

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo
Mayo County Council



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Cllr Michael Smyth
CATHAOIRLEACH Mayo
County Council

Bhí sé de phribhléid agam ionadaíocht a dhéanamh thar ceann an Chontae seo mar Chathaoirleach Chomhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo. Ba mhaith liom buíochas ar leith a ghabháil le gach uile dhuine a chuidigh liom ar an aistear seo an bhliain seo a chuaigh thart, go háirithe mo chlann, mo bhean chéile a bhí taobh thiar díom i gcónaí i rith an ama, na Comhairleoirí, agus na hOifigigh Feidhmiúcháin.

The Annual Report for 2021 is an opportunity to reflect on the challenges and successes we encountered as a local authority. Having come through a period that will be remembered by generations to follow, when a pandemic brought mankind to its knees and forced us to embrace change in such a short space of time. This experience will not be lost on us as we embrace the huge challenges that climate change and energy production have now foisted upon us.

Adapting to meeting the needs of our service users in a Covid environment we embraced change, and as our established ways of working and delivering services were challenged, we found new ways to meet the needs of the people of County Mayo. We delivered much needed government support while continuing to deliver on major infrastructural projects in the County including the N5, the N17/R320 Junction, the R312 Glenisland Scheme and the N26 realignment at Cloongullane.

History has taught us that while we continue to negotiate the terms of climate action, our inaction only compounds the problems we encounter. The delivery of our County Development Plan is a step in the right direction, positioning County Mayo well for what will be a revolution in renewable technologies. I want to thank the executive and the planners, as well as my councillor colleagues who invested so much time in delivering the Plan within the time frames we set.

As we overcame the challenges of COVID through the spirit of collaboration and community cohesion at work, we were once again asked to step up and meet the demand for social and affordable housing. I would like to acknowledge the work of the Community Response Forum established so speedily in Mayo ensuring that agencies, community and voluntary groups worked in partnership for the greater good of the County and its people. It was my great honour to present the Cathaoirleach's Awards in 2021 to so many deserving community groups and activists. I want to also thank the many people who work in our CE, TUS and RSS schemes, they provide invaluable support to us as a local authority.

As Cathaoirleach, I want to thank the staff of the organisation working right around the County. Their dedication and professionalism exemplify the important public service provided by Mayo County Council. I want to welcome our new Chief Executive Kevin Kelly and thank him personally for his help and support. I want to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of our Management Team and on behalf of my colleagues to thank them for supporting us through another challenging year. Finally, the burden was certainly lightened knowing I had the support of my Councillor colleagues whose diligence and commitment to their vocation of public representation has made the lives of our citizens better and positioned the County well for the future.

Finally, I want to mention our Diaspora all over the world who take such pride in our shared heritage. It is important that we continue to reconnect with them and build on the alliances that we have created.

Cllr Michael Smyth
CATHAOIRLEACH
Mayo County Council



Kevin Kelly
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
Mayo County Council

I welcome the publication of the Annual Report for 2021 which details the Council's further progress in delivering on our strategic priorities and highlights the ongoing valuable work, and some of the many achievements, of this Council during the year.

The work and achievements of Mayo County Council are enhanced by working in partnership with a variety of stakeholders and I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge them for their on-going support and cooperation.

The positive impact that Mayo County Council has on Mayo is underpinned by significant funding which enabled Mayo County Council to have Revenue Expenditure of €184,359,829 and Capital Expenditure of €126,545,945 in 2021.

Mayo County Council continued to administer a range of significant government supports to assist local business and communities in the response to Covid -19 and the direct financial support provided by Government to Mayo County Council is also acknowledged.

While 2021 was impacted by the Covid pandemic particularly in the earlier part of the year every effort was made to continue with service delivery and the maintaining of our services and I would like to thank the Management Team and Staff for the way in which they continued to adapt to a new way of working and the challenges that were presented. The Annual Report highlights the increased level and diversity of services now being delivered by local authorities on behalf of several Government Departments and in addition to traditional infrastructure and services there has been increasing levels of activity in Community, Sports, Tourism, Broadband, Arts, Enterprise, Urban Regeneration and Smarter Travel to name but a few.

More traditional service areas also saw an increase in the level of activity including the delivery of 737 housing solutions under Rebuilding Ireland 2016 - 2021, increased pre-planning, planning application and enforcement activity and the progression of a number of significant roads projects including the N5, the N17/R320 Junction, the R312 Glenisland Bridge and the N26 realignment at Cloongullane.

Mayo's continued success in attracting funding under various Government Initiatives continued with the announcement of €11m in Urban Regeneration and Development Fund funding for the Castlebar Historic Core Reactivation and Regeneration Initiative. While a negative outcome in respect of ORIS Funding audits impacted the advancement and funding of projects the total capital programme for DRCD and similar grant funded programmes extended to €181m with projects at varying stages of advancement.

Finally, I would like acknowledge the assistance and support of the Cathaoirleach, Cllr Michael Smyth and his predecessor Cllr Richard Finn, and I would like to thank all of the Elected Members for their support since I commenced in the post of Chief Executive in May 2021.

Kevin Kelly
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
Mayo County Council

MISSION STATEMENT

.....

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

VISION

.....

"a county that is sustainable, inclusive, prosperous and proud"



Mayo County Council is at the heart of local community, we are a key provider of economic and social development in the county, by delivering vital local services that are central to the quality of life for the people that we represent proudly.

As the leading public sector body, we also support and facilitate those who are responsible for providing key public services. When we deliver our responsibilities, they can deliver their obligations, we are always mindful of this so that we can effectively deliver on our commitments to make County Mayo, Sustainable, Inclusive, Prosperous and Proud.

