations from “waste” materials.



A selection of the decorations made using waste materials submitted for Mayo County Councils Race against waste Christmas Decoration Competition.



Administration and Implementation of Grant Schemes

- **Anti-Litter & Anti Graffiti Grants 2011**

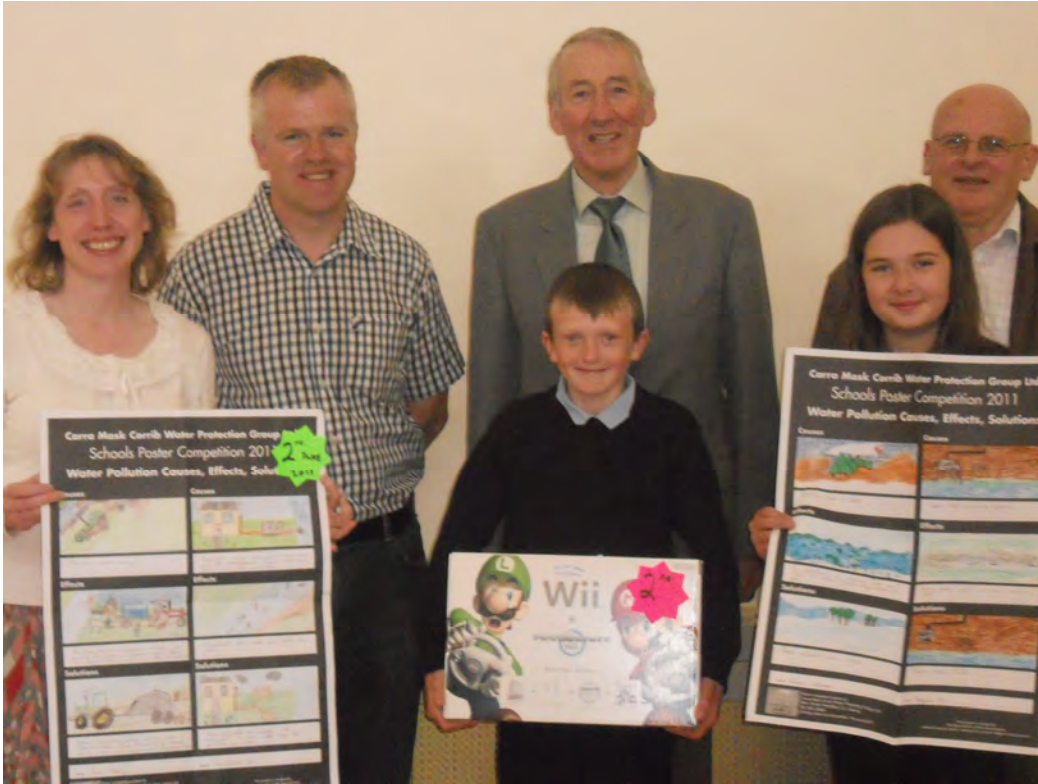
This grant scheme is aimed towards organisations that are planning a project to target anti-litter or anti-graffiti measures. Organisations are invited to apply for grant aid to co-fund public education and awareness initiatives on the subject of litter and graffiti. Fourteen organisations were funded in 2011 under this grant scheme.



Magician Marvin teaches children in Gaelscoil na Cruaiche about “Reduce, Reuse and Recycle” in workshops funded by Mayo County Council under the anti-litter awareness grant scheme.

- **Local Agenda 21 grant scheme:**

Local Agenda 21 is a process which facilitates sustainable development at community level. Mayo County Council funded 21 organisations under this Scheme in 2011. Eligible projects under this scheme support and complement national environmental policies such as those on waste, biodiversity, climate change, air, water, sustainable development etc.



Prizes are awarded to children in Facefield NS, Claremorris for the water protection poster competition ran by the Carra-Mask-Corrib Water Protection Group. The project was co-funded by Mayo County Council under the Local Agenda 21 grant scheme.

Litter Management

Following a public consultation process in early 2011, the Litter Management Plan 2011 – 2014 for Co. Mayo was adopted by the full Council. Strict enforcement of litter legislation continues to be a priority in this plan. Detailed measures that were undertaken during the life of the previous Litter Management Plan are continuing and litter control measures, current and planned initiatives are set out under the following headings:

1. Public Awareness and Advisory measures
2. Youth Education measures
3. Community and Voluntary Groups co-operational measures
4. Partnership and consultative measures /Planning
5. Enforcement Measures

Water Framework Directive

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

deadlines for the river basin planning process. The directive applies to rivers, lakes, groundwater, estuaries and coastal waters. Member States must aim to achieve good status in all waters by **2015** and must ensure that status does not deteriorate in any waters.

Ireland is divided into 8 River Basin Districts (RBD's) to allow for the co-ordinated management and implementation of the Water Framework Directive. Mayo is part of the Western RBD. Galway County Council as the coordinating local authority for the Western River Basin District published the plan in May 2010.

Swimming Pools

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

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

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

Burial Grounds

With a total of 156 burial grounds in Co. Mayo, community groups now maintain 95 of them with a financial contribution given towards maintenance by Mayo County Council. Community involvement is encouraged as much as possible and is appreciated. Shrulue Burial Ground was named best presented burial ground in 2011.

Derelict Sites

A survey of all towns and villages is ongoing by area staff to update the position with regard to the registration of all derelict sites. Owners of these sites will be notified of the Councils intentions to have the sites rendered non-derelict. All sites will be entered on the Register of Derelict sites which will be available for public inspection. Where sites are not made non derelict charges under the legislation will be levied by the Council. At the end of 2011 there were 84 sites on the register.

Bottle /Textile Banks

Mayo County Council in accordance with the provisions of the Connaught Waste Plan has provided over 100 bottle banks at numerous locations throughout the County.

Over 2500 tonnes of glass and almost 100 tonnes of aluminium were recovered in 2011. The network of bring banks throughout the county allows for the convenient recovery of bottles and aluminium cans from householders and are located as follows:

Town	Materials	Location
Achill	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Pub
Achill	Beverage Cans, Glass Bottles/Jars	Caravan Park Keel
Achill	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Curanne Shore Road
Achill	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Dooagh ESB substation
Achill	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Pub
Achill	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Polranny ESB Substation
Aghleam	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Community Centre Carpark
Aughagower	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Handball Alley Carpark
Balla	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Main Street
Ballina	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Carpark off Teeling/Bury Street
Ballina	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Humbert St. Carpark
Ballina	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Tesco Car Park
Ballindine	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Heneghan's Centra Supermarket
Ballinrobe	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars, textiles	Church Lane Carpark
Ballinrobe	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Mace Garage, Castlebar Rd
Ballinrobe	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Mayo Co Co Carpark, Kilmaine Rd
Ballinrobe	Beverage Cans, Glass, Bottles/Jars/textiles	Tesco Car Park
Ballycastle	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Town Hall Carpark
Ballycroy	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Front of Church Carpark
Ballyglass	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Outside football pitch
Ballyhaunis	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars, textiles	Carpark off Main St.

Ballyheane	Beverage Cans, Glass, Bottles/Jars	Roadside
Bangor Erris	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Opposite Church
Bar Na Tra	Beverage Cans, glass bottles/jars,	Opposite Funeral Home
Barnacarrol	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Community Centre Carpark
Belcarra	Beverage Cans, Glass, Bottles Jars	Church Car Park
Belmullet	Beverage Cans, glass bottles/jars, textiles	Mayo County Council Offices, Church R
Bofeenauin	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Community Centre
Bonniconlon	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Tubercurry Road
Breaffy	Beverage Cans	St. Johns National School
Brickeen, Claremorris	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars, textiles	Community Centre
Bunacurry	Beverage Cans, Glass Bottles/Jars	Roadside
Carnacon	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Community Centre Carpark
Carracastle	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	National School
Carramore-Lacken	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Beside Football pitch
Carrowteige	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	An Siopa
Castlebar	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Carpark off Market Square
Castlebar	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars, textiles	Co.Co. Carpark
Castlebar	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Dunnes Carpark
Charlestown	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Old Railway Station
Clare Island	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	The Pier
Claremorris	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Mayo Co.Co. Offices
Claremorris	Beverage Cans, Glass Bottles/Jars	Playground on Ballinrobe Road
Claremorris	Beverage Cans, Glass Bottles/Jars	Car Park
Clogher, Claremorris	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Ballintubber GAA Grounds
Cong	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	County Council Carpark
Crimlin, Ross West	Beverage Cans, Glass Bottles/Jars	Church

Cross	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Pub Carpark
Crossmolina	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Beside Bridge
Cuslough	Beverage Cans, Glass Bottles/Jars	Community Centre
Derrinnumera	Civic Amenity Site	Landfill site, off Newport Rd
Drummin	Beverage Cans, Glass Bottles/Jars	Near the Church
Elly Bay	Beverage Cans, Glass Bottles/Jars	Carpark adjacent to Blue Flag Beach
Elly Bay	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Adventure Centre
Foxford	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Carpark
Garrymore, Claremorris	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	GAA pitch
Geesala	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Community Centre
Glenamoy	Beverage Cans, Glass Bottles/Jars	GAA Football Pitch
Glenhest	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars, textiles	Community Centre
Glenisland	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Cemetery Car Park
Irishtown	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Church Carpark
Islandeedy	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Church Carpark
Keenagh	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Opposite Church
Kilasser	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Community Centre
Kileen, Louisburgh	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Beside the Bridge
Kilkelly	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Housing Estate Swinford Road
Killala	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Carpark
Killawala	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Opposite Church
Kilmaine	Beverage Cans, Glass Bottles/Jars	Community Centre
Kilmovee	Beverage Cans, Glass Bottles/Jars	Carpark at rear of Community Centre
Kiltimagh	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Carpark
Kincon, Killala	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Village
Knock	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Basilica Carpark
Lahardane	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Community Centre
Lismirren	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	O'Dwyer Cheshire Home
Louisburgh	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Health Centre Carpark
Manulla	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Community Centre

Mayo Abbey	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	GAA pitch
Meelick Swinford	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Community Centre
Moygownagh,Ballina	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Garage & Shop
Mulranny	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Carpark Newport Road
Mulranny	Beverage Cans, Glass, Bottles/Jars	Mulranny Beach
Newport	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Service Station, Westport Road
Parke	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	GAA pitch
Partry	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Community Centre
Rathroeen	Civic Amenity Centre	Civic Amenity Centre
Rosmoney	Beverage Cans, Glass Bottles/Jars	The Pier
Rosport	Beverage Cans, Glass Bottles/Jars	Secondary School Car Park
Roundfort	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Community Centre
Shrulle	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Community Centre
Swinford	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Service station
Swinford	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Carpark
The Neale	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Pub
Toreen	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Community Centre
Tourmakeady	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Community Centre
Westport	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Leisure Park
Westport	Beverage Cans, Glass, Bottles/Jars	Mill Street Car Park,
Westport	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Sacred Heart School
Westport	Beverage Cans, Glass, Bottles/Jars	The Pond at The Quay
Westport	Beverage Cans, Glass bottles/jars	Tip top Petrol Station

Housing and Building

General

2011 has been another challenging year for Mayo County Council in the Housing Service. The challenges faced by the service during the year and into 2012 include:

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

4 units of accommodation were sold in 2011 under the Incremental Purchase Scheme in Sliabh Rua, Foxford



Capital Programme 2011

The Housing Construction Capital Programme for 2011 was delivered as part

of a rolling multi-annual programme covering the years 2008 – 2011. As part of the Housing Action Plan review process Mayo County Council meets with the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government twice a year to discuss the Housing Capital programme. The primary purpose of these meetings is to (i) confirm the financial and physical output for the year, including progress under the

Social Leasing Initiative and (ii) to also outline the parameters within which the Housing Investment Programme should be prepared, for the coming years.

The multi-annual programme for 2011 saw a significant reduction in the level of ‘new-build’ activity throughout the County. Housing Capital Allocations for 2011 were only adequate to meet existing construction commitments, and permitted a very limited number of ‘new starts’ – 2 no. by Ballina Town Council, and 6 no. one-off rural units throughout the county. Emphasis was also placed on the management and improvement of the existing stock of Local Authority owned dwellings with funding secured through the Energy Efficiency Programme (EEP) to undertake up-grade works on 28 no. units in Ballina, 22 no. units in Newport and 2 no. units in Castlebar.

Completions 2011

A total of 14 units were completed in 2011, providing housing units, housing schemes, rural houses, extensions, special works and acquisitions.

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



Cois Cuan Housing Development at Kilmeena, Westport.

Mayo Completions 2011.

	Schemes	Rurals	Exts	SWIL	Misc	Totals
Ballina Town Council		-	2			2
Ballina Electoral Area		-				
Swinford Electoral Area	Laveymore Charlestown 4no	-	1			5
North East Region	4	-	3			7
	Schemes	Rurals	Exts	SWIL	Misc	Totals
Castlebar Town Council		-	-			
Castlebar Electoral Area		-	-			
Claremorris Electoral Area		1	1	1		3
South Region	0	1	1	1		3
	Schemes	Rurals	Exts	SWIL	Misc	Totals
Westport Town Council		-	-	-		
Westport Electoral Area		-	-	-		
Belmullet Electoral Area		4	-	-		4
West Region	0	4	-	-		4
Total Completions	4	5	4	1		14

The Remedial Works Scheme (RWS) in Parkview, Charlestown, approved by the Department in 2010, involving the refurbishment and upgrade of 23 existing units and construction of 4no new units, together with general site enhancement works to the overall estate, is progressing well and is due for completion in early 2012.



House Starts 2011

A total of 20 starts were achieved in 2011 through housing units in schemes, rural housing, extensions, special works and acquisitions.

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

Mayo Starts 2011

	Schemes	Rurals	Exts	SWIL	Misc	Totals
Ballina Town Council	Mount Assumpta 2	0	2	0	0	4
Ballina Electoral Area	0	0	0	0	0	0
Swinford Electoral Area	0	4	0	3	0	7
North East Region	2	4	2	3	0	11
	Schemes	Rurals	Exts	SWIL	Misc	Totals
Castlebar Town Council	0	0	1	0	0	1
Castlebar Electoral Area	0	0	0	0	0	0
Claremorris Electoral Area	0	0	2	0	0	2
South East Region	0	0	3	0	0	3
	Schemes	Rurals	Exts	SWIL	Misc	Totals
Westport Town Council	0	0	0	0	1	1
Westport Electoral Area	0	0	0	1	0	1
Belmullet Electoral Area	0	2	0	2	0	4
West Region	0	2	0	3	1	6
Total Starts	2	6	5	6	1	20

Housing Developments **under construction** and due for completion in 2012 include:

- **Mount Assumpta, Ballina** – An in-fill housing development comprising 2 no. 2 Bedroom units.

Traveller Accommodation

A review of the Traveller Accommodation Plan 2009 – 2013 has been carried out in accordance with Section 17 of the Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act, 1998. The key points arising from the review are as follows:

- Annual targets of 18 units per annum were set. (54 in total for 3 year period). A total of 156 units have been provided as follows;

-	Local Authority Units	-	15
-	Private Rented	-	119
-	RAS	-	10
-	Voluntary / Groups	-	<u>12</u>
			156

- Since the adoption of the Plan in 2009, the number of Traveller Families on the roadside has reduced from 28 to 3 at present. The 3 families remaining on the roadside have been made offers of new purpose built accommodation in Castlebar and Charlestown.
- The target for accommodation in the private sector with rent supplement support has been significantly exceeded (target 15 versus 119 achieved). This highlights that the private rented housing sector is now readily available to Traveller families requiring accommodation.
- Local Authority Accommodation, the Voluntary Sector and the Rental Accommodation Scheme played a significant part in meeting Traveller accommodation needs in the period providing 37 units of accommodation.

Conclusions:

The targets for the period from 2009 to 2011 have been exceeded by a factor of 2.9 or some 102 units of accommodation. The number of Traveller families on the roadside has reduced from 28 to 3 in the period.

Outlook for Period 2012 to 2013:

The achievement of the targets for the period 2012 to 2013 will be impacted by the significant reduction proposed to the Housing Capital Programme over that period. The Plan anticipates 11 units per annum arising from the local authority and voluntary housing sectors over this period which may not be achievable given the levels of new building proposed. The Council / Voluntary Sector will however have casual vacancies at their disposal to meet need. The improved access to the private rented sector, together with the Rental Accommodation Scheme, will be more than sufficient to meet the overall targets in the Plan to 2013.