Our Corporate Plan was devised as a guide in delivering our commitments to the people of County Mayo. It sets out our mission, as the democratic body, of how we work and how we measure our efforts so that the end result transparently demonstrates the successes achieved for our communities.

Mayo County Council is community centred and people focused. Our Councillors represent the people of the county, and our staff is part of the Mayo community. All people and parts of this combined effort to achieve a positive contribution to the continuous and ongoing development of County Mayo.

A successful Mayo requires a successful Council, our Corporate Plan is a cornerstone in devising, tracking and implementing successful aspirations for the County.

COUNTY COUNCILLORS

BALLINA MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



Annie May Reape
CATHAOIRLEACH
FF



Mark Duffy
LEAS-CATHAOIRLEACH
NP



Michael Loftus
FF



Jarlath Munnelly
FG



John O'Hara
FG



Seamus Weir
NP

CASTLEBAR MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



Martin McLoughlin
CATHAOIRLEACH
FF



Al McDonnell
LEAS-CATHAOIRLEACH
FF



Cyril Burke
FG



Ger Deere
FG



Blackie K Gavin
FF



Michael Kilcoyne
NP



Donna Sheridan
FG

CLAREMORRIS SWINFORD MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



Neil Cruise
CATHAOIRLEACH
FG



John Cribbin
LEAS-CATHAOIRLEACH
FG



Michael Burke
FG



John Caulfield
FF



Tom Connolly
FG



Richard Finn
NP



Gerry Murray
SF



Patsy O'Brien
NP



Damien Ryan
FF



Michael Smyth
FF

WESTPORT BELMULLET MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



Brendan Mulroy
CATHAOIRLEACH
FF



Paul McNamara
LEAS-CATHAOIRLEACH
FF



Sean Carey
FF



Gerry Coyle
FG



Peter Flynn
FG



Christy Hyland
NP



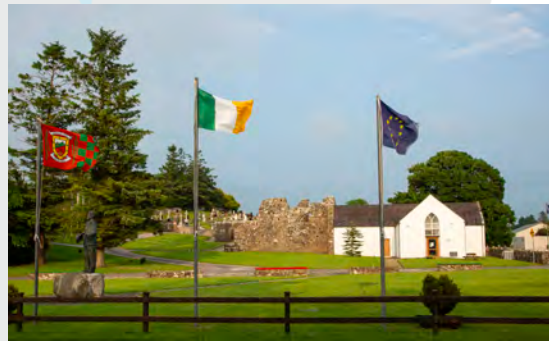
John O'Malley
NP

MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS

Ballina Municipal District



Castlebar Municipal District



Claremorris Swinford Municipal District



Westport Belmullet Municipal District





BALLINA MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



2021
HIGHLIGHTS



151 GRANTS APPROVED
IN BALLINA MD UNDER HOUSING GRANT SCHEMES

477



UNITS OF HOUSING STOCK IN THE MD

€1.048 MILLION



COLLECTED BY BALLINA MOTOR TAX OFFICE WITH 6,986 TRANSACTIONS

FUNDING OF **€1,672,904** APPROVED FOR BALLINA MD PROJECTS INCLUDING



ACTIVE TRAVEL INITIATIVES, WORKS AT BELLEEK GATE LODGE, A TOWN CENTRE PLAN FOR **KILLALA** AND AN OUTDOOR PERFORMANCE SPACE AT **BECKETT'S HOUSE**



24 PERMANENT TENANCIES ALLOCATED

NEW WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT IN



KILLALA OPENED

REPRESENTATIVES FROM SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL REMOTELY JOINED THE JANUARY 2021 MEETING OF BALLINA MD ON **PRESIDENT BIDEN'S** INAUGURATION DAY



ACTIVE TRAVEL FUNDING FOR **KILLALA R314** AND PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS IN **CROSSMOLINA** AND **BALLINA**



TO MARK THE END OF **COP 26** THE **MAYO CLIMATE ACTION GATHERING** WAS ORGANISED WITH BALLINA GREEN TOWN

5 REBUILDING IRELAND HOME LOAN APPLICATIONS APPROVED



BALLINA TIDY TOWNS WIN TIDY TOWNS COVID -19 COMMUNITY REGIONAL AWARD



DURING 2021



CASTLEBAR MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



2021
HIGHLIGHTS



171 GRANTS APPROVED
TOTTALING **€773,547** IN THE CASTLEBAR
MD UNDER HOUSING GRANT SCHEMES

418

UNITS
OF HOUSING
STOCK IN THE MD



**BOFEENAUN
PLAYGROUND**
OFFICIALLY
OPENED IN JUNE 2021



€350,000 APPROVED FOR
UNDER LEADER AND CROSS
BORDER CO-OPERATION
PROGRAMMES FOR



WORKS AT **MOOREHALL** INCLUDING
RESTORATION OF THE WALLED GARDEN AND
VISITOR FACILITIES

27 TENANCIES ALLOCATED



47 HOUSING
ASSISTANCE
PAYMENT (HAP)
TENANCIES SET UP

WITH **27** NEW RAS PLACEMENTS

€2.5 MILLION FUNDING
FOR CASTLEBAR
URBAN GREENWAY
LINK PROJECT



COUNCILLORS EACH AGREED
€41,000 GENERAL

MUNICIPAL ALLOCATION
TO FUND CLUBS, COMMUNITIES,
FESTIVAL & EVENTS &
RESIDENTS ASSOCIATIONS



MINISTER OF STATE
HILDEGARDE NAUGHTON TD
PERFORMED THE OFFICIAL
OPENING OF THE
**R312 GLENISLAND
SCHEME** IN NOVEMBER 2021



225KM OF COMMUNITY
HEDGE CUTTING SCHEMES
IN **31** LOCATIONS



LEISURE CENTRE AT LOUGH LANNAGH
RECEIVES NATIONAL QUALITY
STANDARD OUTSTANDING AWARD

WORK PROGRESSES ON
THE TURLOUGH TO
WESTPORT ROAD PROJECT **N5**



**1 REBUILDING
IRELAND** HOME LOAN
APPLICATION APPROVED



DURING
2021

VIEW THE COMPLETE CASTLEBAR MUNICIPAL
DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT 2021 IN APPENDIX 1



CLAREMORRIS SWINFORD MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



2021
HIGHLIGHTS

243 GRANTS APPROVED



TOTALLING **€1.219 MILLION**

IN THE CLAREMORRIS SWINFORD MD
UNDER HOUSING GRANT SCHEMES

HOUSING
ALLOCATED TO
THOSE ON THE
WAITING LIST AT A
NEW
DEVELOPMENT IN



SWINFORD

HISTORIC IRON WORK
RESORATION AND
REPAIR UNDERTAKEN AT
ST MARY'S CHURCH OF
IRELAND GRAVEYARD



BALLINROBE



4 COMMUNITY
INVOLVEMENT SCHEMES
COMPLETED AT

**GORTGARVE, CLOONAGASHEL,
BLOOMFIELD & CLAREMOUNT**
AT A VALUE OF €360,00

NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS
CONSTRUCTED AT



BALLINROBE
AND
BALLYHAUNIS

51 LOCAL
IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES
COMPLETED AT A COST
OF **€309,000**



€700,000 GENERAL
MUNICIPAL ALLOCATION
TO FUND RESIDENTS
ASSOCIATIONS, CLUBS &
COMMUNITY GROUPS,



FESTIVAL & EVENTS & BURIAL GROUND
COMMITTEES



CONSTRUCTION WORKS
STARTED ON THE **N26**
CLOONGULLANE
BRIDGE WITH A TOTAL
COST OF CIRCA
€20 MILLION

CIRCA **€3.7 million** IN
FUNDING FOR **ACTIVE TRAVEL**
PROJECTS IN FOXFORD,
CLAREMORRIS, BALLINROBE
AND BALLYHAUNIS



9 **REBUILDING**

IRELAND HOME LOAN
APPLICATIONS
APPROVED
TO A
VALUE OF
€625,700





**WESTPORT BELMULLET
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT**



2021
HIGHLIGHTS

202 GRANTS APPROVED



TOTALLING **€1.129 MILLION**
IN THE WESTPORT BELMULLET MD
UNDER HOUSING GRANT SCHEMES

13

NEW LEASING
AGREEMENTS
ENTERED INTO IN
2021



PLAYGROUNDS AT
MULRANNY AND
ACHILL SOUND
AND MUGA AT
CORCLOUGH
COMPLETED



A PIONEERING INITIATIVE
DEPLOYED **OLD IRISH**
GOATS TO TACKLE THE
INVASIVE PLANT
GUNNERA
TINCTORIA FOR THE
FIRST TIME IN IRELAND



37 TENANCIES ALLOCATED



29 HOUSING
ASSISTANCE
PAYMENT (HAP)
TENANCIES SET UP

WITH **1** NEW RAS PLACEMENT

NEW
WAITING
ROOM
PROVIDED AT

**ROONAGH
PIER**



€490,00 GENERAL
MUNICIPAL ALLOCATION
TO FUND ARTS & CULTURE,
PROMOTION OF THE REGION,
COMMUNITY GROUPS,
FESTIVAL & EVENTS & MATCH FUNDING



EXPENDITURE OF
€990,000
ON SURFACE DRESSING
€ 4.678 MILLION ON
STRENGTHENING OF LOCAL &
REGIONAL ROADS
IN THE MD



10 BLUE FLAGS
AWARDED TO MD
BEACHES

WORK PROGRESSES ON
THE TURLOUGH TO
WESTPORT ROAD PROJECT

N5



4 REBUILDING

IRELAND HOME LOAN
APPLICATIONS
APPROVED
TO A
VALUE OF
€455,689



STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES

Corporate, Education, Culture, Heritage and Library Services SPC

Cllr Gerry Coyle

(Chair)

met 4 times during 2021

The work programme of the Corporate, Education, Culture, Heritage and Library Services SPC

included:

- ➔ Agreement of Priority Actions for 2021.
- ➔ Development of a Programme of Events for 2021 in accordance with the Mayo Commemoration Strategy 2013-2023
- ➔ Continuous development of Mayo Library Services
- ➔ Implementation of Mayo County Council Strategic Arts Plan 2018-2022
- ➔ Implementation of Scéim Teanga Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo

Economic Development, Enterprise Support, Planning and the Marine SPC

Cllr Mark Duffy

(Chair)

met 5 times during 2021

The work programme of the Economic Development, Enterprise Support, Planning and the Marine SPC included:

- ➔ Local Enterprise Office progress
- ➔ Mayo County Council Business Support Scheme
- ➔ National Broadband Plan and the rollout of Rural Broadband in Mayo
- ➔ Enterprise and Investment Projects

Housing SPC

Cllr John Cribbin

(Chair)

met 4 times during 2021

The work programme of the Housing SPC included:

- ➔ Housing Delivery 2020
- ➔ Housing Capital Projects underway in the county
- ➔ Revised Housing Allocation Scheme
- ➔ Refugee Resettlement Programme
- ➔ Repair & Leasing and Buy & Renew Schemes
- ➔ Housing Disability Strategy
- ➔ Differential Rent Scheme

Environment, Climate Action, Agriculture & Emergency Services SPC

Cllr B K Gavin

(Chair)

met 5 times during 2021

The work programme of the Environment, Climate Action, Agriculture & Emergency Services SPC included:

- ➔ Climate Ready Mayo - Climate Adaptation Plan
- ➔ Sustainable Agricultural Strategy for Mayo
- ➔ To consider submission report on Draft Waste Collection Bye Laws
- ➔ To nominate four members to the Mayo County Council Agricultural Working Group
- ➔ To nominate the Chair of the Mayo County Council Agricultural Working Group

Road Transportation and Safety SPC

Cllr Damien Ryan

(Chair)

met 4 times during 2021

The work programme of the Road Transportation and Safety SPC included:

- ➔ Road Grants Allocation 2019
- ➔ Roadworks Scheme 2019
- ➔ Winter Services Plan 2019/2020
- ➔ Regional Road Improvements
- ➔ Public Lighting Initiatives
- ➔ Presentation on Local Link Mayo
- ➔ Hedge Cutting Forum
- ➔ Road Safety

Tourism, Recreation, Food & Community Engagement SPC

Cllr Seamus Weir

(Chair)

met 5 times during 2021

The work programme of the Tourism, Recreation, Food and Community Engagement SPC included:

- ➔ The implementation of 'Destination Mayo - A Strategy for the Future Development of Tourism in County Mayo 2016 - 2021'
- ➔ Consideration of funding sources for projects
- ➔ Tourism Marketing of County Mayo



PLANNING, HUMAN RESOURCES, COMMUNICATIONS, INFORMATION SYSTEMS, CORPORATE AFFAIRS & ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES

IN THIS SECTION

Castlebar Regional Training Centre

Corporate Development

Property Portfolio & Asset Management

Communications

Oifig na Gaeilge

Road Safety Awareness

Architects

Mayo County Library

Mayo Heritage Office

Planning & Development, Planning Enforcement & Building Control

Information Services & Digital Transformation



Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo
Mayo County Council



CASTLEBAR REGIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

Castlebar Regional Training Centre continues to provide workplace training on a shared services basis for six local authorities and other public and private sector organisations in the West and Midlands, with Mayo County Council as the lead authority.



The training provided is to the highest standard. The facility which has accreditation from SOLAS, QQI, City & Guilds and ECITB, grew consistently over the years up to 2019.

Covid -19 understandably resulted in a curtailment of training in 2020 and 2021. However, after the easing of restrictions since September 2021, productivity increased dramatically and has now surpassed 2019 levels. A total of 4,794 training days were delivered in 2021 with a turnover of €1,130,442.

Established to facilitate the provision of appropriate training to local authorities in key operational areas such as Roads, Water and Environment and more recently Fire Services, Housing and Planning, the Training Centre Network also provides a wide range of Occupational Health and Safety, Continuing Professional Development, Leadership and ICT courses.

Many local authorities now have quality assurance such as OHSAS 18000/ISO 45000 accreditation and the Centre has high quality procurement, data protection and quality assurance standards.

Work has commenced on a new €2.9m outdoor training facility at Saleen in Castlebar, and Minister of State at the Department of Transport, Hildegard Naughton visited the site in October 2021 (pictured above) to view the development. The tender was awarded to T.H. Contractors Ltd., and work is progressing well. It is expected that the centre will open in early 2023. When in place, this will be a great resource for this region, with the Regional Training Centre in a position to provide a full range of practical roads and machinery courses and a greater range of other practical courses at present only available outside of this region.

With recovery in the construction industry and demand from the private sector and new local authority staff, the demand for quality training is expected to increase, and Castlebar Regional Training Centre looks forward to a very positive future.

CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT

The Corporate Development Section manages a range of services to the public and councillors and is also responsible for corporate planning and policy. The section provides administrative support for meetings of the Council. Members expenses and remuneration are also managed here.



Corporate Development oversees the Freedom of Information Unit, requests under GDPR, the Ethics and Electoral Registers, Ombudsman Liaison, Customer Services and the administration of the Audit Committee. The Risk Register for the organisation is also maintained by the section and updated on a quarterly basis and the section oversees insurance management including coordination with IPB on insurance claims, court cases and settlements. The section also coordinates the collation of data throughout the organisation for the local government annual performance indicators which are published by the National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC) as part of the annual Local Authority Performance Indicator Report. The 2021 Performance Indicators may be found in Appendix 6 to this report.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

Mayo County Council is a public body which is subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2014 which allows for the right to request access to records. The Freedom of Information unit deals with requests for records held by Mayo County Council from members of the public, journalists and organisations. The Act also requires the publication of disclosure logs, showing non-personal requests made to the Council, and decisions on those requests. The disclosure log is published quarterly on www.mayo.ie. A total of 141 requests were received by Mayo County Council during 2021 with the breakdown of decisions set out in table below:

Table 1: Freedom of Information Activity 2021

DECISION	NUMBER
Requests Granted	57
Requests Part-Granted	48
Requests Refused	18
Requests Withdrawn	1
Requests Transferred	0
Requests handled outside FOI Process	17

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR)

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), under Article 15, gives individuals the right to request a copy of any of their personal data which are being processed by 'controllers' (i.e. those who decide how and why data are processed), as well as other relevant information. These requests are often referred to as 'data subject access requests', or 'access requests'. These requests are dealt with by the Data Protection Officer which totalled 10 for 2021.

OMBUDSMAN REFERRALS

There were 24 cases referred by the Office of the Ombudsman to Mayo County Council in 2021.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Mayo County Council values engagement with customers and the customer service team continue to provide efficient answering or referral of queries for customers via the front desk or by phone services. EngHouse technology, introduced in 2020 provides integration with the Teams platform and provides detailed call analytics. An average of 220 calls daily are fielded by the customer service team. The e-mail addresses customerservice@mayococo.ie and info@mayo.ie also continue to be a central point of access to information for customers.