Progress Report for 2011

TABLE SHOWING IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY / ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2011

Electoral Area	T.A.P 2009 – 2013 5year Target	T.A.P 2009 – 2013 Annual Target 2011	Total Achieved To date For 2011	Local Authority Achieved 2011	Private Rented Sector Achieved 2011	RAS Achieved 2011	Vol Groups & Other 2011	Families in Unauthorized Encampments 2011
Ballina	29	6	26	2	13	0	10	0

Swinford	1	1 over	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kilkelly	3	5yr	2	0	2	0	0	0
Kiltimagh	2	3 over	2	0	2	0	0	0
Foxford	1	5yr	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charlestown	5	2 over	4	3	0	0	0	1
		5yr						
		1 over						
		5yr						
		1						
Castlebar	17	4	11	0	8	2	0	1
Claremorris	2	0	3	0	3	0	0	0
Knock			2		2			
Ballyhaunis	7	1	2	0	2	0	0	0
Ballinrobe	3	1	7	2	5	0	0	0
Westport	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Annual Target	71	18	59	7	37	2	10	2

The figures in the above Table, under the heading 'Private Rented Sector 2011' show the additional number of families who have been accommodated in private rented accommodation during this year.

The additional families consist of new family formations, or families who move from a different electoral area, county or country.

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

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

Similarly with the figure for Voluntary Groups, there are a further five families who have returned to either fully refurbished or new houses in the Cluid Development at St. Patrick's Estate.

Unauthorised Encampments:

The number of families residing in unauthorised encampments has decreased to 2. Notably, both of these families have refused offers of Local Authority Accommodation.



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

A Group Housing Scheme consisting of four dwellings i.e. 1 No. 3 bed, 2 No. 4 bed and a 5 bed with a one bedroom annex attached has been completed in 2011. Tenancies were awarded to three families and a further two families have refused offers of tenancy of the fourth house.

Radon Sample Testing of existing Local Authority Housing Stock

Background

Following a management decision in early 2010, a Radon Sample Testing Programme for existing local authority housing stock was initiated.

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

A rolling programme throughout 2010 saw the testing of **271 house units** throughout the county.

Radon Measurement

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

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

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

As a result of these readings the following housing developments were targeted for Phase II of the testing programme where all council houses in the development were tested for radon levels. These developments were: -

Name of Development	No. of houses tested
Lui na Greine, Claremorris.	19
Barr na H'aille, Claremorris.	16
Carrabeg, Swinford.	4
Killasser, Swinford	9
Healy Terrace, Ballina.	4
Total	52

This subsequent testing indicated that 30 of those houses had radon concentration levels in excess of the reference level of 200 bq/m³. These units were at the following locations: -

Name of Development	No. of houses
Lui na Greine, Claremorris.	18
Barr na H'aille, Claremorris	8
Killasser, Swinford	1
Carrabeg, Swinford Phase 2	1
Healy Terrace, Ballina	2

The majority of houses requiring attention were in Claremorris town. In light of the need to have the work carried out at an early date the Council proceeded straight away to appoint a specialist contractor to carry out the remediation work required. The work consisted of the provision of a radon sump and vent pipe with extraction fan attached. The cost per dwelling house was less than €1,000.

A local team was also put in place to liaise with tenants on the works and to address any queries or concerns they may have had. Private householders in the area were also advised on the local readings, briefed on the advantages of having their own houses tested and advised on how they could proceed.

The work was completed by August, 2011. Follow up testing is now taking place to confirm the effectiveness of the work carried out. Results will be available by the end of 2011. If any further remedial work is required this will be carried out.

In 2012 the council will continue with its radon testing programme in council houses, concentrating on areas that have been shown to have above average concentration levels in the past.

Refurbishment Programme

- **Long Term Voids:** In the Budget for 2011, a special provision was made for dealing with long term voids during the course of the year. A total of **€400,000** was invested throughout the County during the year.

This programme will continue in 2012 to fund the long term void units arising during the year.

- **Refurbishment Programme 2000 – 2011:** Mayo County Council initiated a major Refurbishment Programme of all Housing stock in 2002. The Programme will see approximately **€15m** invested in the housing stock through the County. It will ensure that every house is brought to an acceptable standard of physical fabric, comfort and appearance. Work began in 2002, targeting initially rural houses which were surveyed and tendered in blocks on an Electoral Area basis.

The Programme has moved on to the refurbishment of schemes, which by their nature are more complex, given the mixed public/private ownership and the requirement to upgrade external open space. The state of progress in each electoral Area is outlined in the following Tables. The total investment to date on the Scheme amounts to approximately **€13.8m**.

Steady progress continues to be made on this programme. In 2012, every effort will be made to utilise the available funding from the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government and own resources to advance progress in this programme.

NORTH EAST REGION

Ballina Electoral Area

Type	No. of Units	Status	Cost €
Rurals	95	Complete	2,294,690
Schemes	60	Complete	593,600
	61	At Survey Need Funding	(890,000)*
Total	216		3,778,290

*Estimate based on previous works.

Swinford Electoral Area

Type	No. of Units	Status	Cost €
Rurals	75	Complete	870,049
Schemes	159	Complete	873,654
	108	At Survey Need Funding	(864,000)
Total	342	-	2,607,703
N.E. Region Overall	558	-	6,385,993

WEST REGION

Belmullet Electoral Area

Type	No. of Units	Status	Cost €
Rurals	174	Complete	3,182,519
Schemes	111	On site	1,528,833
Total	285	-	4,711,352

Westport Electoral Area

Type	No. of Units	Status	Cost €
Rural	71	Complete	1,252,000
Schemes	6	On site	55,000
Total	77	-	1,307,000
West Region Overall	362	-	6,018,352

SOUTH REGION

Ballinrobe Electoral Area

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

Castlebar Electoral Area

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

Claremorris Electoral Area

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

Total for the County	No. of Units	Total Cost
	1,149	€ 15,562,345

Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)

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

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

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

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

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

The Rental Accommodation Scheme was introduced to Mayo Local Authorities in July, 2006 and a dedicated unit has been established to oversee the successful delivery of project. The RAS unit currently comprises three full time and one part-time staff, with a technical support being provided by each Electoral Area and Town Council, as required.

To-date (end October, 2011), Mayo County Council have assumed responsibility for **984** units (385 from Voluntary Sector & 599 from Private Sector). There are currently **1,750** long-term recipients of rent supplement within Mayo, all of whom will have to be accommodated under RAS. This represents a significant challenge for Mayo County Council, who will have responsibility for all of these clients.

The lengthy process of contacting and interviewing all clients in order to

- (1) confirm their eligibility for RAS,
- (2) to establish their areas of preference and
- (3) type of accommodation to be sourced, is continuing.

Significant changes have been introduced (since 1st April, 2011) to the assessment procedures for social housing support, which includes Social Housing, RAS, Leasing & Voluntary Housing. This means that once an applicant has been deemed eligible for social housing support, the Housing Authority will decide the appropriate solution in meeting the long term need. The applicant's housing need will then be deemed to have been met by that solution and their housing application will be closed. All

clients rent contribution will be calculated in accordance with the Differential Rents Scheme.

Existing RAS clients (i.e. those transferred before 13th June, 2011) can be considered for a transfer to Social Housing, if a suitable vacancy becomes available.

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

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

Voluntary Housing

Voluntary Housing activity during 2011 delivered five units in The Oaks, Castlebar. The Clar, IRD Scheme in Mayfield, Claremorris remains under construction with a total of 36 units.

In 2011 the Council submitted a prioritised list of schemes to the Department to ensure these schemes were advanced should capital funding become available during the year. This list of schemes at planning stage consists of 110 units of accommodation spread across nine separate developments.

It is anticipated that funding will be made available to commence some of these schemes in 2012.

Voluntary Housing 2011

Schemes Under Construction	
Mayfield Clar IRD	36 units
Total	36 units

Voluntary Housing Completions 2011	
The Oaks, Castlebar	5 units
Total	5 units

Schemes at Planning Stage 2011 / 2012

	Units
Ballina Mayo Mental Health	12
Ballinrobe Vincent De Paul	14
Belmullet Irish Wheelchair Ass.	29
Foxford Vincent De Paul	12
Glenamoy VHA	10
Swinford Mayo Mental Health	12

Breaffy, Castlebar Irish Wheelchair Ass.	4
Attymass, Ballina	7
Westport Road, Castlebar, Castlebar Social Services	10
Total	110

Grants Schemes

The Council operates the new Grants Schemes, comprising;

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

The Council received an allocation of **€2,724,401** for Housing Grants for the year in addition to **€1,077,462** for anticipated payments carried forward from 2010.

As can be seen from the table below, a total of **638** grants were approved during 2011 and 676 grants were paid to date at a value of **€2,799,126**. It is anticipated that an additional €900,000 will be paid by the end of this year. As a result of amendments to the Schemes, the number of applications approved has increased since 2009 and it is anticipated that a further 80 applications will be approved by the end of this year.

	Grants Approved	Grants Paid	Value €
Housing Aid for Older People	428	473	1,873,954
Mobility Aids Grant	166	141	422,558
Housing Adaptation Grant	44	62	571,233
TOTAL	638	676	2,867,745

Architects

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 to each of the Town Architects located in the three Town Councils.

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

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

The Local Authority's Capital Works Programme for 2011 saw the Architects Department involved in a variety of new developments including an Enterprise unit, Library and Cultural Centre, Town & Urban Improvement Works, new Sporting Facilities, Housing Remedial and Energy Efficient Programmes, together with many other Refurbishment and Conservation building projects through out the County.

Other 'non-construction' related work areas in which the Architects Department have had an increasing involvement include:

- Administration of the "Structures at Risk" Grants Scheme
- Planning & Architectural Conservation Consultancy Services
- Facilitation of various Heritage Surveys
- Facilitation of Town & Village Design Statements.
- Facilitation of Public Art,
- Maintenance & Management of Turlough Park Gardens
- Facilitation of the Sports Capital Programme.

Capital Programme:

Housing

The multi-annual programme for 2011 has seen a significant reduction in the level of 'new-build' activity throughout the County compared to previous years. Housing Capital Allocations for 2011 only permitted a very limited number of 'new starts' including a 2 House in-fill development at Mount Assumpta, in Ballina and a number of one-off rural units throughout the county.

Housing activity within Mayo County Council was mainly focused on remedial and energy efficiency up-grade works, which saw refurbishment works undertaken on a number of estates including Parkview, in Charlestown and Sea-View & Oak Park, in Newport.

The **Remedial and enhanced energy efficiency Works** undertaken on the 23 units in **Parkview**, Charlestown, included the following energy upgrade measures:

1. Increased insulation to roof spaces to achieve a high U-value
2. New pumped cavity insulation.
3. High energy performance windows and doors
4. Insulation to new water tanks and hot water pipes.
5. Sustainable measures include solar panel water heating systems.
6. Provision of Central Heating System and high efficiency boilers
7. Provision of 'Stove' feature to open fireplaces

Environmental works also undertaken included:

- The development of a formal frontage with private front and rear gardens, proposed porches and individual car parking space to each unit.
- Improved kitchen facilities and layout.
- Universal access across the proposal and to individual family homes.
- A safe and passively supervised green area.
- Improved vehicular and pedestrian circulation.

A Group Housing Scheme, in Laveymore, Charlestown, consisting of four dwellings was also completed in 2011.

Radon Sample Testing of existing Local Authority Housing Stock

Following a management decision in early 2010, a Radon Sample Testing Programme for existing local authority housing stock was initiated and undertaken by the Architects Department.

All local authority housing developments (County and Urban) were identified and a minimum of two house units were tested within each estate. A rolling programme throughout 2010/2011 saw the testing of **271 house units** throughout the county.

In 2012 the council will continue with its radon testing programme in council houses, concentrating on areas that have been shown to have above average concentration levels in the past.

Library, Cultural & Enterprise Projects.

The Architects Department were also involved in the delivery of a new **Enterprise Unit**, at the former IDA Technology Park, Gortaroe, Westport, which was commissioned by Westport Multi Agency Enterprise Ltd., a joint venture of Westport Chamber of Commerce and Westport Town Council, to provide state of the art accommodation to starter enterprise businesses with the intention of nurturing local & regional growth.



Enterprise Unit - The 500m² building, comprising flexible office type accommodation, has been carefully designed to provide a motivating and comfortable environment in which to work. Landscape design elements from the IDA Technology Park were incorporated into the landscape design of this site, as well as to the external materials of the building itself.



2011 also saw the delivery of a new **Library & Cultural Centre in Swinford**, which involved the refurbishment of the old railway goods shed, a Registered Protected Structure and its conversion into a Cultural and Community centre together with a new purpose built and state of the art library at a site located between the former Swinford Railway Station and the Mayo County Council Area offices at Swinford.



New Swinford Library & Cultural Centre – Photograph of the new library building.



Interior view of the newly refurbished 'Railway Goods Shed' and the beautiful kingpost trusses visible in the interior of the space - now to be used as a Cultural Centre.

The Architects Department was also directly involved in the relocation of the existing **Foxford Library** to newly refurbished premises on the Main Street, in Foxford.

The newly re-located Foxford Library.





Interior view of the new bright and spacious Foxford Library premises.

The Architects Department also undertook the refurbishment of the **Former Provincial Bank** located on Pearse Street, in Ballina, in which the 'Jackie Clarke Collection' is to go on public exhibition in late 2012.

The first stage of the project involved the refurbishment of the building formerly known as the Provincial Bank (Registered Protected Structure) and its conversion into a new exhibition centre to house the 'Jackie Clarke' Collection.

The second stage of the project involved the restoration of the existing Coach House to the rear of the bank building for use as a Café. The coach house consisted originally of a stable and coach store. These were merged into one space for the café.

The final stage of the project will see the restoration of the bank's associated Victorian Walled garden, works on which are due to commence in early 2012.

*The newly refurbished
Former Provincial Bank
was built c. 1880 and is a
registered
Protected Structure.*



Completed also in 2011, was the **Moneen Depot** (Moneen Ind. Estate, Castlebar) which consisted of the construction of a new Welfare Facility building and a large Road Salt Storage Barn. The site now accommodates outdoor functions for both Mayo County Council and Castlebar Town Council with high quality facilities, such as locker rooms, canteens, office and storage accommodation being provided for both authorities.



The newly completed 'Moneen Depot' welfare facility, in Castlebar.



The Moneen site now accommodates outdoor functions for both Mayo County Council and Castlebar Town Council.

Town & Urban Improvement Works.

2011 saw the delivery of The ‘**Castlebar Town Centre Improvement Project**’ - a major Urban Environmental Improvement project undertaken by Castlebar Town Council in conjunction with Mayo County Council and developed in close co-operation with the Castlebar Chamber of Commerce and the relevant stake holders.

The project was designed to significantly improve the urban environment of Main Street, Castle Street, and Linenhall Street and to develop a Riverwalk along the Castlebar River - a vital pedestrian artery that embodies significant amenity potential.

The redevelopment of Main Street included the provision of generous footpaths, plaza spaces and table crossings thus rendering the pedestrian environment a safer, more attractive and amenable environment. Overhead services were located underground and ducting was provided for the future development of broadband and next generation communication systems.



*View of **Main Street** Castlebar ‘before’ And ‘After’*



*A view of the new generous **Main Street** and new **River walk** pathways, which have rendered the town’s pedestrian environment a safer, more attractive and amenable place.*

Kilkelly Village Enhancement

Significant village enhancements works, were also carried out by the NE Region in Kilkelly, – Works on Kilkelly Village Enhancement commenced in 2010 and were completed in 2011. The works involved included the replacement of existing water mains and undergrounding of ESB networks.



View of town centre on completion.



Before

The footpaths in the village centre were completely reconstructed and paved. The road was resurfaced with asphalt and the works were completed with the provision of new street furniture and decorative lighting.

Conservation, Planning & Architectural Heritage Consultancy Services.