ETHICS FRAMEWORK COMPLIANCE

The Ethics Registrar is responsible for the issue of annual declaration forms to councillors and relevant employees from which an Ethics Register is compiled and available for public inspection as provided for by the Local Government Act 2001.

The Elected Members are obliged to complete and return Disclosure of Donation Statement under the Local Elections Act 1999. All statements were returned within the deadline date of 31st January 2022.

PROPERTY PORTFOLIO & ASSET MANAGEMENT

Mayo County Council holds and manages many property assets as a means of responding to and providing for the diverse and evolving needs of the community now and into the future.

Property related supports and advisory services are provided to other sections within Mayo County Council including conveyancing of sales, purchases and leases, Section 183s, land-related queries, insurance, health and safety and facility management, allowing for the efficient and effective management of Mayo County Council's non-housing land assets.

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- › Property Protocol Implementation.
- › Creation of lease registers with alert systems.
- › Creation of digital property register with data analytics system.
- › Facility management including Fire Safety and Covid.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Communications Department of Mayo County Council had a productive 2021 focused on achieving the key communications priorities and objectives for Mayo County Council, while amplifying the activities that take place within the county to a wider audience. The Department played a leading role in the communications around the local authority response to the Covid-19 pandemic.



Striving to improve the quality and reach of public information about council services, events, activities and policies, the Communications Department is responsible for the syndication of all external communications of Mayo County Council, enhancing internal communications within the organisation, promoting the county brand, Mayo.ie, and the delivery of the services of the Irish Office/Oifig na Gaeilge and the Road Safety Awareness programme.

Key activities in 2021 included:

- PR and media management of Council services and projects including the issuing of press releases, answering queries from local and national media and drafting speeches.
- The development and roll-out of the inaugural **Cathaoirleach's Awards**. These new civic awards, recognise the dedication and efforts of the many community volunteer groups at work in County Mayo, who were celebrated in an Awards Night in early 2022.
- Playing a central role in Mayo County Council's response to Covid-19 and the roll out of the Government Plan for Living with Covid-19: Resilience and Recovery 2020-2021 locally as part of the team set up to oversee Council activities in light of the pandemic.
- Running proactive social media campaigns promoting Mayo's involvement in national calls such as Healthy Ireland, the Keep Well campaign, #StayAtHome, MyWaste Ireland anti-litter campaigns and Irish Water Safety Awareness campaigns amongst others.
- Launched the new Council intranet, **Connect**, a fresh and vibrant new resource for staff, which continues to be updated with news, features and departmental resources.
- Researched and developed content for Mayo County Council's involvement in the national #YourCouncilDay campaign – shining a national spotlight on the great work being done by this council at a grassroots level, with a number of video pieces produced for 2021.
- Mayo Day 2021** was marked with a unique collaboration with TG4. **Mayo Day – Ár bPobal, Our people**, broadcast on **TG4** and simultaneously on TG4 player worldwide showcasing the very best of Mayo's Peoples and Places.
- The Communications Department worked with many sections within Mayo County Council to provide advice and support for events, official visits, launches and campaigns, with a lot of focus was on virtual events broadcast through www.mayo.ie. In early 2021, the Corporate Advertising function moved to the Communications Department.
- We continued to update the **Mayo County Council Image Library** with images of the work, people, events and openings of the vital services that Mayo County Council provides.
- Continual development and growth for **Mayo.ie** and **Mayo County Council** social media platforms to enhance our position as the trusted channel to provide citizens with regular and reliable Council service announcements. **Mayo.ie** continues to lead the way as the focal point for all things Mayo and a connection point for our Diaspora, with **MayoCoCo.ie** continuing to receive high engagement due to consistent information disseminated during events like extreme weather spells, Covid-19 updates, road closure announcements, interruptions to water supply and general council services updates.
- Continued roll out of the updated **Mayo County Council** branding.

Mayo Day 2021 reached new heights this year through the delivery of a range of high-quality productions over the Mayo Day weekend. An analysis of online activity showed a staggering reach of in excess of 36.1million for #mayoday.

The flagship offering for Mayo Day 2021 was a collaboration project with TG4. ‘Mayo Day – Ár bPobal, Our People’, broadcast on TG4 and simultaneously on TG4 player worldwide.

Beautifully filmed locations around Mayo provided the backdrops for performances and

interviews, with additional filming at the National Museum of Ireland – Country Life at Turlough Park near Castlebar. Performances included an extraordinary specially commissioned collaboration between Matt Molloy of The Chieftains and harpist Laoise Kelly, Billow Wood, Lisa Canny and David and Kieran Munnelly. The programme concluded with the launch of the ‘Home to Mayo’ initiative, and the extension of a heart-warming video invitation to the show’s global audience to visit Mayo for a very special series of events being organised in May 2022 as part of the Global Irish Festival Series.



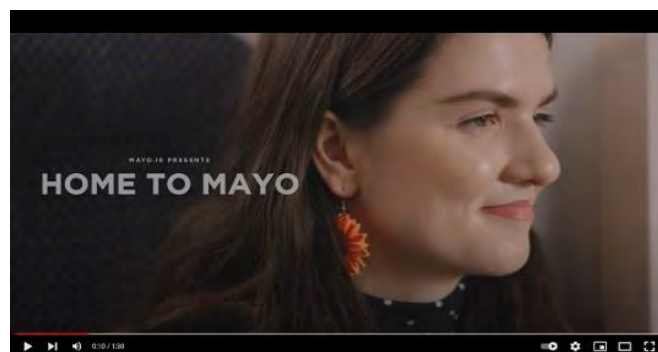
2021 HIGHLIGHTS

➤ 2021 marked the inaugural annual Mayo County Council **Cathaoirleach’s Awards**. These new civic awards recognise the dedication and efforts of the many community volunteer groups at work in County Mayo, who were celebrated in an Awards Night in early 2022.