The Architects Department has since 2010 taken on the duties and responsibilities associated with the role of **Conservation Officer** for Mayo County Council. These duties and responsibilities include:

- Review of the Record of Protected Structures (RPS) - identification, survey, and issuing of reports on proposed additions, deletions or amendments to the RPS
- Planning Applications - Participation in pre-planning consultations and/or reporting/advising on planning applications relating to the built heritage/architectural conservation.
- Issuing of Section 5& 57 Declarations - outlining the type of works that do and do not affect the character of a Protected Structure
- Reporting to Planning Enforcement, Dangerous Buildings Section or Derelict Sites Section when Protected Structure are endangered or works are carried out without planning permission
- Providing in-house architectural conservation expertise to the Local Authority on projects/policy documents that may impact on built heritage of county

- Providing advice to the general public in relation to built heritage/architectural conservation i.e. the production of guidance notes, supervision of specific built heritage projects.
- Operation of the **Structures at Risk Fund** - assessment of applications, assessment of quality of repair works, payment of grant

The purpose of the **Structures at Risk Fund** is to assist with works to safeguard structures protected under the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2011, and in certain cases, works to safeguard structures within Architectural Conservation Areas.

Applications are invited by way of a notice on the Mayo County Council website. These applications are assessed in order of need by the local authority's Architectural Conservation Officer and 2 applications are then submitted to the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht where they are assessed by a panel of experts.

The **Imperial Hotel**, on The Mall, Castlebar (a Protected Structure) recently acquired by Mayo County Council, was successful in receiving funding under the **Structures at Risk Fund 2011** to carry out necessary emergency repair & maintenance works to safeguard the building from further deterioration. The initial application and subsequent construction works were facilitated by the Architects Department, and were completed in late 2011

It is hoped that the property will be fully refurbished, occupied, and brought back to life as part of the rejuvenation of Castlebar Town centre, in the near future.



*Grant approval was received with respect to **The Imperial Hotel**, Castlebar under the **Structures at Risk Fund 2011** for essential roof repairs and associated works.*

Mayo County Council through its Heritage officer was successful in acquiring funding from the Heritage Council, to permit a county-wide survey of **Mayo Farm Buildings**, which was undertaken by the Architects Department. The urgency for such a survey stemmed from the need to record for posterity the most significant and

threatened aspects of the agricultural architectural heritage in Mayo that could soon be lost or under threat through the planning process from demolition or un-sympathetic development.



'Lisadrone House' out-buildings, Carrowmore-Lacken, – included in the Farm Yard Survey.

Sports Capital Programme

In 2011 **Sports Capital Funding** was made available to local Authorities for the construction of recreational facilities. The Sports Capital Programme involved an investment of approximately €850,000 in the county and was administered and delivered by the Architects Department. Listed below are some of the projects that received funding.

Ballinrobe- Church-view

Funding was secured as part of the Sports Capital Programme for the construction of a Multi Use Games Area in Church-view Ballinrobe. In addition Mayo County Council constructed a children's Playground in the estate, at a cost of €50,000. Both facilities combine to provide valuable recreational facilities for the estate.



*Newly completed
Multi-Use Games
Area in
Ballinrobe.*



*Newly completed Playground Area in **Ballinrobe**.*

Balla – Mayo Abbey Road

Works involved the demolition of two old tennis courts and the construction of one new tennis court and a Multi Use Games Area on the same site. A CCTV and public lighting scheme were also included. Both facilities were warmly welcomed by the community.

Pollranny – MUGA

A Multi Use Games Area was constructed on a site owned by Mayo County Council adjoining Pollranny VEC. The facility is flood lit and is surfaced with a modern 2nd generation artificial grass surface. The facility has been warmly welcomed by the community and the staff and students of Colaiste Pobal Acala.



*Newly completed Multi-Use Games Area in **Pollranny**.*

Castlebar Town Park- Knockthomas

A Multi Use Games Area and out-door Exercise Area was constructed at Castlebar Town Park. Both facilities are important infrastructural elements in the over all master plan for the Park.



*Newly completed Multi-Use Games Area in the **Town Park, Castlebar.***

Castlebar – River Walk

Works involved the construction of an outdoor exercise gym on a site adjacent to the new bridge at Lough Lannagh Castlebar, to compliment the existing walking route.

Westport - Mc Conville Park

Works here involved floodlighting the existing soccer pitch, fencing and the refurbishment of the dug outs. The community have expressed their delight with the completed works.

Westport - Westport Leisure Park

Works involved the supply and installation of a range of fitness equipment. The new facilities compliment the wide range of services offered by Westport Leisure Park.

Westport- Out Door Gym

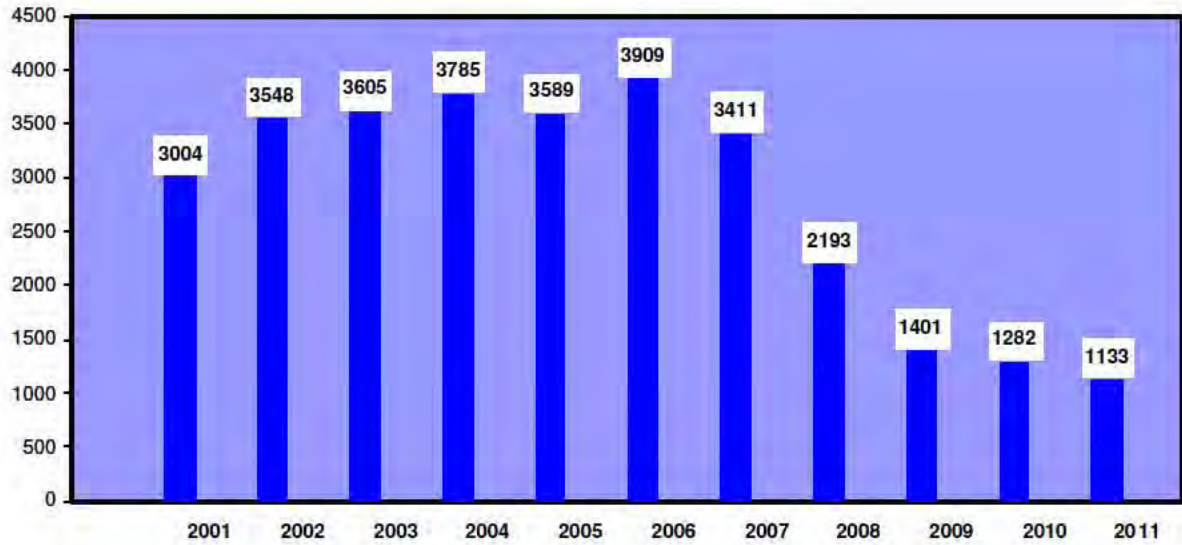
This new outdoor Gym is the third such facility to be constructed throughout the county. The facility in Westport is located on the same site as the Skate Park and MUGA, has been welcomed by both locals and visitors to the town.



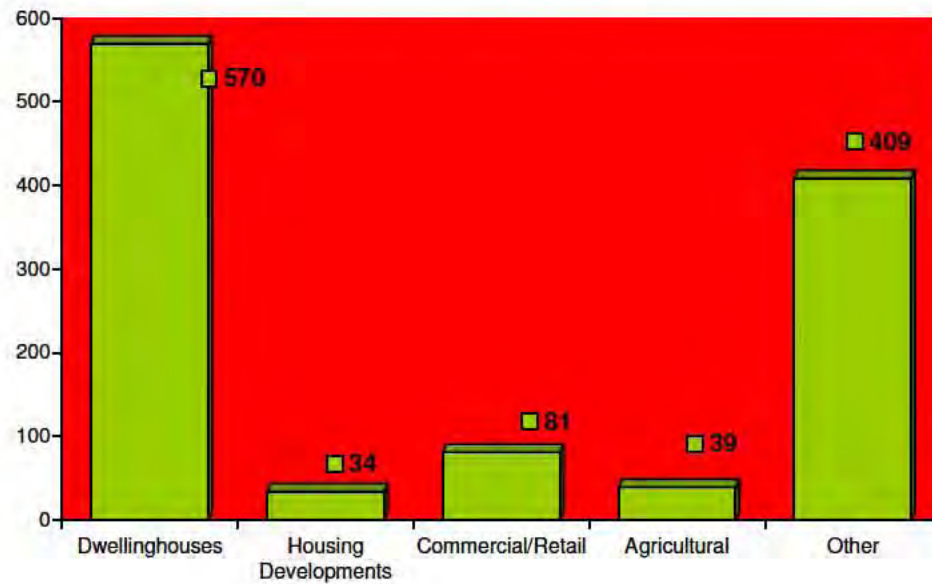
*Newly completed
Westport Outdoor Gym.*

Planning and Development

Planning Applications 2001 - 2011

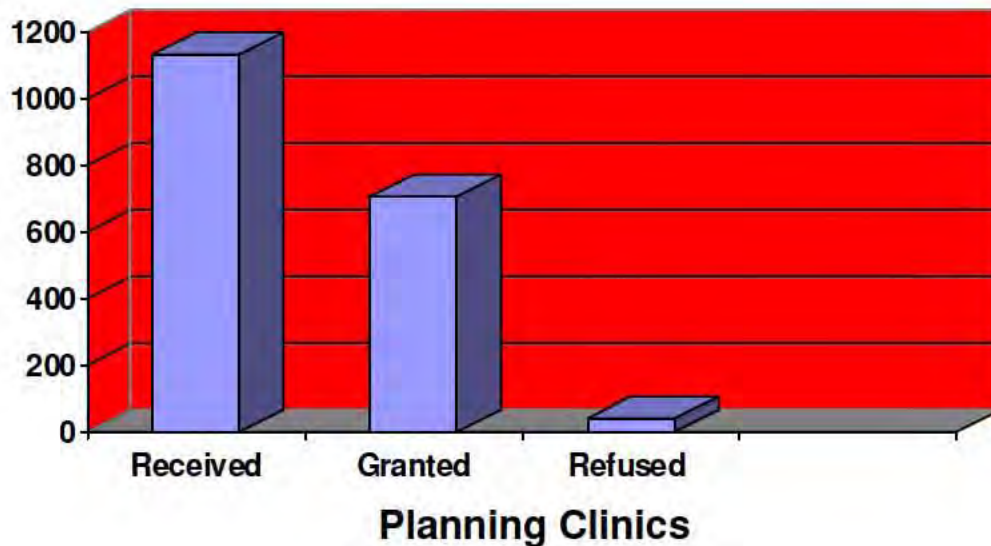


Breakdown of 2011 planning applications



Planning Decisions 2011

Applications Received	1133
Applications Granted	707
Applications Refused	41



Planning Clinics are held in each of the seven electoral areas, every Wednesday from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. 350 Planning Clinics were held in 2011.

2011 Local Area Plans

The review of the Claremorris Local Area Plan 2006 – 2012 and the preparation of a new Draft Local Area Plan for Claremorris commenced in December 2011, this will be put on public display early 2012.

The preparation of a Draft Local Area Plan for Ireland West Airport Knock (IWAK) continued during 2011 and the Draft Ireland Westport Airport Knock will be put in public display early 2012.

Strategies

The Renewable Energy Strategy for County Mayo was adopted by Mayo County Council in May 2011.

Development Plans

The following Variations were made during 2011:

Mayo County Development Plan 2008-2014: Variation No. 2 (Incorporation of Core Strategy); Mayo County Council.

Castlebar Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014: Variation No. 2, (Incorporation of Core Strategy); Mayo County Council and Ballina Town Council).

Westport Town & Environs Plan 2010-2016: Variation No. 1 (Area Plan for Westport House and Area Plan for Colonel's Wood) November 2011: (Mayo County Council and Westport Town Council).

The accompanying environmental assessments associated with all of the above (Strategic Environmental Assessment, Habitat Directive Assessment and Strategic Flood Risk Assessment) were carried out in-house and co-ordinated through the Forward Planning Section.

E-Planning

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

Currently, members of the public can make observations electronically and Planning Agents can submit applications for single houses and extensions via the web.

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

In 2011, Mayo County Council's Planning area of the website had more than 2 million hits.

Building Control & Planning Enforcement Section

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

The main functions of the Unit are to investigate written complaints received in relation to alleged unauthorised developments in accordance with the Planning and Development, Act, 2000, and carry out random building control inspections under the Building Control Acts, 1990 and 2007, to ensure compliance with the Building Control Regulations, 1997 to 2009. The Planning Enforcement Activity is shown in the table below.

Description of Activity	2009	2010	2011
<i>Number of complaints investigated</i>	237	175	110
<i>Number of cases subject to complaints that were dismissed</i>	78	87	70
<i>Number of cases subject to complaints that were resolved through negotiations</i>	102	63	56
<i>Number of enforcement procedures taken through Warning Letters</i>	143	139	82
<i>Number of prosecutions</i>	0	5	2
<i>Number of enforcement procedures taken through Enforcement Notices</i>	7	12	34
<i>Number of files currently with the County Council's Solicitor</i>	34	35	46

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.

Disability Access Certificates	2010*	2011
<i>No. of valid Disability Access Certificates (DAC) applications</i>	39	60
<i>No. of DAC Applications Rejected as Invalid</i>	2	2
<i>No. of cases where the applicant was invited to submit Additional Information</i>	17	36
<i>No. of DAC applications where prescribed maximum period of time for considering applications was extended</i>	5	12
<i>Disability Access Certificates issued: -</i>	34	52
<i>Within 2 months</i>	30	41
<i>Greater than 2 months</i>	4	11
<i>Granted with conditions</i>	30	49
<i>Granted without conditions</i>	4	3
<i>No. of Disability Access Certificates Refused</i>	0	4

* Figures represent period from April to December 2010 as first DAC's was received in April 2010.

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.

Description of Activity	2010	2011
<i>No. of building starts</i>	410	340
<i>No. of buildings where Plans, Specifications, or other documents were requested</i>	51	7
<i>No. of new buildings inspected</i>	45	51
<i>No. of inspections carried out, including multiple inspections of the same building</i>	243	232
<i>No. of applications for Relaxations & dispensations to the building regulations</i>	5	3
<i>No. of applications for Relaxations & dispensations to the building regulations granted</i>	5	3
<i>No. of enforcement notices served under the Building Control Act 1990 to 2007</i>	0	1

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.

Finance

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

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

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

Commercial Rates

In 2011, 2,700 rate demands were issued with €11.53 million collected. Approximately 10% of Mayo County Council's revenue expenditure is raised through rate charges. The collection of rates on commercial and industrial properties is thus essential in maintaining the range of Council services.

Water Charges

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

Total amount of billed customers in 2011 was 7,032 approx. Water Charges collected in 2011 amounted to €4.61 million

Housing Rents

Mayo County Council has approximately 2311 housing rent accounts. The total amount of rents collected in 2011 amounted to €4.11 million.

Housing Loans

Mayo County Council has approximately 1071 housing loans. The total amount of housing loan charges collected in 2011 amounted to €2.99 million. The total number of redeemed and expired accounts in 2011 was 86.

Non Principal Private Residence (NPPR) Charge

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

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

The administration and collection of the charges is operated nationally, on a shared services basis, by the Local Government Computer Services Board (LGCSB). The LGCSB have developed a website (www.nppr.ie) which includes information on the charge as well as a system for registration of properties and payment of the NPPR charge online. It is estimated that circa €2.37 million will be collected in Mayo (including Town Council areas) in respect of this charge for 2011.

Payment Practices

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

Financial Management

The Council seeks to improve Financial Management by:

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

Mayo County Fire Service

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



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

Fire Prevention

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

Fire Safety Certificates	2008	2009	2010	2011
<i>Applications Received</i>	239	172	137	109
<i>Applications Invalid</i>	2	2	0	0
<i>Decisions Made</i>	253	139*	118	93
<i>Granted (With conditions)</i>	225	134	118	71
<i>Granted (Without conditions)</i>	27	5	0	22
<i>Applications Refused</i>	1	0	0	0

* 4 Local Authority developments included in this figure.

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

Commencement Notices	2008	2009	2010	2011
<i>Applications Received</i>	994	579	415	322
<i>Applications Valid</i>	921	565	410	318
<i>Applications Invalid</i>	73	14	5	4

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

Inspection Category	2009	2010	2011
<i>Section 24 Inspection (Licensing Applications)</i>	255	271	235
<i>Section 13 Inspection (Planning Applications)</i>	17	11	6
<i>Other Inspections</i>	107	77	34

Fire Service Operations

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

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

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



Summary of Fire Brigade Activities for 2008 to 2011				
Details of Incidents	2008	2009	2010	2011
Number of fires attended	673	732	1064	750
<i>In own area</i>	651	706	1033	728
<i>In other fire authority area</i>	22	26	31	22
Special Services Incidents	356	294	265	205
<i>Road traffic accidents</i>	243	194	195	161
<i>Water pumping / flooding</i>	14	13	12	0
<i>Water rescue</i>	5	6	2	7
<i>Other non-fire rescues</i>	7	11	8	15
<i>Haz-Mat in transit</i>	50	35	18	1
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	37	35	30	21
False alarms	186	177	134	104
<i>Malicious</i>	51	63	24	25
<i>Good intent</i>	135	114	110	79
Total number of incidents	1215	1203	1463	1059

The 1059 incidents in 2011 resulted in 1129 fire brigade responses, i.e. actual fire brigades attending incidents. The 2011 figure represented a decrease of 33.7 % from that recorded in 2010, as shown in the following table.