➤ Following a competitive call out process, €100,000 in funding was secured through the **Fáilte Ireland Global Irish Festival Series** for a month-long calendar of events to take place to encourage our Diaspora to return home to visit Mayo under the **Home to Mayo Initiative**. The initiative was officially launched during 2021, with a ongoing intensive campaign encouraging our Diaspora to return home for events taking place throughout May 2022.

➤ Five Mayo County Council initiatives were shortlisted as finalists for the **2021 LAMA Awards**, Protect Our Dunes Campaign, Light up for Road Safety, Mayo Decarbonising Communities along with **Mayo Day – Ár bPobal, Our People** and the **Clew Bay Bike Trail** which took Gold and Bronze awards in their respective categories. One further initiative was shortlisted for the **2021 Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards**, Mayo A World Class place to do Business.

➤ **Virtual St Patricks Day Celebrations:** Due to Covid-19 restrictions no physical parades took place throughout the County. In celebration of our National Day, the Department led out on the presentation of a Virtual St. Patrick’s Day 2021, providing an opportunity for people at home and abroad to enjoy a trip down memory lane with a wide selection of images, videography and memorabilia from parades around the County and overseas in times gone by. The presentation of Mayo’s festivities was accessible through the Mayo.ie website together with an array of activity on Mayo County Council’s social media channels culminating in a Live show ‘**The Story of St Patrick**’ which was broadcast on Mayo.ie



2021 IN NUMBERS

The Mayo.ie website had a total of **1,091,082** page visits in 2021, a **4.5%** increase on 2020

Social Media followers increased by **18%** from **2020**

On Mayo day, a record-breaking day of online interaction across social media saw Mayo people globally, get involved, with initial analysis of online activity showing a staggering reach of in excess of **36.1million** for #mayoday.

OIFIG NA GAEILGE

Tá sé de chuspóir ag Oifig na Gaeilge úsáid na Gaeilge i gContae Mhaigh Eo a chothú agus a chur chun cinn. Tá ról tábhachtach aici chomh maith maidir le Scéim Teanga na Comhairle a fhorbairt agus a chur i bhfeidhm.

Oifig na Gaeilge seeks to sustain and promote the use of Irish in County Mayo and plays an important role in the development and implementation of Mayo County Council's Language Scheme.



I dteannta le feabhas a chur ar leibhéal na seirbhíse a chuireann Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo ar fáil trí mheán na Gaeilge, leanann an Chomhairle ag cur Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla, 2003 agus Scéim Teanga Chomhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo i bhfeidhm. Cuireann Oifig na Gaeilge foireann na Comhairle ar an eolas faoi na dualgais i leith na teanga, déantar obair aistriúcháin, tugtar comhairle i leith leaganacha cearta de logainmneacha le húsáid ar chomharthaí bóthair, agus déantar cinnte de go mbíonn suíomhanna gréasáin agus foilseacháin, foirmeacha iarratais, bileoga eolais agus cáipéisí áirithe eile ar fáil sa dá theanga oifigiúla. Ina theannta sin, oibríonn Oifig na Gaeilge go dlúth le heagraíochtaí eile Gaeilge agus cultúir chun an teanga a chothú agus a chur chun i nGaeltachtaí Mhaigh Eo agus sa chontae trí chéile.

Whilst continuing to improve the level of service available through Irish, Mayo County Council continued to implement the Official Languages Act 2003, and Mayo County Council's Language Scheme. This included informing staff of the Council's obligations regarding the language, undertaking translation work, advising on forms of placenames to be used on road signage, and ensuring that websites and certain publications, forms, information leaflets etc. are available in both official languages. Oifig na Gaeilge also works closely with Irish language and cultural partners to further promote and facilitate the use of the language in the Mayo Gaeltacht and across the wider county.

BUAICPHOINTÍ 2021

- Rinne pobal na Gaeilge ceiliúradh arís ar Lá Mhaigh Eo le neart físeán inar tugadh spleáchadh ar an saibhreas ceoil, cultúr, staire agus teanga atá againn sa chontae. Cuid den cheiliúradh ab ea an clár spleodrach Mayo Day - Ár bPobal, Our People le TG4 inar léiríodh saol bríomhar cultúir agus sóisialta Mhaigh Eo ar an ardán náisiúnta.
- D'eagraigh Oifig na Gaeilge clár leathan imeachtaí ar líne le haghaidh Sheachtain na Gaeilge, ina measc sin seisiún aireachais, scéalaíocht, siúlóid dúlra agus amhránaíocht ar an sean-nós.
- Cúis mhór bhróid dúinn chomh maith ab ea aitheantas a thabhairt do Ghaeilge Iorrais agus do Chiorcal Comhrá Chaisleán an Bharraigh ag searmanas bronnta Ghradam an Chathaoirligh as ucht na hoibre a dhéanann said i gcur chun cinn na teanga sa Ghaeltacht agus sa mhórphobal faoi seach.

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- The Irish language community across Mayo celebrated Lá Mhaigh Eo online once again with numerous video contributions illustrating our rich culture of music, song, history and culture across the county. The celebrations also included an innovative collaboration with TG4 to broadcast the feature programme Mayo Day - Ár bPobal, Our People which showcased Mayo's vibrant social and cultural life through Irish on the national stage.
- Oifig na Gaeilge also organized a wide variety of online Irish language events to celebrate Seachtain na Gaeilge, ranging from sean-nós singing and storytelling, to nature walks and mindfulness.
- We were also delighted to be able to recognize the valued contribution of Gaeilge Iorrais and Chiorcal Cómhra Chaisleán an Bharraigh to the Irish language community in the Gaeltacht and the wider community as part of the inaugural Cathaoirleach's Awards.

ROAD SAFETY AWARENESS

Mayo County Council, in conjunction with the Road Safety Authority, delivers 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 County Mayo



The Road Safety Officer delivers a suite of Road Safety Programmes to the public through schools/colleges, community groups, sporting organisations and local businesses and industries in County Mayo.

The focus of the Road Safety Education programme is vulnerable road users, driver behaviour and attitudes, social responsibility, driving for work, impaired driving and cyclist safety.

The office works with other Departments of Mayo County Council and with the Road Safety Together Committee in the County, comprising of officials of Mayo County Council, HSE West, An Garda Síochána, the Road Safety Authority, and Transport Infrastructure Ireland in the implementation of the Road Safety Strategy.

During the winter period the Road Safety Officer issues daily road safety winter driving tips and advice on the Winter Maintenance Program.

Mayo Road Safety Working Group organises the annual **Mayo Road Safety Roadshow** in annually in conjunction with **Axa**. This has been running since 2007, attracting audiences in excess of **1,500 pupils** from **29+ secondary schools**, including schools from surrounding counties.

A live show was not possible during 2021, however 1,700 + young people participated in a Virtual Roadsafe Show in April 2021.

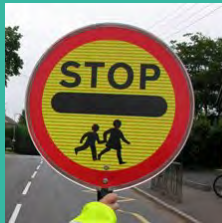
The show includes presentations by members of **An Garda Síochána, the Ambulance and Fire Services, a Medical Consultant based within the A&E Department of Mayo University Hospital, a family member of a deceased road traffic accident victim, a car crash survivor and an Undertaker, outlining their firsthand experience of dealing with a serious road traffic accident. The hard-hitting Roadshow is aimed at transition year students, encouraging young drivers and those about to commence their driving career, to adopt a responsible attitude in terms of their own driving behaviour.**

The Road Safety Education 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 Gardaí and parents, these schemes make a significant contribution to Road Safety. The Road Safety Officer also works with the Road Safety Together Committee in the County, whose membership comprises of County Council, HSE West, An Garda Síochána and local community representatives, to successfully implement of the Mayo Road Safety Strategy.



Promotion of Road Safety in Schools

Mayo County Council provides support to An Garda Síochána when visiting schools by providing leaflets, reflective arm bands and other road safety promotional material. The efforts of the Gardaí and their collaboration in promoting Road Safety generally is greatly appreciated. **Pictured are pupils from Ballintubber National School participating in a speeding awareness event in June 2021.**



Junior Warden Schemes

We support two Junior Warden Schemes in the county; one in Swinford and the other at The Quay National School, Ballina. Uniforms and signs are provided by Mayo County Council. Road markings are updated regularly. Mayo County Council is fortunate to have the the enthusiastic support of the school principals in both areas. Without this it would not be possible to maintain the scheme.



General Promotion Of Road Safety Through Local Media

Mayo County Council operates in support of the Road Safety Authority and also provides general promotion in the local media. During winter the Road Safety Office issues daily winter driving tips and updates about the Winter Maintenance Program. **In 2021, in conjunction with other local authorities in the region, a hugely successful Tik Tok competition focused on Road Safety messaging for young adults, ran on iRadio.**

ROAD COLLISION STATISTICS - MAYO	
YEAR	FATALITIES
2015	13
2016	4
2017	12
2018	9
2019	3
2020	5
2021	3

ARCHITECTS

The Architects Department encompasses a large range of in-house technical expertise incorporating architects, engineers, architectural & civil technicians, horticulturalists, clerks of works and clerical staff located throughout the County.



The Architects Department design & deliver new social housing throughout the county. 2021 saw the delivery of schemes in Bonniconlon, Charlestown, Moygownagh, the Boreen and Deel Court, Crossmolina, and the commencement on site of schemes in Rehins Fort, Ballina, Hollymount, Ballinrobe with other schemes lodged for planning permission county wide.

The Architects Department also manage and maintain the grounds of Turlough Park House, keeping it in the pristine condition that we have come to be familiar with.

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- › The Department advised on technical aspects of the **Defective Concrete Block (Pyrite) Scheme** to the Housing Section to remediate pyrite damage to private houses in Mayo.
- › The **Architectural Conservation Office** within the Architects Department project-managed grant-aided conservation works to structures of architectural significance through the **'Built Heritage Investment Scheme'** including Derrydeveagh House, Newport, Raheens Obelisk, Raheens & Turlough Lodge, Turlough and other structures through the **'Historic Towns Initiative' scheme**.
- › In the Municipal Districts, the Architectural teams are progressing the **Castlebar Historic Core Reactivation and Regeneration Initiative**, the **Ballyhaunis Community Vision** project, the **Newport Regeneration** project and the **Ballina Innovation Quarter**.
- › Capital Works projects in progress are the **Mary Robinson Centre** in Ballina, **Crossmolina Fire Station**, the **Outdoor Regional Training Centre** in Castlebar, the **Westport Civic Offices and Library** (pictured above), and the retiling of **Claremorris Pool**.

2021 IN NUMBERS

3 new playgrounds installed in Bofeenau, Kilmaine and on Inishturk. An extension was provided to the Westport Leisure Playground.

Conservation works were carried out at **5** further locations, the Linenhall, Castlebar, Bowers Walk, Ballinrobe (RRDF), Belleek Gate Lodge, Ballinrobe Library and the Customs House Studios in Westport.

Mayo County Council's Parks Office pioneered the Great Yellow Bumblebee project, which is classified as a European Innovation Project, located on **30** farms in Erris and the Mullet Peninsula.

The Parks Office within the Architects Department have continued to map and trace invasive species, and assist the Architects Department to remove invasive species from our construction sites.