Fire Brigade Attendances	2008	2009	2010	2011
<i>Total Number of Incidents</i>	1215	1203	1463	1059
<i>Annual Attendance</i>	1336	1326	1703	1129
<i>% Annual Change</i>	+ 1.0%	- 0.8%	+ 28.4%	- 33.4%
<i>Attendances / Incidents</i>	1.100	1.102	1.164	1.066



Fire Service Appliances

The Council took possession of one new Class B water tender in 2011. This appliance went in operation with the Castlebar Fire Brigade fleet. The new appliance stems from the continuous fire appliance fleet upgrading programme in the County, funded by the Department of the

Environment, Community and Local Government.

Fire Service Retirements

In 2011, four members of the Council retired from the fire service. Details of the retirements are shown in the table below.

<i>Fire Service Retirements in 2011</i>			
<i>Rank</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Brigade</i>	<i>Details</i>
<i>Sub-Station Officer(s)</i>	<i>Michael Kelly</i>	<i>Ballinrobe</i>	<i>Retired 26th November 2011 with 33 years of service</i>
	<i>Gerard Keegan</i>	<i>Kiltimagh</i>	<i>Retired 5th June 2011 with over 32 years of service</i>
<i>Driver/Mechanic(s)</i>	<i>Tony McDonnell</i>	<i>Swinford</i>	<i>Retired 29th July 2011 with over 33 years of service</i>
<i>Firefighter(s)</i>	<i>M.J. Walsh</i>	<i>Ballyhaunis</i>	<i>Retired 16th June 2011 with over 25 years of service</i>

CAMP West

CAMP West continued to provide a 24hour / 7day / 365 emergency service control centre during 2011. This centre handles all 999 / 112 emergency calls for the Fire Services of all the Counties of Connaught and for County Donegal. The Control centre also provides the Technical, Communications and IT infrastructure for the West Region Ambulance Service (Galway, Mayo and Roscommon) Control Centre which is located in St Mary's Hospital, Castlebar. The total Operations call volume for 2011 was 38,813 calls. This represented a 21% reduction on 2010 Control Room Activity

<i>Operations - West Region Fire Control Call Volumes</i>					
	<i>2008</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2011</i>	<i>% Increase / Decrease</i>
<i>Incoming Calls</i>	<i>17566</i>	<i>21547</i>	<i>28425</i>	<i>22310</i>	<i>-21.51%</i>
<i>Outgoing Calls</i>	<i>15234</i>	<i>19044</i>	<i>20536</i>	<i>16503</i>	<i>-19.64%</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>32800</i>	<i>40591</i>	<i>48961</i>	<i>38813</i>	<i>-20.73%</i>

This activity resulted in 5,291 separate fire service emergency incidents across the whole west region during the year.

Civil Defence

Mayo Civil Defence (There when needed in local communities)

Mayo Civil Defence is a voluntary organisation comprising of 80 volunteers providing support to emergency services and local communities with highly trained members whose activities are valued by local communities and front line emergency services. The strength of the organisation lies in its voluntary ethos and commitment to purpose with its members willingly and freely giving of their time and expertise. Many examples of their work were witnessed by local communities during the cold spell in late 2010 and early 2011 and they are on standby to help local communities again in the event of severe weather.

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 2011 was €150,300. This is part Grant Aided by the Civil Defence Board / Department of Defence. The Budget for 2012 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

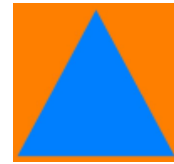
Volunteers	80
Vehicles	13
Boats	3
Command and Control Unit	1



All members receive training in the following areas:

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

Highlights of 2011



Search and Rescue Boat Launch

On 18th June 2011 Mayo County Council Cathaoirleach Michael Burke and Chairman of the Civil Defence Board Joe Meagher launched our new Search and Rescue Boat at Pontoon Bridge Hotel. A large group of volunteers, The County Manager Peter Hynes and Local Authority Officials, members of the Civil Defence Executive and representatives of the other Emergency services were in attendance.



Long Service Medal Presentation

A Long service award presentation ceremony took place with Volunteers receiving 10 and 20 year medals respectively. Mr. Bill Smith Director General Civil Defence officiated at the ceremony.



Ireland west Airport Knock – Major Emergency Exercise

In March 2011 Civil Defence took a lead role among Voluntary Emergency services in participating and involvement in the organization and management of a Major Emergency exercise at Knock Airport. Working with the Primary response Agencies and Voluntary Emergency Services within the County. Observers from Roscommon and Sligo Civil Defence also attended.

Civil Defence National Training Seminar

5 Members of the organization attended the seminar in Kilshee House Hotel, Kildare. The theme of the Seminar was Civil Defence Moving Forward and many interesting presentations were delivered by the Guest speakers and a Large Trade show was evident showcasing the most up to date Emergency equipment available

Regional Exercise – Roscommon

Mayo Civil Defence participated in a Civil Defence exercise in Roscommon this year. Testing the Casualty, Auxiliary Fire, Team Building, Foot Drill, Search Management skills of our volunteers.



Community Support

Mayo Civil Defence attended 80 community support duties throughout the year. These included – adventures races, Community festivals, Charity and Sports events

New Ambulance

Mayo Civil Defence converted an existing Land cruiser to a 4x4 Emergency Response Ambulance. This will ensure that we can effectively and efficiently respond to Health Emergencies during off road events and during severe weather emergencies.



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

Community & Integrated Development

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

Some of the highlights of the areas of work covered by the Community and Integrated Development Directorate in 2011 included:

- Preparation for the Meet West initiative, held in November 2011. This initiative brought together 250 small and medium-sized enterprises from the West region to a 2-day networking event. A significant number of Mayo-based businesses attended;
- The delivery of a programme of activities with Comhairle na n-Óg, which meets regularly at the same time as the County Council. The Comhairle na n-Óg is increasingly being called on as the representative body for the views of young people. There was also representation from Comhairle na n-Óg at the national Dáil na nÓg;
- The ongoing roll-out of the Fiontar Chomhraic Fund which was established as a response to the closure of the ESB power station at Bellacorick. There has been significant interest in the Fund which aims to stimulate enterprise development in areas affected by the closure;
- The continued roll out of the Community Futures Initiative and the development of an innovative approach to addressing community needs through collaboration with the *Inspiration Station* initiative;
- A number of meetings of the Mayo Joint Policing Committee were held in 2011. These meetings included one that was attended by a series of local community representatives.

Mayo County Development Board

Some of the highlights of the work carried out by Mayo County Development Board in 2011 include:

- Preparatory work carried out on a Community Development Plan for Iorrais and Cill Chomain. This plan is required to facilitate the investment of the *Community Gain Investment Fund*, established following a decision by An Bord Pleanála in relation to the Corrib Gas Project. Significant consultation with the local communities and with relevant stakeholders was carried out in 2011;
- Increased priority on the work of the Economic Working Group. This group worked on a series of initiatives in the areas of food; county branding / marketing; and on emerging economic sectors;

- The delivery of a series of actions to address key issues affecting the ‘youth-at-risk’ group, which had been identified by the Social Inclusion Measures Working Group (SIMWG) as a priority;
- The further development of the Mayo Science & Technology Festival. The attendance of *Titan the Robot* at the 2011 Open Day was one of the highlights of the Festival;



Titan the Robot entertained the crowds at the 2011 Mayo Science & Technology Festival

- The Mayo Ideas Lab continued its work in the areas of supporting the innovation agenda with local industry, local animation, product development support, assistance with R&D funding applications, etc. Key Ideas Lab priorities in 2011 included:
 - The roll-out of the idea evaluation service, which has secured the support of all of the agencies operating in the Enterprise support sector;
 - The 2nd annual Mayo Ideas Week, which included events on exporting, idea commercialisation, opportunities in the food and offshore energy sectors and in public procurement, expanding the creative sector, and on networking;
 - GMIT Higher Certificate in Business in Enterprise;
 - Entrepreneurship in Education project;
 - New Opportunities Roadshows;
 - Digital Media Training;
 - Engineers Week events.

Mayo County Childcare Committee

During 2011 Mayo County Childcare Committee (Mayo CCC) continued to provide training information, support and guidance to childcare services, parents and agencies to develop and sustain quality early years education and care programmes in the county, including the Free Pre School Year, Subvention Scheme, Childcare Education Training & Support schemes, and the national quality frameworks.

Highlights for Mayo CCC were the seminar it organised in conjunction with Early Childhood Ireland and the HSE regarding the implementation of Regulation 5, the continued level of success of the Free Pre School Year scheme, the level of participation from childcare services in the training Mayo CCC was involved in delivering and the quantity & quality of information being distributed to the childcare sector in Mayo.

The implementation of these programmes, plus the Childminding Development Grant scheme, the completion of 3 large scale capital projects, Siolta & Aistear (i.e. the national quality frameworks), and the parent & toddler initiative accounted for the majority of our work. It is very positive to see the programmes running so well now. In the first half of 2011 Mayo CCC got a real sense that these programmes were 'bedding' down that childcare services and parents are becoming more and more familiar with them.

Mayo CCC is happy to report then that of the 40 actions planned to implement during 2011, 34 of these were completed which represents an 85% completion rate. Also that all the actions which were completed were really the priority actions, these all related to the local implementation of the national early childhood care & education programmes i.e. Free Pre School Year, Community Childcare Subvention, Childcare Education & Training Support schemes and the Parent & Toddler grant scheme and the implementation of the quality frameworks Aistear and Siolta.

This left a remaining 6 actions which were planned but were not implemented. These actions mainly related to a consultation Mayo CCC planned to engage with childcare services and agencies. It was decided not to proceed with the consultation at that time due mainly to the pressures of time being experienced by childcare services. It was seen that it would be more effective to engage in the consultation with the childcare services early in 2012 when there may be less pressure on their time.

Mayo CCC also completed a number of actions which were not in our original plan, but which emerged as tasks to do during the year, these tasks included organising the seminar mentioned above, providing extra training events and attending extra information exhibitions and events.

Mayo CCC would also like to acknowledge the level and spirit of collaboration which exists in the county. Without this collaboration Mayo CCC would not be in a position to deliver on its actions. There are many examples of collaboration during 2011 and it is an element of its work which Mayo CCC plans to continue in 2012.

With this in mind Mayo CCC look forward to another busy yet effective year implementing the national early childhood care & education schemes and programmes during 2012. For further information about any of the national childcare programmes, or Mayo CCC or indeed childcare in general please check out the web site www.mayochildcare.ie



Louisburgh Childcare Ltd. Opening June 2011

Mayo Sports Partnership

Background

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

It has three main functions:

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

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

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

We are also involved in facilitating and co-ordinating a number of targeted programmes, projects and initiatives at local level. 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.

During 2011 some of our major projects and initiatives included:

Teenage Girls and Women

Girls Active

This project has proven to be a big hit with second level schools in Mayo with over 200 girls from 10 schools participating. Girls, who are not involved in mainstream sport, experienced activities such as Zumba Dancing,



Boxercise, Bootcamp, exercise to music, yoga, pilates and much more during lunchtime or after school.

West of Ireland Womens Mini Marathon

On Sunday 1st May 4,000 women ran, jogged, walked and strolled the 10km route in the second annual West of Ireland Women's Mini Marathon in Castlebar. Approximately €700,000 was raised for charities across the region with €25,000 also going back into the promotion of sport and physical activity in the county.



Taoiseach Enda Kenny addresses the participants of the 2011 Mini Marathon

Meet and Train / Fit4Life

Since first established in 2009 this initiative now has six groups in Ballyhaunis Ballinrobe Castlebar, Claremorris, Ballina and Westport. Fit4Life caters for people over 18 with no upper age limit and provides an opportunity for people to improve their fitness in a safe sociable environment at low cost. Hundreds of people have joined the groups giving badly needed revenue to clubs.



Fit4Life Group in Claremorris run through Mayo Athletic Club

Jobseekers

Goal to Work Ballina

In December 2011 13 jobseekers from the Ballina area completed a 14 week long specialised sports coaching course which provides them with the tools to obtain some part time employment. The 2 days a week “Goal to Work” programme allowed

trainees to become fully qualified G.A.A., Rugby and Soccer coaches with additional sports modules in child protection, first aid, disability awareness and active leadership completed. Trainees also honed their skills while on placement in Ballina urban area national schools for one of days, giving many school children some quality coaching experiences.



Goal to Work Trainees with representatives of the organising committee

People with a Disability

“Physically Active” Conference

Despite the weather the ‘Physically Active’ Themed Conference which focused on Activity, Accessibility & Healthy Lifestyle themed conference which was held on Thursday 6th October 2011, in the TF Royal Hotel, Castlebar proved to be a huge success. The day was aimed at all People with a disability as well as their parents, carers and organisations so that all can understand the value and the benefits of being ‘Physically active’.



*Minister of State for Sport
Michael Ring with
“Physically Active”
Conference attendees*



As well as interesting presentations there were a number of different practical workshops including Kayaking, Soccer, Tennis, Wheelchair Basketball, Nutrition and Healthy Eating, Boccia, Tips on getting started by Westport Leisure Park and Beep Baseball. If you are interested in any of the activities that took place on the day log on to www.mayosports.ie or call Ray Mc Namara Mayo Sports

Partnership on 094 904 7023 or email: rmcnamara@mayococo.ie

Older People

County Boccia League

Boccia is a type of indoor bowls which is particularly appealing to older people who wish to participate in a recreational and social activity. Since initially establishing the league in 2010 Sports Inclusion Disability Officer Ray Mc Namara has developed the league to include 16 teams from all over the county. In July the league went outdoors in the new outdoor Boccia court in Párc Bheo Belmullet. Basking in the glorious sunshine Arthritis Mayo proved too strong for all their rivals and ran out easy winners.



County Boccia League taking place in Phairc Beo Belmullet

Disadvantaged

Moy Sports Forum (Ballina)

Set up as a local committee of community and agency representatives the forum identifies the needs and issues in regards to sport and physical activity participation amongst the Parkside, Cluain Na Rí and Greenhills estates. Forum members include community, garda, agency representatives, FAI along with support from the Sports Partnership and Ballina Town Council. The group seeks to address the issues through programmed activities utilising the recently developed recreation facilities MUGAs available to the community.



Childrens Soccer Tournament in Cluain na Ri MUGA during July

Promoting Use of the Outdoors

Westport Get Out There Adventure Festival

The Westport Get Out There Adventure Festival, co-organised by Westport Town Council, Westport Leisure Park and Mayo Sports Partnership, encouraged all ages and fitness levels to sample a huge array of activities, to try something new in a safe environment with experts in their respective disciplines. Events included a Splash and Dash mini duathlon event for primary schools, come and try adventure sports in the Mall /Westport House and a festival of sport fun day. Equally, the *Great Western Greenway 10k Run/Walk* and the Skateboarding competition showcased the fantastic facility the Greenway has become.



Minister of State for Sport Michael Ring starting the Inaugural Great Western Greenway 10K

Mayo in Motion Walking and Cycling Month June 2011

Mayo Walking Partnership in association with Mayo Sports Partnership facilitated an initiative to promote walking and cycling as an enjoyable way towards a healthy and active lifestyle.

Over 20 communities organised 40 different walks throughout the county which proved to be an outstanding success with people of all ages and abilities participating.

The month also included National Bike Week 18th – 26th June with over 600 people participating in 15 events, from fun cycles to bike maintenance workshops, throughout the county.



Minister of State for Sport Michael Ring on a walking event on Westport Town Greenway

Significant other Achievements in 2011 included

- Link2BActive - 20 various sports and leisure facilities offered discounted rates for jobseekers throughout Mayo in 2011. One of the facilities namely Balla Golf Club offered daily green fees of 10 euro with a cup of tea afterwards. As a result of the promotion 200 jobseekers took up the offer in May and June 2011. Approximately 15% of the participants took out membership for the season which was also discounted
- In 2011 15 groups were allocated a small amount of funding to hold a participation event during Bike Week in June. Over 800 participated in the initiative which included activities such as Bike skills, leisure cycles, family events etc. Outcomes included 10 ladies in a meet and train cycle group in Castlebar who continued weekly cycles over an 8 week period and a meet / train group in Achill.
- Completion of a very comprehensive volunteer training programme in 2011 attended by 334 volunteers. Courses included Sports Leadership, Occupational Sports First Aid, Disability Awareness, Walking Leader and sports coaching i.e. GAA, Soccer, Rugby, Kayaking and Basketball.
- 217 Sports Volunteers from 61 different sports clubs participated in 14 Child Protection in Sport Workshops organised by Mayo Sports Partnership.
- 7,384 women participated in 6 projects specifically targeted at promoting women's participation in sport / physical activity. Events included mini marathon, Mayo in Motion Walking Month, Community Fit Walk and Fit4Work.
- 5021 people participated in 46 local participation projects facilitated or supported by Mayo Sports Partnership. Projects included Bike Week, Be Active 55, Saturday Club for Children with a Disability, Link2BActive "Discounted Rates for Jobseekers in Sports Facilities", National Recreation Week and National Trails Day
- In 2011 23 clubs/groups were allocated €20,000 through the annual special participation grant scheme which was promoted through the local media, newsletters and general email distribution. €6,000 euro was also allocated to 6 athletics clubs as a result of assisting in the preparation with the mini marathon in 2011
- In 2011 Mayo Sports Partnership devised a guidelines document for the workplace activity programme titled "Fit4Work". This document was based on a very successful pilot programme between workplaces such as GMIT, Mayo County Council, HSE West, Western Care, VEC etc in which over 300 participated.

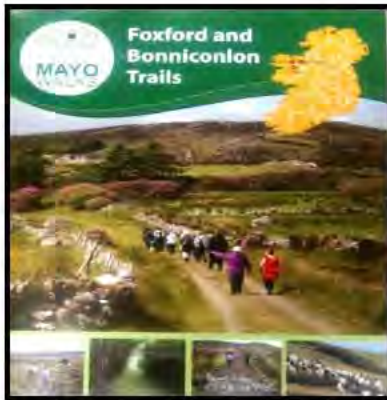
- In 2011 Mayo Sports Partnership commissioned a study of Adults participation in sport and exercise in the Mayo / Sligo area. This was a significant piece of work and informs our strategy in relation to specifically targeting men who live in rurally isolated communities for some form of active participation.

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

Walking & Trails Development

To date there are a total of 110 Recreational Trails developed throughout the County. These trails were developed under the leadership of the County Mayo Walking Partnership Group – a sub committee of Mayo County Development Board. This Group consists of representatives from Local Leader Companies, Fáilte Ireland, Mayo Sports Partnership, Coillte, Teagasc, Mayo County Council, Community Forum, HSE West and Údaras na Gaeltachta. The types of trails that are being developed include, Long Distance Waymarked Ways, National Loop Walks, Slí na Slainte, Community Walks and Greenways.

During 2011 a number of information brochures were drafted and published. These brochures contain information relating to trail details/descriptions, maps, leave no trace principles and trail images. The brochures are available from local tourist information offices, Mayo County Council and from the following websites www.mayotrails.ie / www.mayowalks.ie. In 2012 the aim of the Walking Partnership Group is to develop a total of four area based walking and trail information publications and the objective is to showcase the following details, all quality trails that are available within that particular area, a list of registered walking guides, tour operators and walking clubs and all local tourist attractions.



Mayo Walks/Trails Information Brochures

Great Western Greenway Mayo

The Great Western Greenway is a 42km traffic free walking & cycling facility now connecting two of Ireland's most established tourism destinations - Westport and Achill Island. The facility is multifunctional serving tourist, local recreational, school and work travel needs and thereby draws a wide range of users - young and old.



Greenway Map

The Greenway concept was realised through meaningful partnership with individual landowners and the local community. The facility was made possible because of the commitment and goodwill of over 160 local landowners who wished to see it developed as a local amenity and tourist attraction of national importance. This act of generosity has instilled an immense pride of place within the communities between Westport and Achill. The Greenway was officially opened by An Taoiseach, Mr. Enda Kenny, T.D and Minister of State Mr. Michael Ring T.D on the 29th July 2011. In 2012 the objective is to further enhance the Greenway facility to best International Standards.



Diarmuid Gavin on the Greenway



Users of the Great Western Greenway

National Awards

Greenway is designated as a European Destination of Excellence

The Great Western Greenway is the 2011 recipient of the international European Destination of Excellence (EDEN) award. This award has firmly established the Great Western Greenway as one of the finest trails in Europe and has recognised the communities' participation and commitment to tourism and regeneration. It provides

the community and in particular Mulranny Tourism with significant marketing/business supports and knowledge transfer within the EU wide EDEN network.

The Great Western Greenway has also been recipient of a number of additional awards and details are listed hereunder:

- LAMA – 2012 winner for best Recreational Facility (Great Western Greenway)
- LAMA – 2012 winner for best Tourist Attraction (Great Western Greenway)
- LAMA – nominated for Council of the Year (Great Western Greenway)
- Meitheal Award Winner 2012 – Great Western Greenway Landowners
- The Irish Times InterTradeIreland Innovation Category Award Winner 2012 – Great Western Greenway

Trails Promotion & Marketing:

New Websites:

During 2011 two new dedicated websites were developed to highlight and showcase many of the wonderful trails that are now available throughout the county. These websites are branded as www.mayotrails.ie and www.greenway.ie Both websites have interactive maps, listings for all accredited walking and cycling tour operators, accredited walking and cycling clubs and an events section etc. In 2012 work will continue on populating the websites and it is envisaged that Google maps will be utilised and additional interpretation will be included.



www.mayotrails.ie



www.greenway.ie

Mayo Trails App and QR Codes

The Great Western Greenway is the first of the Mayo Trails to be showcased on a brand new I phone App that is now available to download for free from the iTunes store.



In addition to the websites, social media streams are also being utilised to promote and market the Mayo Trails product. Dedicated facebook pages and YouTube channels have been created and are now attracting a huge numbers.



Facebook Pages



The Greenway App is the perfect companion for the trail – it provides great content & features to help the user to plan their trip and make the most of it when they get there. The app mixes audio, pictures and text to tell the user the stories of the trail. The app features

- High quality content including audio and imagery
- Ordnance Survey maps of the Greenway
- GPS Integration so that the user can see where they are on the map
- Listings for bike hire, places to eat & places to stay in the area.



Further details on the Mayo Trails – Greenway App is available from the following link:

<http://itunes.apple.com/ie/app/greenway/id452304760?mt=8>

A new dedicated QR code has also been developed for the Mayo Trails – Greenway Application. This QR Code is linked directly to the Greenway App and is available to use on the iPhone. The code will be highlighted on all information map boards located along the Greenway, Mayo Trails and Greenway website and on all future print material. In 2012 work will continue to include additional trails on to the Trails App and it also envisaged that the Trails Application will be extended to include the Android market.

Trade Shows

During 2011 Mayo Trails and the Greenway has actively participated at trade shows including the Adventure Weekend which was held at the RDS in May and the Mayo Alive Show which was held at Temple Bar in Dublin last June. In 2012 it is envisaged that Mayo Trails will participate in both trade shows again and also the National Ploughing Championships.



now available throughout Co Mayo. In 2012 it is anticipated that the County Walking Partnership will host another Walking Seminar.

National Trails Day

A total of eleven events took place throughout the county on newly developed accredited trails. The event was publicised on local and national press and a total of 173 participated.



National Trails Day

RTE Tracks & Trails

Mayo Trails and the Great Western Greenway has featured in two dedicated programmes in RTE's Tracks and Trails Series. This programme attracted over 400,000 viewers and has been very positive in attracting visitors to the County



Camera Crew recording some footage for the Tracks & Trails Programme



Great Western Greenway



Official Opening

The Greenway was launched with much fanfare on 29th July 2011 by An Taoiseach Enda Kenny TD and Mr Michael Ring, Minister of State, Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport. The launch was featured on RTE television news and in the National and local print media.

An Taoiseach Enda Kenny TD with Mr Peter Hynes, County Manager and Ms Anna Connor Walking Officer at the Greenway Opening – July 2011



Public Response

In its first year of operation (2011) over 145,000 persons utilised the Great Western Greenway facility. Significant events on the Greenway include the Westport Sea2Summit festival race (1100 participants) and the inaugural Greenway 10k Run (300 participants). The Greenway has been overwhelmingly endorsed by the public who have participated or supported the project via letters to print media, social media etc. The project has also been well received by media with numerous publications and has been voted Best Cycle Trail in Ireland by Outsider Magazine and one of Ireland's Top Ten Outdoor Activities by the Guardian.

The Great Western Greenway is the 2011 recipient of the international European Destination of Excellence (EDEN) award of the European Commission. This award has firmly established the Great Western Greenway as one of the finest trails in Europe.

Greenway Enterprise

Independent research commissioned by Failte Ireland - **“Great Western Greenway – Economic Impact Case Study, Fitzpatrick Associates, October 2011”** indicates that the Greenway is contributing €7.2 million to the local economy, created 38 new full time jobs and is supporting a further 56 full time jobs.

Mayo County Enterprise Board

Review of Board Activity for 2011

During 2011 the Mayo County Enterprise Board Limited, continued to provide an integrated range of supports to small and micro-enterprises, including, grant support and soft support assistance. The Board continued with its policy of tailoring support to meet the needs of clients at various stages of their development, and introducing new programmes in response to the changing needs of its client base.

Selective Financial Intervention

Since it was established in 1993 Mayo County Enterprise Board has approved just over €9.6 million in grant aid in favour of some 668 micro-enterprises throughout the County. To date over €7.5 million has been paid out by the Board.

The provision of this support has assisted micro enterprises within the County in the creation and retention of 1007 full-time and 328 part-time jobs, as revealed in the annual employment survey undertaken in November 2011.

During 2011 a total of **€470,659** was approved in favour of **17 projects**, with a job creating potential of **38 full-time jobs**. During the same period grant payments totaling **€280,710** were made to **19** separate projects located throughout the county.

Entrepreneurial Development and Capacity Building

In 2011 Mayo County Enterprise Board received an allocation of **€211,189** towards the delivery of its Soft Support Programme. This allocation has enabled the Board complete a number of programmes and also undertake an extensive programme of training and support in 2011. In all **319** persons availed of the business training and advisory supports provided by Mayo County Enterprise Board during 2011.

The evidence on the ground in Mayo is that the number of individuals interested in starting their own business remains constant. During 2011 a total of 51 people did a Start Your Own Business Training Programme with Mayo CEB. To cater for this level of demand the CEB ran no fewer than five separate training programmes under this heading. The business training and development remit of the CEB is not confined to Start Your Own Business type programmes and the Board offered a very comprehensive range of training programmes. Core offerings included programmes relating to Managing Finance, Marketing, Human Resource Management, Operations Management, Customer Satisfaction, and Management Development for Entrepreneurs. The Board also offered a wide variety of one day workshops on topics of immediate concern to small business owners. Where the need arises, and it is appropriate to do so, the Board also offered one-to-one support to entrepreneurs in the form of business advice or mentoring. Due to the prevailing difficult economic and

business environment the demand for mentoring support has remained high with 139 clients in receipt of mentoring support in 2011, an increase of 35 or 33% on the 2010 total.

A total of 319 individual entrepreneurs were accommodated on one or other of the variety of training programmes offered. Overall, therefore, the total number of entrepreneurs participating in Soft Support activities was 458 for the year.

Student Enterprise

The Board organised and delivered the Student Enterprise Programme within the county. It offered enterprise training and guidance to all 26 second level schools. In all a total of 872 students from all second level schools in the county received enterprise training.

National Enterprise Award

A major highlight for the Board in 2011 was the success of Running Gear Ltd, a company supported by the Board, in winning the National Enterprise Award title in Dublin Castle. This award gave due recognition to the quality of projects being supported by the Board and of the capacity of small business in Mayo to compete on world markets with export sales not alone to the UK and Europe, but also to South Africa.

Arts Service

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

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

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

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

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

Arts Information, Promotion and Advice

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

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

Arts Programme 2011

Mayo Arts Squad:

Established in 1997 with FÁS support, Mayo County Council's Arts Squad has continued to provide excellent training in community arts skills for fifteen participants (from a wide variety of backgrounds) annually. In 2011 the Arts Squad worked

extensively with festivals throughout the county, with community groups, intercultural groups and with disabled people.



–
In



Installations, (New Ground Memory Echoes), Feile na Tuaithe, May '11.

May 2011, Mayo Artsquad was again invited by the National Museum of Ireland, Country Life, to participate in Féile na Tuaithe. This involved all of the Artsquad participants, arts workers from Mayo, the wider community and groups of disabled people siting original artworks in the grounds of the museum for the duration of the festival.

Art in Education Programme

Percussion Instruments

In Association with the Mayo Education Centre the Music Instruments for Children in Primary and Post-primary Schools Schemes continued successfully in 2011, with support workshops being offered through the arts office. Hundreds of schools have now availed of this resource.



Arts in schools

Mayo County Council School's Exhibition Programme

There are two exhibitions from the Mayo County Council collection which were collated especially for primary schools. These exhibitions are on loan to schools for up to six months. Support workshops are also provided through the arts office by artists included in the exhibitions and specially designed education packs are available for teachers and pupils. In 2011, the exhibitions went to three schools.

Literature

Writer-in-residence programme

In 2011, Mayo County Council's writer-in-residence was Bidy Jenkinson who carried out an extensive programme of workshops and readings throughout the county. She worked with writer's groups and in schools and her tour included Belmullet, Castlebar, Claremorris, Ballina, Westport, Kiltimagh, Ballinrobe, Tourmakeady, Ballycastle and Ballindine.

All-Ireland Poetry Day

Mayo County Council Arts Office & Library Service presented poetry 'snack workshops' with Martin Dyar and Susan Millar DuMars in Castlebar Library on

October 6th as part of All Ireland Poetry Day 2011. This is the fourth year that the arts office has been involved in this initiative.

Arts for Older People

Bealtaine

Mayo County Council Arts Office runs an extensive, interactive programme for older people throughout the county during the month of May, to mark the annual festival which celebrates creativity in older age. The programme included theatre performances ('Fruitcake' with Mary McEvoy), workshops (photography, visual art, percussion, creative writing, storytelling, singing), a community weaving project, exhibitions of artworks produced by older people through the Arts & Health project in three care settings: Achill, Castlebar and Claremorris, and work produced through the Hearth project. Also, composer Ian Wilson gave talks about his public art project in which involved communities and people in Balla, Mayo Abbey and Kilmaine. Finally, Mayo Artsquad musicians toured the county bring music and song to residents at the Sacred Heart Home Castlebar, Árd Bhríde Castlebar, Áras Deirbhle Belmullet & St. Brendan's Mulranny.

Workshops and events organised by Mayo Arts Office held over the course of Bealtaine benefitted approximately 1,000 older people.



Storytelling Workshop with Kate Kerrigan – Part of the Blossoms in May Event – Bealtaine 2011

Artists Mentoring & Networking Programme:

Since 2004, six visual artists have been working on a weekly basis in Westport, Achill, Ballina, Castlebar and Claremorris, mentored by artist Deirdre Walsh. The programme is nationally recognised and continues to provide weekly workshops for older people in the county and networking opportunities for the artists involved. Exhibitions of the wonderful art work produced by older people participating in this programme in 2011 included:

‘**Summer Colours**’, in the Sacred Heart Community Nursing Unit, Castlebar

‘**In Bloom**’, in the D’Alton CNU, Claremorris

‘**Achill Visions**’, in St.Colman’s CNU, Achill

Public Art & Visual Art:

% for Art:

Mayo County Council has been one of the leading and most proactive Local Authorities in drawing down and using the % for Art scheme. Since 1989 over 80 commissions have been undertaken. Many new commissions actively engage with

local communities leading to long-term engagement with an artist and artworks which are well-integrated into the fabric of a community.

Commissions: Completed in 2011:

En Route, Aileen Lambert

Limited edition publication and CDs documenting old routes in the landscape. The artist worked with large number of local people in Ballyhaunis, Began and Ballindine and gave talks at active retirement groups and 3 schools



Aileen Lambert at Launch of En Route

Echo, Again - Kilkelly, Vivienne Roche

Artist worked with Kilkelly NS. The sculpture has a display area for children's artwork.

A new sculpture in Kilkelly, 'Echo, Again', By Vivienne Roche was officially launched by Cllr Michael Burke, Cathaoirleach of Mayo County Council on 26th May, 2011. The guest speaker on the day was Tommie Gorman, RTÉ's Northern Editor. 'Echo, Again' was commissioned by Mayo County Council and funded by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government under the Percent for Art Scheme.



Commissions in Progress:

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

Landmark

7 commissions contracted and ongoing, based at Lough Lannagh, Castlebar and including a wider hinterland.

- Ian Wilson has worked with Balla NS and Mount St Michael, Claremorris and has given talks with three active retirement groups and performances at Mount St Michael, Knock and Ballintubber Abbey.
- Cleary/Connolly worked with Castlebar Youth group and St. Josephs School.

- Rob Vale is working with Castlebar Concert orchestra, Davitt College and St. Gerald's to choreograph performances at Lough Lannagh

***Fake Art Panel – part of CONNECT
Professional Development Programme***

CONNECT professional development programme –two artists' training sessions and the development of an I-phone app in partnership with Visual Artists Ireland.

www.landmarkpublicart.com



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. An exhibition of selected works from the collection took place in the Town Hall Arts Centre, Charlestown in the summer of 2011.

Theatre

Mayo Youth Theatre

Initiated in 1999, through the promotion and support of quality youth theatre, MYT provides access to drama for those aged 14 - 22. With 25 young members MYT continued to flourish in 2011 with weekly workshops. The group completed an Acting for Camera Masterclass in November and had a very successful production of *Around the World in 80 Days* in Ballina Arts Centre in May. They also participated in the NAYD festival in Kilkenny in July.

Music

Summer Music Series

Each July, the Arts Service provides a series of free concerts for the public. These are programmed in churches, community halls and open spaces, in order to promote diverse quality music, develop audiences for live music and provide access for communities. In 2011, another excellent series of county-wide music events brought quality music to Westport, Charlestown, Ballyhaunis, Louisburgh, Castlebar, Achill, and Belmullet. Over 1,000 attended. The line-up included; Judith Mok & Dearbhla Collins, the Irish Chamber Orchestra & Bradley Creswick, Zoe Conway & John McIntyre, Wassa Wassa, The Blue Mosquitoes, Talvin Singh & John Feeley.



Summer Music Series 2011: Talvin Singh, Belmullet | Zoe Conway & John McIntyre, Ballyhaunis

Whistleblast Quartet

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



The Whistleblast Quartet, performance in Castlebar

Community Music Project

Initiated in 2004, this community music initiative is funded by Mayo County Council and Mayo VEC. The project encourages people of all ages to become involved in music, often using instruments which may have been left unused in their attics. The project is facilitated by musician John Hoban. In 2011 groups were facilitated in Derrada, Keenagh, Achill and Westport. Participants included disabled people and refugees.

Music Generation MAYO

Mayo MEP is a non-profit, non-political partnership which exists to co-ordinate music services within the county, to ensure equity of access and to develop music education opportunities for all young people. This year Mayo one of the first three counties, along with Louth & Sligo, to secure funding for music education for 0-18 year olds through the philanthropic fund established by U2 and The Ireland Funds. The application from Mayo MEP secured considerable matching funds over three years for vocal and instrument tuition in the county. The partnership consists of the following organizations: Mayo County Development Board, Mayo VEC (Lead partner), Mayo Education Centre, Mayo Community Forum and Mayo County Council Arts Department and Department of Community and Integrated Development.



Music Generation Mayo

Youth Arts Programme:

The Arts Service runs a youth arts programme in November annually, which specifically addresses the needs of young people across the county. Specialist provision and master-classes are offered to groups already involved in the arts: orchestras, choirs, bands, students wishing to pursue a career in theatre or visual art, drama groups etc. Groups who wish to try a specific artform can do so through the workshop strand of the programme. In 2011, open events included Music Clinics for Young Musicians, Traditional Music Workshop with Zoe Conway and an Open Creative workshop with Mayo Artsquad. There was also a professional development opportunity (in partnership with Mayo Education Centre) for Arts Teachers – an expert talk on the preparation of portfolios for 3rd level.

Disability Arts Programme:

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

- In addition, where possible, opportunities to include disabled people are sought so that groups of disabled people are invited to participate in other programme strands.
- Mayo County Council's Artsquad is also inclusive in ethos and up to 40% of participants are registered disabled.

International Day of Persons with Disabilities

The Arts Office also funds quality projects with arts/ disability organisations to celebrate International Day of Persons with Disabilities, which is on December 3rd annually. This year six projects received funding:

- Ballina Arts Centre working with the Ridgpool Training centre (drama)
- Ballinglen Arts Foundation, Ballycastle working with the Western Care Association, Ballina (visual art)
- Áras Inis Gluaire, Belmullet working with the Western Care Association, Erris (visual art)
- Custom House Studios, Westport working with Carrowbeg Enterprises (printmaking)
- Linenhall Arts Centre working with members of the Connaught Creative Resource Centre (visual art).
Also a screening of Living Colour, a documentary film about a disabled artists' collective in Callan, Co. Kilkenny.
- LUISNE Art Project with the Cranmór Centre, Ballinrobe (poetry).

International Day of Persons with Disabilities, at the Linenhall Arts Centre



LUISNE

The LUISNE project is a visual arts project which began in 2004. The purpose of this project is to provide quality artistic experience for a group of service users of the Crann Mór Resource Centre operated by the Western Care Association. The project is funded by Western Care and Mayo County Council, with administrative and other supports provided by TACÚ. In 2009 a website was developed, www.artluisne.com. This year the group has had successful exhibitions in University Hospital Galway & National Museum of Ireland - Country Life. They also exhibited their paintings, prints, new poems and ceramics in December – this work was launched by An

Taoiseach, Enda Kenny on International Day of Persons with Disabilities.



An Taoiseach, Enda Kenny, with members of the Luisne Art Group and their facilitators; Breda Murphy, Mary Madec and John Corless.

ALTERED IMAGES

A major, groundbreaking visual arts project developed by Mayo County Council in partnership with South Tipperary County Council and the Irish Museum of Modern Art, supported by the Arts Council. The partners presented a new and unique approach to exhibiting visual arts. Altered Images is an interactive exhibition which has toured to South Tipperary, Ballina and IMMA. In 2011, the exhibition toured to Crawford Arts Gallery, Cork and The Regional Cultural Centre, Letterkenny, supported by funding through the Arts Council's Touring and Dissemination of work scheme.



Altered Images exhibition in Ballina

Using an innovative approach - including audio descriptions, three dimensional interpretations of paintings, sound art and an interactive website (www.alteredimages.ie) – the project attempts to engage new audiences for the first time, using a multi sensory approach. The catalogue for the exhibition was also produced in accessible formats (audio CD, Braille, large print).

Culture Night

The Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism and Templebar Cultural Trust extended an invitation to Mayo County Council to participate in Culture Night in 2009. In a unique take on the event, Culture Night in Mayo was county wide. In 2011 participation was extended to 25 organisations/venues including arts, heritage and Irish language groups across the county. Almost 2000 people attended the free events programmed on the evening.



Culture Night 2011 | Participating Groups & Venues

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 (grants ranging from €150 to €5,000)
- Visual Arts awards (4 exhibition assistance and 18 materials assistance awards)
- MCC Tyrone Guthrie Awards (2 awards)
- Amateur Drama Awards (1 award)
- Music Recording Assistance Awards (2 awards)

ARTS PLAN:

A new county Arts Plan has been prepared by the Arts Office: Mayo County Council Strategic Arts Plan 2011 – 2016, was developed in consultation with the following stakeholders: Artists, Arts venues: arts centres, galleries, facilities, Arts organisations and groups (professional and amateur), Arts managers/ administrators. Audiences for the arts, Communities (including specific groups – youth/ older people/ people with disabilities/ children/ intercultural groups/ marginalised people), The public, Elected members and public representatives, Mayo County Council, Mayo County Development Board, Partnership agencies, The Arts Council/ An Chomhairle Ealaíon. Other regional and national arts organisations.

The Strategic Arts Plan was approved by the Chair and Members of the Strategic Policy Committee for Culture, Education, Heritage and Corporate Affairs on October 19th and ratified by Mayo County Council Elected members on November 14th.

NETWORKING & PARTNERSHIPS

Arts Sector Meet Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht:

In August 2011 the Arts Office facilitated, at the minister's request, a meeting between Minister Jimmy Deenihan TD and the Arts Sector in Mayo. The meeting was held in Cong on August 26th and over 80 people representing arts organisations/ festivals/ venues/ groups, artists, musicians, dancers etc attended.



Minister Deenihan addresses the Mayo Arts Sector in Cong.

Mayo Artists Network:

A new network for visual artists was established by Mayo Arts Office in September this year. The network will be supported by MCC Arts Office and facilitated by the Custom House Studios. Over 100 artists have already registered and attended network meetings.

Partnership Projects:

A number of arts organisations receive annual funding on a partnership basis with Mayo County Council. The professional contribution of these organisations towards the strategic development of the arts in the county is recognised and supported by Mayo County Council: The Linenhall Arts Centre (Castlebar), The Heinrich Boll Cottage (Achill), Yew Tree Theatre Company (Ballina), Ballina Arts Centre (Ballina), Custom House Studios (Westport), Ballinglen Arts Foundation (Ballycastle),

Charlestown Arts Centre (Charlestown) and Áras Inis Gluaire (Belmullet Arts Centre). In 2011, €160,000 was dispersed to assist these venues with their programmes.

Other Partnerships:

Partnerships with other agencies are crucial to continued outreach and success. The Arts Service has developed and fostered good working partnerships with: other sections within Mayo County Council, other LA arts offices, Western Care Association, FÁS, Health Service Executive Western Area, Age & Opportunity, The Arts Council, Mayo Education Centre & Schools, Sacred Heart Hospital, Community Development Projects, Mayo VEC, 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.

Ballina Theatre & Art Centre



Construction works were completed on Ballina Theatre & Art Centre, which is located on Barrett Street, adjacent to the premises formerly known as the 'Newman Institute', in April 2011. The project was financed substantially by grant aid obtained from Department of Arts,

Sport & Tourism; Arts Council of Ireland, as well as contributions by Mayo County Council, Ballina Town Council, and local contributions. Fundraising efforts continue locally, to meet the shortfall in the overall cost of the project.

The new Art Centre structure represents a spatial fusion of the existing three storey stone masonry (Newman) building, linked by a 2 storey glass foyer enclosure, and the new 2 storey Theatre building, covering a total Floor area of 1650 m². The remaining forecourts areas are paved/landscaped, terminating at the scenic riverside boardwalk, which connects to a 66 no. vehicle car park and a recently developed amenity area.



The Theatre, with 250 seats, contains a full national stage, accommodating all visiting and local performances. In addition, a full size rehearsal area on the 2nd floor distinguishes Ballina from many other theatres, and will, hopefully, provide a valuable source of income in the future. The amenities provided within Ballina Theatre & Art Centre, together with the unparalleled vistas of the River Moy and surrounds offered from the interior of the building, makes a visit to the building a must for anyone visiting Ballina.

Mayo County Library Service

In 2011 Mayo County Library lent over half a million books to 27,000 members. This represents an increase in usage of over 11% on the 2010 figures. The library also provides a local history service, a comprehensive website and a wide ranging programme of cultural events every year. In addition new services such as downloadable books, a FAS eLearning service, online newspapers and social networking have been added during the year. A new library for Swinford is currently under construction and Foxford library will move to larger premises early in 2012. Mayo libraries attracted 375,000 visits in 2011 which is far in excess of any other cultural or heritage organisation in the county.

Cultural Programme

Mayo Library runs an extensive cultural programme which is expanding annually. In 2011 over 300 events were held in libraries in the county. Highlights included:

Castlebar Library:

- **Fighting for Dignity: Jewish Resistance in Krakow**, Holocaust Education Trust Exhibition.
- **Essen for the Rhur** photographic exhibition
- **If Maps could Talk**”, a lecture on the Ordnance Survey by Richard Kirwan
- **“Healing Visions/Dealing with stress”** talk with Kate Connon
- **Favourite poems we learned at school**, by Thomas Walsh , for Bealtaine
- **Where memories gather**, a talk by Sr. Hillary Lyons for Bealtaine
- Croí Heartsmart Coordinator, Ray McNamara Mayo Sports Partnership Bealtaine
- **Open University** Information evenings
- Reading with Biddy Jenkinson, writer in residence
- **Mayo in photographs**, illustrated talk with Liam Lyons
- Book Launch **L’Auberge** by Julia Stagg
- **Bob Dylan at 70**, Exhibition
- Computer classes for retired teachers group
- Launch of **Mayo People of the Year** Awards
- **Book Launch** ‘The adventures of Pete & Tweet’ by Helena McDonagh
- **Poetry Snack Workshop** with Martin Dyer & Susan Millar DuMars
- **‘What to do in an emergency’** with Rose Doherty, Mayo Civil Defence
- **Bisto Children’s Book of the Year Awards** exhibition.
- Parke Community Display.
- **Adult Learning Network Group**, Library and Local Studies tour
- **Book Launch**, Tyrone Struggles by Gerard Magee
- Tigh Filí Poetry Workshops

- **Science It's Elementary**, workshops for Science Week,
- HSE/Library Information Workshops
- **Regular computer sessions** for the Adult Learning Network, the elderly and REHAB students are held in the library.
- **Castlebar Book Club** meets in the library every month.



*Mary Gavin Book
Launch November 2011*

Music Circle

**Ballina
Library:**

- Numerous **arts exhibitions** held in library
- **Beehive Drama Group** rehearse in the library every week with their Western Care service users
- **Ballina Music Circle** meets monthly in the library
- **Grow it Yourself Ireland**, a group promoting self sufficiency meets monthly in the library.
- **The Stitch & Bitch Knitting Circle** meet every Tuesday night in the library
- **The Active Retirement Musicians group** use the library as a venue to practice





The staff at Ballina Library with Brent Pope

- Free **computer courses** for Over 55's in the library
- **Bridge building in the library**, for Engineers Week
- **Flower arranging demonstration** and talk by Richard Delmer
- **Mayo Dyslexia Association**: An evening with Don Mullan and a showcase of the library special educational needs collection.
- Storytime for kids and talk to parents by **Brent Pope**
- **Time to Read project**, a programme with local school to promote reading
- **Promoting local heritage online** a course by Connacht Archeological Services
- **Dylan at 70**: an exhibition

on the life and work of Bob Dylan

- **Storytelling from around the world**, to celebrate Culture Night
- **Open Mic poetry session** to celebrate All-Ireland Poetry Day
- **Club Vibe**, a neighbourhood youth project launched their new music CD in the library
- **Bisto Book Awards Exhibition**
- **Ballina Salmon Festival** -library street exhibition

Westport Library

- **Art Exhibitions** by local artists
- **Heritage Garden Exhibition** - Westport Civic Trust
- **Art and Design Exhibition** by students of Carrowbeg College
- **Aspects of Mayo Heritage**, talk by Anthony Nugent
- **Tir na nOg Playschool**, Art Exhibition
- **Children's Puppet Show**, as part of Westport Arts Festival
- **EU Smarter Travel Live Better Schools Exhibition**
- ICA Photographic Exhibition
- Computer classes for older people

Other Events

- Story hours for children and book clubs are run in most branches
- Achill Storytelling festival– Achill library

- Photographic Exhibition by Bernie Finan - Crossmolina Library
- **Red Shoes and no clichés**, book launch by Ballinrobe Active Retired writing group

Eachtraí Culturtha

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

Ina measc bhí:

- Eibhlin Basquille, scéalaíocht i *Béal a' Mhuirthid, Caisleán a' Bharraigh, Béal an Átha, Crois Uí Mhaoilíona, Béal Átha hAmhnais, Béal Átha na Muice, agus Acaill.*
- Ceolchoirm le Michael Rooney agus June McCormack, *Caisleán a' Bharraigh.*
- Dramaíocht le Rosaleen Ní Shuilleabháin - *Caisleán a' Bharraigh agus Coillte Mach*
- Children's Juggling as Gaeilge- *Béal an Átha*
- Laura Ní Éanachain ag déanamh liathróidí as plúr agus balúnaí le na páistí- *Clár Chlainne Mhuiris, Baile an Róba, Cathair na Mart, Cluain Cearbán agus Caisleán a' Bharraigh*
- Comórtaisí do pháistí scoile - *Caisleán a' Bharraigh*
- Taispeántas Leabhar Gaeilge – *Cathair na Mart*

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

- The Mayo Folklore Society
- The Westport Arts Festival
- Achill storytelling festival
- The Rolling Sun Book festival
- The John Healy Weekend
- The Admiral Browne Project
- The Sogroo Festival Charlestown
- The Sonas Festival in Louisburg
- Mayo County Child Care Committee
- Mayo Women's Refuge
- Kiltimagh Raiftieri Festival

Children's Programme

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

- Visit by internationally renowned illustrator PJ Lynch

- Visit by author Claire Hennessy
- Storytelling by Aideen McBride
- Juggling workshops
- Pet care demonstration
- Writing workshops
- Library Quizzes

Other children's events included:

- **Summer Reading Challenges** for children were organised in Achill, Crossmolina, Claremorris, Castlebar, Kiltimagh and Ballyhaunis. The children were challenged to read at least 10 books over the summer. Many read up to twenty books and received certificates.
- Library tours for school children are run in most branches

ICT Initiatives

Mayo Newspapers Online

The library launched the Mayo Newspaper Archive Online in 2009. By the end of 2011 the following papers are all available online: *The Western People* from 1889, *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 is now providing up-to-the minute information on its events and services on Facebook. The library also produces an electronic magazine which is sent to over 3000 homes on a regular basis.

The library has also introduced SMS Messaging to notify borrowers about overdue books, requested items and library events via text message.

Access to online Library Service via iPhone

Library members can now access Mayo County Library services via iPhone, iPod Touch and iPad. They can search the catalogue, view books, check their accounts and reserve items.

WIFI

This facility allows members of the public to use their own laptops to work on the Internet in libraries. Wifi access is now available in Castlebar, Ballina, Westport, Claremorris, Ballyhaunis, Ballinrobe, Kiltimagh, Belmullet and Swinford libraries.

FÁS eLearning at the Library

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

Mayo Genealogy Online

Mayo County Library, in conjunction with the Mayo Family History centres, now provides a genealogical service on the library web site. This facility provides access to the millions of family records held on the centres' databases for library users. The service was enhanced with additional records in 2011.

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

A new enhanced version of Mayo Maps Online, based on a Google Maps interface, is being introduced in 2011. This integrated system provides access to the 1838 Ordnance Survey maps, Bald's map of Mayo and maps of the Lynch-Blosse estates covering the Balla-Claremorris area. In addition to the facility to browse and search maps, links are provided to additional information on Mayo places, including 1901 Census data, Griffith's Valuation, Tourism Survey from the 1940's and place name information.

Postcards of Mayo

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

New Online Exhibitions

In 2011 the library added two new graphic exhibitions to its website.

- *The Famine in Mayo: a portrait from contemporary sources online*
- *In Humbert's Footsteps: 1798 & the Year of the French,*

The library also added other valuable content to the site:

- **Mayo People** – lives of famous people from the county
- **Map of The Clans of Mayo**
- New **Book Review section** - updated monthly
- **Free eAudiobooks Download Service** now available via the library website
- **Facebook** - direct access to the library's online catalogue and the new eAudiobooks Download Service is now available via Facebook
- **Twitter** account established and maintained

Acquisitions

The library purchased approximately 15,000 books in 2011 including the following:

- Irish Land Commission Return of Judicial Rents (County Mayo) 1883.
- Authentic Report of an Important Discussion Held in Castlebar Between The Rev. W.B. Stoney Rector of Newport Pratt and the Rev. James Hughes, Roman Catholic Priest, Newport Pratt. 1837.

- A letter to M. Le Comte de Montalembert of the Government of England by George Henry Moore 1859.
- Michael Davitt New Perspectives by Fintan Lane and Andrew G. Newby 2009.
- Killasser: Heritage of a Mayo Parish by Bernard O’Hara 2011.
- The Municipal Revolution in Ireland: A Handbook of Urban Government in Ireland Since 1800 by Matthew Potter 2011.
- Westport House Historical Sketch. Description of Adam and other Decorations Restored by H. Sibthorpe & Sons Ltd., n.d.
- AFRI Report on Famine Graveyards
- The Murphy Journey 1796-2010 by Mary Mortimer. (includes Mayo families).
- Even the Balls Were Rationed: A Century of Development and Progress at Ballina Golf Club.
- Soccer History: Westport United 1911-2011
- Through the Eye of the Bridge: Islandeady and Glenisland 2010.
- St. Nathy’s College 1810-2010 by Fr. Leo Henry 2010.
- A Story Told to Us Last Night: A Selection of Folklore Stories 1937/1938 ‘National Folklore Collection, Schools’ and Folklore Stories from 2010 by Midfield Development Association 2010.
- The Addergoole Titanic Story by Pauline Barrett 2011.
- Michael Davitt in Frame. Mayo County Council 2010.
- Turbulent Diocese: The Killala Troubles, 1798-1848 by Brendan Hoban 2011. Donated by the author
- The Road to 51 by James Laffey
- Mayo Libraries: Memories, Tales and Anecdotes by Mary Gavin

Donations

- Footprints on the Sands of Time: Edward Nangle and His Role in the History of the Achill Island Missionary Colony (1831-1921). By Brian Thompson (University of Wales Master Thesis 2011). Donated by the author.

- High Heels to Soft Spikes: A Centenary History of Castlebar Golf Club 1910-2010. Donated by Joe Gilmartin.
- The Belderrig Curragh and Its People / Curach Dhun haochain agus a Muintir by Breandan Mac Conamhna 2010. Donated by the author.

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.

School's Library Service

Mayo County Library is continuing to provide an active Special Needs Service to all Learning Support and Special Needs teachers. Developments include:

- 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
- New 'issue based collections' are now being compiled in response to increased demand from parents for specific material on very specialized issues.
- Provision of a **Language Learning Collection** to facilitate collaboration with The Modern Languages in Primary Schools Initiative

Jackie Clarke Library

Work on the refurbishment and fit-out of the Bank Building which will house The Jackie Clarke Collection continued during the year. The *Crossings* exhibition of material from the collection opened in the American Irish Historical Society in February. During its run a seminar on archives was hosted with the Director of Glucksman Ireland House and the Curator of Modern Books and Manuscripts of Yale's Beinecke Library as well as a concert by John O'Connor. An exhibition catalogue was produced and tours of the exhibit were conducted by Irish Studies Graduates from Drew University, New Jersey.

The collection was open to the people of Mayo during the summer with a special exhibit during Heritage Week, which resulted in a feature article in the *Irish Times* and with a visit from Minister Deenihan. Culture Night was a huge success with Taoiseach Enda Kenny launching the event.

Heritage

The Mayo Heritage Office promotes enhanced levels of awareness and understanding, leading to a greater appreciation and conservation, of the natural, built and cultural heritage of County Mayo. This is done through both the implementation of the County Mayo Heritage Plan and the ongoing day-to-day work of the Heritage Office. The ongoing implementation of the *County Mayo Heritage Plan* contributes to the fulfillment of our commitments under the National Heritage Plan, the National Biodiversity Plan and the National Climate Change Strategy. A number of key Heritage Plan Projects were undertaken in 2011, in addition to the ongoing work of the Heritage Office, details of which are outlined below. Mayo County Council allocated a budget of €75,000 towards Heritage Plan Projects in 2011, of which €44,500 was recouped from The Heritage Council.

Formulation of County Mayo Heritage Plan 2011-2016

The first ever County Mayo Heritage Plan was adopted in 2006. This five-year plan is a strategic, cross-agency strategy which provides the basis for the identification, investigation, interpretation, promotion, protection, preservation, conservation and enhancement of Mayo's natural, built and cultural heritage. It sets out a strategy for the management of heritage resources and landscapes in a sustainable manner.

The review of the Heritage Plan was commenced in 2010. Following extensive public consultation, a draft plan was prepared and put on public display in early 2011. All submissions and observations were considered and incorporated into the new County Mayo Heritage Plan 2011-2016, which was adopted in September. This plan seeks to build on and compliment the achievements of first Heritage Plan. It also seeks to build on the work currently being undertaken in the county by the many different agencies, organisations, communities, groups and individuals. The plan will be launched in spring 2012.

A number of key Heritage Plan projects were undertaken in 2011, including the following:

Mayo Ecclesiastical Trail

The aim of this project, which was carried out with the support of the Heritage Council, was to undertake an audit of the rich ecclesiastical heritage of the county. The purpose of the audit was to develop a sustainable heritage tourism product and publications to increase the profile of and raise awareness of this asset. Over 20 sites are included on the trail and range from early Christian sites to medieval abbeys and friaries. The trail will comprise a mobile phone app and a booklet, which will describe and provide information on all the sites on the trail.

Mayo Heritage Day

Mayo Heritage Day was held in Castlebar in November 2011. An interesting and diverse programme of events was scheduled for the day, including talks, exhibitions,

workshops and traditional skills demonstrations. There were fascinating talks and workshops on diverse elements of our heritage such as vernacular wrought iron gates, wildlife and landscape, how to enhance wildlife in your town or garden, and protecting our rivers and lakes. Other workshops provided participants with skills on how to read and interpret old maps, conserve books and other archival material; trace your family heritage and enhance wildlife in the community. For the young people there was face painting and a puppet show. The day also provided an opportunity to showcase some of the many heritage initiatives ongoing in the county, with many of the groups and organisations involved in heritage management in the county having display stands.



Reading Historical Maps Workshop, Mayo Heritage Day

Speakers at Mayo Heritage Day



Audit of Geological Heritage of County Mayo

Mayo has a rich geological heritage, which varies greatly throughout the county. Mayo County Council, in partnership with the Geological Survey of Ireland and the Department of Earth and Ocean Sciences, NUIG, and supported by the Heritage Council, began an audit of the significant geological and geomorphological sites in the county in 2011. There are approximately 110 such significant sites in the county, of which half were assessed in 2011. The remaining sites will be visited and the audit completed in 2012. The sites surveyed, which are identified as County Geological Sites, will inform the review of the Mayo County Development Plan and will be incorporated into relevant Local Areas Plans. In addition to surveying sites to obtain information about this important aspect of Mayo's heritage, the project aims to raise awareness and promote the rich geological heritage of the county. An inventory of published sources relating to Mayo's geology and geomorphology has also been compiled.

Heritage Farm Building Publication

Traditional farm buildings contribute to the local character of an area and are an intrinsic part of the Mayo landscape. Identification of the traditional farm layouts and buildings assists in understanding the evolution of the county Mayo landscape. The materials, layout and arrangement of these buildings reflect historic farming practices, settlement patterns, social change, traditional building skills and local materials. In 2010, Mayo County Council in partnership with the Heritage Council undertook a survey of Heritage Farm Buildings in Mayo. Over 160 farms were surveyed, which

included mapping many of the medium to large sized farms, and also the smaller vernacular farmyard complexes. Structures such as barns, cow houses, dovecotes, granaries, hay barns, houses for poultry, lofts, shelter sheds, stables and sties were recorded. Features around the farmyard, such as wall types, gate types and gate pillars were noted. *Mayo's Heritage Farm Buildings* publication makes the results of this survey accessible to a wide audience. It promotes this aspect of our heritage, detailing why these buildings are important and why we need to protect them. It also provides information and guidance to the owners of these structures on their conservation, management and re-use. The publication will be launched in 2012.

Cooper Ashton Photographic Exhibition

A wonderful collection of photographs taken in and around Pontoon and Foxford between 1911 and 1914 was acquired by Mayo County Council in 2011. These photographs were presented in an exhibition, which ran in the Foxford Woollen Mills during August. The exhibition was officially opened by Mr Jimmy Deenihan, Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, who was in Mayo for National Heritage Week 2011. The photographs were taken by John Cooper Ashton Esq., a keen amateur photographer, who was a frequent visitor to the area, on fishing and angling trips. He recorded his activities with high quality photographs, which were subsequently catalogued and archived in the University of Glasgow. The exhibition was one of the many events held in the county to celebrate National Heritage Week 2011.



Launch of Cooper Ashton Photographic Exhibition, Foxford Woollen Mills



Launch of Mayo Shopfront Booklet

Also launched by the Minister on the day was the *Mayo Shopfronts* booklet. The booklet, which features many of the traditional shopfronts remaining in the county, as well as fine examples of modern shopfront design, aims to raise awareness of this fascinating aspect of our built heritage and provide guidelines for those wishing to



conserve an existing shopfront or design a new one.

Launch of Mayo Shopfronts by Mr Jimmy Deenihan, Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, in Foxford Woollen Mills

Mayo Biodiversity Project

The Mayo Biodiversity Action Plan provides a framework for conservation of biodiversity at the local level. It was agreed by the Culture, Education, Heritage and Corporate Affairs SPC that a synopsis version of the Plan be produced and circulated to all the schools in the county. In preparing this document, the opportunity was taken to produce a document that would be of interest not just to schools but also to community groups and individuals, and to anyone who wants to learn more about the county's wild life. The book, which describes and illustrates the representative species to be found in the main habitats in the county, will be launched in spring 2012. The material is presented in a fun and accessible ways and contains a section on things you can do to enhance biodiversity and wildlife in your school, home or community.

Heritage Week in Mayo 2011

Heritage Week is a celebration of the wonderful natural and cultural heritage resources we have in the county, and it's a great opportunity to get out and explore and enjoy our local heritage. Heritage Week ran from the 20th to 28th August 2011, and over 40 events were held during the week. Many of the events were run by local community and voluntary groups to promote awareness and share a growing pride in our heritage including buildings, museums, cultural events, wildlife and landscape. Among the events that took place were road bowling in Turlough, a guided beach walk at Old Head, a woodland foraging workshop, a trial archaeological dig, bat walks, craft demonstrations, yawl racing, exhibitions and nature walks. The events were well attended by both tourists and locals alike.



Mayo Heritage Week Event Guide



Family foraging event, Old Head Wood

Control of *Gunnera tinctoria*

Mayo County Council has been involved in research on the control of *Gunnera tinctoria*, or giant rhubarb as it is commonly known, since 2006. In 2011, Mayo County Council obtained funding, under the Biodiversity Fund to continue the intensive programme of *Gunnera* control that had been initiated in 2008 and had been

carried out each year since. All of the sites treated since 2008 were revisited to assess the level of success and to identify areas that may need to be retreated.

One of the main areas targeted for treatment in 2011 was the Clare Island cliffs. Other areas targeted for treatment included Achill and Inishbiggle, Belmullet and Blacksod. Mayo County Council, in partnership with local communities undertook an intensive programme of control in these locations.

Mayo Heritage Website

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

Mayo Heritage Calendar 2011

A Mayo Shopfronts Calendar was published in 2011. The calendar which contains images of shopfronts throughout the county, both traditional and modern, aimed to highlight this aspect of our built heritage and to promote the Mayo Shopfronts booklet.

Heritage Workshops and Training Courses

A number of heritage training workshops were held in 2011. Among these was a workshop on Recording High Impact Invasive Species, which was held in Castlebar in July, in partnership with the National Biodiversity Data Centre. The workshop included an introduction to invasive species, a field element and an identification session. The aim of the workshop was to improve identification and field skills of biological groups and raise standards of data collection and management.



Invasive Species Workshop

In partnership with Bat Conservation Ireland, a Daubenton's Bat Training Course, was held in Ballina. This course was aimed at volunteers, who wished to participate in the Daubenton's Bat Waterway Survey. Daubenton's bat is a species that is easily identifiable using a bat detector and torch on waterways, thereby making this a suitable survey programme for volunteers with minimal bat experience to participate in.

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 Local Area Plans, Strategies, Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) etc
- Preparation of Habitats Directive Assessments as required under Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive.

- Provide support and advice to Development Control
- Support the Planning Enforcement Section, when requested
- Provide advice to Road Design Section as requested
- Provide advice to owners and occupiers of protected structures
- Advise public and council staff on heritage-related matters
- Provide advice to Mayo Leader Companies on heritage issues.
- Provide advice to community groups undertaking “Graveyard clean-up” schemes
- Provide advice and assistance to individuals, community groups, Rural Social Scheme supervisors and participants, and Tidy Towns Groups in relation to Local Heritage Projects
- Promote Heritage Council Local Heritage Grant Programme and provide advice to community groups on applications as required
- Promote Heritage in Schools Scheme

Information Communication Technology (ICTs)

We reduced Mayo County Council's overall telecommunications costs by approximately 26% by going to tender under the Government Framework for our fixed voice calls.

We continued the consolidation our production server fleet through the use of our internal cloud computing infrastructure. The benefits of this to the organisation are reduced power consumption, licensing costs, reduced hardware requirements, reduced downtime and improved administration efficiency.

We developed and launched www.mayo.ie web site with a view to connecting with the Mayo Diaspora worldwide.

The online Planning System was fully deployed to all remaining planning agents in the County.

Dog licenses were e-enabled allowing dog owners to purchase licenses online (iMadra).

Other Systems developed include the following.

- eLoad: Mayo County Council's Online Abnormal Load Permit Application and Payment System. You can now apply and pay for your Abnormal Load Permit online.
- West of Ireland Women's Mini-Marathon Online Payment System.
- Greenway 10K Online Payment System.
- Web 999: Online system for major emergency staff to update website/social media channels e.g. Twitter, Facebook via any internet enabled device.

The GIS Section have developed a new web-mapping viewer for use by staff within Mayo County Council. A number of these map viewers are now available on the intranet. These map viewers display a range of Council and external datasets on a map, ranging from environmental to planning data. Users can view features on a map and then click on these features for further information. In 2012 similar map viewers will be put onto the Mayo County Council website for public use.



*ISO
27001 presentation
to IT Section*

We retained our ISO 27001 accreditation in 2011. ISO 27001 is an internationally recognised

standard in information security. The audits were carried out by Certification Europe who are the only Irish company certified to audit the 27001 standard. Mayo County Council remain the only Local Authority in Ireland to continue to hold such a distinction.

Our IT team were very much involved in the technical production of the very successful Mayo People of the Year 2011 Awards.

Human Resources

Retirements from Mayo County Council 2011

Seamus Walsh	Light Equipment Operator
John Quinn	Labourer
Liam Lally	Site Technician Grade II
Bernard Ryan	Labourer
John Brennan	Light Equipment Operator
John O'Neill	Ganger
Willie Murphy	Staff Officer
Breege Walshe	Staff Officer
Francis Brogan	Labourer
Tony McDonnell	Light Equipment Operator
Michael Quirke	Plant Operator
Sean Conroy	Executive Engineer
Michael J. Kilcoyne	Ganger
Patrick O'Hara	Light Equipment Operator
Thomas Burke	Foreman
Martin Maloney	Ganger
Patrick Higgins	General Operative
Claire Ryan	Senior Library Assistant
Hugh Heneghan	Labourer
Patrick Costello	Ganger
Patrick McHugh	Ganger
Catherine Fitzpatrick	Clerical Officer

Recruitment 2011

There were 5 competitions held for posts in 2011. The 5 interview boards comprised of 2 females and 13 males.

General Purposes

Freedom of Information

The total number of requests under the Freedom of Information Act for 2011 was 36.

Higher Education Grants

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

The total number of grant applications received to-date in the 2011/12 academic year is 1,985. These included both first time applicants and applications reviewed for previous years.

The current number of students receiving grants from Mayo County Council (including those renewed for previous years) is 1,549. 649 of those were new applications awarded in the 2011/12 academic year.

Learning and Development

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

Register of Electors/Edited Register 2011/2012

REGISTRATION AUTHORITY: MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL
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Part I

1.	Dáil Constituency	Presidential Electors	Dáil Electors
	Mayo	96,805	99,504
	Total	96,805	99,504

2.	European Parliament Constituency	European Electors	Potential European Electors
	North-West	99,859	1,421
	Total	99,859	1,421

3.	Local Electoral Areas	Local Government Electors
	Ballina	18,784
	Béal an Mhuirthead	13,481
	Castlebar	23,102
	Claremorris	21,282
	Swinford	13,379
	Westport	12,288
	Total	

4.	Borough or Town Council	Local Government Electors
	Ballina Town Council	7,394
	Castlebar Town Council	7,887
	Westport Town Council	3,480
	Total	18,761

Part II – Postal Voters							Part III – Special Voters
Dáil Constituency	Gardaí	Defence Forces	Diplomats	Physically Disabled	Occupation etc.	Prisoners	Special Voters
Mayo	9	91	1	96	11	2	258
Total	9	91	1	96	11	2	258

Part IV – Edited Register				
Dáil Constituency	Presidential Electors	Dáil Electors	European Electors	Local Electors
Mayo	10,653	11,411	11,516	12,526

Part V - Postal Voters on Edited Register							Part VI – Special Voters on Edited Register
Dáil Constituency	Gardaí	Defence Forces	Diplomats	Physical ly Disabled	Occupation etc.	Prisoners	Special Voters
Mayo	1	13	0	7	2	0	7
TOTAL	1	13	0	7	2	0	7
Total		10,653		11,411	11,516		12,526

SUPPLEMENT TO THE REGISTER OF ELECTORS, 2011/2012			
General Election, 2011			
Dáil Constituency	Ordinary Electors	Postal Voters	Special Voters
Mayo	1,992	119	49
Total	1,992	119	49

SUPPLEMENT TO THE REGISTER OF ELECTORS, 2011/2012			
Presidential Election, 2011			
Dáil Constituency	Ordinary Electors	Postal Voters	Special Voters
Mayo	1,992	119	49
Total	1,992	119	49

Oifig na Gaeilge

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

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

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

Official Languages Act, 2003

In improving services through Irish, the Council has continued with the implementation of the Official Languages Act 2003 by providing information for staff regarding the Councils obligations in this regard, and providing Irish Language Training to staff. In 2011 classes were organised with Gnó Mhaigh Eo and Mayo VEC in order to offer a wider range of classes at different levels in different locations, and also to reduce costs.

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

Mayo Local Authorities Language Scheme

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

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

Cultural & Language Events

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



Turas go hAcaill – February 2011

Oifig na Gaeilge supports the County-wide network of ‘Ciorcal Comhrá’ or Conversation Groups who meet on a weekly or monthly basis, organises events for all the different Irish groups and learners to come together, such as the Turas go hAcaill in February 2011 and the Turas go hInis Toirc in October 2011. Over 70 people from all over Mayo and further afield attended.



Turas go hInis Toirc – Deireadh Fómhair 2011

Oifig na Gaeilge compiles and distributes a monthly e-newsletter, informing people of Irish language and cultural events throughout the County from conversation groups to music sessions to guided walks to film screenings, summer camps for children, Gaeltacht courses for adults, along with other stories of interest, employment and funding opportunities. With over 900 subscribers to the newsletter service, it has helped in the development of a countywide network of Irish speakers. The newsletter service is also a useful resource for Gaeltacht and Irish Language Organisations and Community Groups who wish to publicise their events and programmes.

‘Gaeilge Mhaigh Eo’ Facebook and Twitter pages were developed to provide information about Irish language related events and stories on an ongoing, proactive basis. There are over 5,000 followers on Gaeilge Mhaigh Eo’s Facebook page and over 1,200 followers on the Twitter page.

Ceol's Comhrá

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

The Club meet every Monday from 6-7.30, in the Neighbourhood Youth Project, Castlebar and participate in different activities such as drumming, animation, music, dance, pottery, all through Irish.



Some members of Ceol's Comhrá

Tír na nÓg – Club Spraoi i bPartraí

Tír na nÓg was set up in September 2011 it is a fun club for children aged 5-9 in the Partry area, they meet up every Thursday from 5.00-7.00 in Partry Community Hall and participate in drama, arts and crafts all through Irish.

In December 2011 they held a special Christmas 'Tráthnóna Scéalaíochta' with Diarmuid de Faoite which was attended by over 70 people, of all ages!

The idea came from local parents who wanted to encourage their children to speak Irish, but more importantly to enjoy speaking Irish from a young age. Tír na nÓg is funded through Foras na Gaeilge's Youth Events Scheme.

Seachtain na Gaeilge

Oifig na Gaeilge assisted the Library in organising a number of Irish language events all across the County during Seachtain na Gaeilge 2011:

Juggling Gaeilge – Claremorris, Ballinrobe, Westport & Louisburgh
Ceardlann Drámaíochta | Drama Workshops as Gaeilge – Charlestown, Kiltimagh & Castlebar
Seisiún Scéalaíochta | Storytime – Béal an Mhuirthead, Castlebar, Ballina, Crossmolina, Ballyhaunis, Swinford & Acaill

Gnó Mhaigh Eo

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

Oifig Gaeilge Mhaigh Eo and Gnó Mhaigh Eo have worked closely together in 2011 and organised and supported many different events – An Flóta is Fearr, float competition on St. Patrick’s Day, Croí Chaisleán an Bharraigh – Castlebar Street Festival, a Heritage Day as part of Westport Music Festival, Samhain Abhainn – Hallowe’en Festival in Ballina, Croí na Nollag – Castlebar’s Christmas Festival and Shop n’ Spraoi na Nollag in Westport.

Gnó Mhaigh Eo also assisted a number of businesses with funding applications for Foras na Gaeilge’s 50-50 funding under their Signage and Business Materials Schemes.



Music Workshop for Children in the Puball Gaeilge at Shop ‘n’ Spraoi na Nollag, Westport

Other areas addressed by the Irish Language Officer include:

- Provide information to the public in relation to Irish language and cultural events, classes etc.
- Provide support to Irish Language, Gaeltacht and Community Groups as required
- Provide support and advice regarding translation service providers
- Liaise with translation service providers
- Liaise with Mayo Regional Training Centre, Ionad na dTeangacha Maynooth and Mayo VEC re. Irish Language Training
- Promote Foras na Gaeilge's Grant Schemes, meet and advise groups on applications as required

Water Safety

With its enormous coastline including 13 Blue Flag beaches, and an abundance of pristine inland waterways, water safety has always been a priority for Mayo County Council.

A total of 24 lifeguards were employed by Mayo County Council during the period June – September 2011 and they were located at the most popular areas for outdoor water based activities in the county. They were as follows :

Bertra, Westport
Old Head, Louisburgh
Carramore, Louisburgh
Carrowniskey, Louisburgh
Ross, Killala
Belmullet Shore Rd. Pool

Keem, Achill
Keel, Achill
Silver Strand, Dugort, Achill
Golden Strand, Dugort, Achill
Mulranny

The provision of the lifeguard service ensures the safety of the all those who visit Mayo's waterways where there is an impeccable safety record since the inception of the service in the mid 1970's

In 2011 Mayo County Council's programme of provision of defibrillators at all lifeguard stations throughout the county was completed. All lifeguards employed by Mayo County Council in 2011 were fully qualified as AED operators at induction training.

Besides the employment of lifeguards and 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 each year includes the following locations:

Belmullet , Charlestown, Kilmovee & Ballyhaunis Pools
Lacken Pier
Belderrig Pier
Aughleam, Blacksod
Rinroe, Carratigue
Clare Island
Inishturk

Over 1,500 water safety certificates issued to those who participated on these courses in 2011.

These courses are the breeding ground for the next generation of lifeguards who will be looking for employment with Mayo County Council in the future.



The replacement of ringbuoys, which are either vandalised, damaged or stolen, is an annual

issue for local authorities. A new website **ringbuoys.ie** was launched by Irish Water Safety in 2011, where any member of the public can report missing or damaged ringbuoys to local authorities. 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 immediately.



Mayo Co. Co. Beach Lifeguard team 2011, pictured at Old Head, Louisburgh, at induction training.

Energy Usage in 2011

Overview of Energy Usage in 2011

The main energy users at Mayo County Council are Water and Waste Treatment services accounting for approx 70% of total Consumption. All other regional services including administration buildings account for the balance 30% of consumption. In general consumption trends are downwards due to reduced demand and improved efficiency initiatives in social housing upgrades & Leisure facility upgrades during 2011.

In 2011, *Mayo County Council* consumed in the region of 32,287 MWh of energy, consisting of:

- 24,306 MWh of electricity; (Electricity & Natural Gas NPS Tendering in 2011)
- 7,688 MWh of fossil fuels, including (Natural Gas, LPG, Heating Oil & Transport fuels)
- 293 MWh of renewable fuels (wood Pellet).

Actions Undertaken in 2011

In 2010 Mayo County Council undertook a range of initiatives to improve our energy performance, including:

- Energy Upgrade to Ballina & Westport leisure facilities Fabric (Wall, Roof & Glazing) Insulation upgrade, high efficiency Oil boiler upgrade, BMS to monitor & control heating systems, which will save an estimated 90MWh
- Insulation & Heating Upgrades to housing stock in Newport under the Social Housing Investment Programme 'SHIP' will save an estimated saving 300MWh
- Regional Water services Monitoring & Metering upgrade which will save an estimated 200MWh

Altogether, these and other energy saving measures are saving Mayo County Council 590 MWh annually.

Actions Planned for 2012

In 2012 and beyond Mayo County Council intends to further improve our energy performance by undertaking the following initiatives:

- Conversion of Regional Office, Library & Swimming Pool (Castlebar) to high efficiency Natural Gas boiler, which will save an (estimated saving 340MWh)

- Feasibility study for installation of energy efficient lighting upgrades at our headquarters and Regional offices (estimated saving 120 MWh)
- Feasibility study for installation of Biomass Heating system at selected Regional office (Community Heat project for Belmullet Regional office & urban environs)
- Insulation & Heating Upgrades to housing stock (Ballycastle 22 units) under the SHIP which will save an estimated 300MWh annually
- Feasibility study for installation of Water pumping systems to improve efficiency
- Application for support funding to install Energy efficient Public Lighting - Pilot project public Lighting for Crossmolina under the BEW scheme (estimated 30% saving on Energy consumption)

NDA Accessibility Award

Mayo County Council received an award for commitment to accessibility in the NDA Accessibility Awards in Ballina Civic Offices
- National Disability Authority commends accessibility advances in Public Sector



Mayo County Council received the top award from the National Disability Authority (NDA), in recognition of the *Excellence* level achievement reached by **Ballina Civic Offices** in integrating accessibility into the provision of services to the public. The *Excellence through Accessibility (EtA) Awards* were held at Department of Education and Skills in Dublin in February 2011. The integration of accessibility into the design and provision of services enables people with disabilities access to the public services with ease.

In total thirteen awards were presented to public bodies around Ireland. Two awards were made at the “Excellence” level, one of which went to Ballina Civic Offices; eight public bodies achieved the ‘Quality’ standard; and two bodies received an award for their commitment to accessibility. This is indicative of public bodies continued commitment to embedding accessibility into the very heart of their operations.

Pictured above, collecting the Award at the Dept. of Education, Dublin, are M/s Kevin Keegan, Ex. Architect, Aidan Mulvihill, Mrs. Frances McAndrew, Méara, Ballina Town Council, Mary Gordon, Accessibility Committee Team members, and Paddy Mahon, Director of Services.

Contact Details

HEADQUARTERS:

**Áras an Chontae,
The Mall,
Castlebar.**

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

AREA OFFICES:

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

FIRE BRIGADE & SERVICES:

Fire Brigade Headquarters
Humbert Way
Castlebar

Tel (094) 9021211
Fax 094) 9024137
E-mail fire@mayococo.ie

Fire Brigades (in case of emergency)
Ballina, Ballinrobe, Ballyhaunis, Béal an Mhuirthead, Castlebar, Charlestown,
Claremorris, Crossmolina, Gob an Choire, Kiltimagh, Swinford, Westport 999 or 112

COUNTY LIBRARY:

Mayo Library Headquarters
John Moore Rd.
Castlebar
Co. Mayo

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

Branch Libraries:

Castlebar Library	
Tel	(094) 9047959
Fax	(094) 9026491
Acaill	(098) 20910
Ballina Library	(096) 22180
Ballinrobe Library	(094) 9541896
Ballyhaunis Library	(094) 9630161
Béal an Mhuirthead Library	(097) 82374
Charlestown Library	(094) 9255934
Claremorris Library	(094) 9371666
Crossmolina Library	(096) 31939
Kiltimagh Library	(094) 9381786
Louisburgh	(098) 66658
Swinford Library	(094) 9252065
Westport Library	(098) 25747
Foxford Library	(094) 9256040
Clare Island	(098) 29838
Kilkelly Library	(094) 9367758

MAYO CHILDCARE COMMITTEE:

Chambers House, Ellison St, Castlebar (094) 9047010

SWIMMING POOLS:

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

WATERWORKS CARETAKERS:

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

TOWN COUNCILS:

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

CIVIC AMENITY SITES:

Derrinmera

(098) 41632

Rathroen

(096) 24055/(096) 75959