They have also developed a Playground facilities inspection app for the Municipal Districts and have developed a Draft Play and Recreation Strategy for the County.



MAYO COUNTY LIBRARY

The largest cultural or heritage organisation in the county, Mayo libraries attract around 480,000 visits annually. With an extensive cultural programme, over 350 events are hosted by Mayo libraries each year, including a wide range of events for children, culminating with the month-long Children's Book Festival in October.



While online services were open 24/7, in-branch services were limited due to the pandemic for part of 2021, with a limited service reopening in May and a full reopening in late October 2021.

The Creative Ireland Programme continued to be rolled out in 2021. Among the highlights were: documentaries on the ballrooms and music of Mayo and on Michael Davitt; a publication on traditional Mayo food; an exhibition on traveller hair culture; and the digitization of the photographic collection of The Western People from the 1950s and 60s and a traditional iron restoration project.

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

> **Book Magic**, a Library initiative encouraging childhood reading, using picture books that deal with feelings, emotions and tricky situations. Through a network including family support workers, speech and language therapists, family resource centres and more, these have been put directly into the hands of many children throughout County Mayo.

> The **Spring into Storytime** initiative which encourages parents to bring their children for story time sessions, was live again with regular weekly story time sessions on the library's social media channels.

> The **Time to Read** programme which helps children develop a love for reading whilst increasing their confidence and self-esteem is run by volunteers from Mayo County Council staff, who read to children in disadvantaged schools online over a period of 20 weeks.

> Le haghaidh **Sheachtain na Gaeilge** i mí an Mhárta, eagraíodh imeachtaí éagsúla trí mheán na Gaeilge.

> Numerous additions were made to the library website during 2021, including pages on the **Workhouses of Mayo**, folklore and customs, the **Dance Halls of Mayo** and archaeological finds.

> Public consultation on the **Library Development Plan** was carried out during 2021.

> **Healthy Ireland at your Library**, a government strategy which places libraries at the heart of the community, provides resources and events which feed into the national strategy of improving health. A programme of events, covering topics such as mental health, resilience, etc took place online and live in 2021.

> A **Cubbie Sensory Hub** opened in Castlebar Library to help people with sensory impairments, special education needs and other learning difficulties.

> Mayo libraries participated in **Ireland Reads** in February with visits from authors Kate Kerrigan and Faith Hogan, and Mayo footballers Pádraig O'Hara and David Clarke.

> Events to mark **Cruinniú na nÓg**, a day of creativity for younger people took place across Mayo on June 12th.

> **Mikey Daly** from Castlebar was the only Mayo entrant to have his story shortlisted in the National **Summer Stars** competition.

> **Little Library Book Bags** were distributed to all playschools and early learning centres in Mayo.

> A Work Matters Programme took place in Ballina Library, promoting career and business information.

2021 IN NUMBERS

4,419

books were read by the 1,159 children who participated in the Summer Stars reading initiative, which ran in every branch of Mayo County Library

600+

people attended 16 online Healthy Ireland talks covering diverse topics including helping children with special needs and managing anxiety in children and teenagers.

48

online virtual story time sessions delivered.

22

communities awarded Decade of Centenaries grants for events and initiatives commemorating the War of Independence including in Carrowkennedy, Tourmakeady, Ballina, Erris, Ballyhaunis and Westport. The year culminated with the publication of a history of Mayo County Council, Rebels in the Courthouse, at the end of 2021.

500

multi-sensory TTRS (Touch Type Read and Spell) licences distributed to parent and teachers of children with special needs.

1,000

Mayo is the only library service in Ireland or the UK that provides the **Musical Instrument Lending Scheme** and over 1,000 instruments were on loan throughout the county in 2021.

50,000

The **Liam Lyons Collection** of over 50,000 images is available on the library website to Mayo people at home and abroad.

100's

of packets of seeds were distributed as part of the Grow it Forward programme in conjunctions with Grow it Yourself. Participants registered through their local library to grow some of their own food with a free GIY starter kit and were encouraged to 'grow it forward' to 9 others by passing on seeds, seedlings or produce.

22

community groups supported by Creative Ireland grants, for projects ranging from an autism friendly initiative in Castlebar to a positive youth project in Ballina and from an outdoor art exhibition in Belmullet to willow sculptures in Straide.

9

live events, and a range of pre-recorded online events which meant all schools could participate in their own time, took place for the Children's Book Festival in October



The Jackie Clarke Collection

Decade of Commemorations

As part of Mayo County Council's **Decade of Centenaries Commemorations**, the beautiful War of Independence mural above was installed in the Jackie Clarke Collection Garden.

December 6th 2021 marked 100 years since the signing of the Treaty that would eventually lead to the tragic Civil War in Ireland in 1922. To mark the occasion, Professor Colum Kenny, author of *Midnight in London, The Anglo-Irish Treaty Crisis 1921*, discussed the events of that fateful night in Irish history on a Zoom event.

Midnight in London
 Myth and Mystery of the Anglo-Irish, 1918-1921

Virtual talk on the Anglo-Irish Treaty with author of *Midnight in London* Dr. Colum Kenny

MIDNIGHT IN LONDON

Dec 2nd 7.30pm

Booking essential to receive Zoom link
clarkecollection@mayoco.ie

Bailiúchán Sraith Uí Chéirín
 The Jackie Clarke Collection

MAYO HERITAGE OFFICE

The Heritage Office promotes awareness, interest, knowledge, pride and conservation of the built, natural and cultural heritage of the county.



2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- **Barn Owls** were once a much more common sight throughout Mayo. Over recent decades, their populations have suffered extensive declines and they are now a Red-listed Bird of Conservation Concern in Ireland. A **Citizen Science and Strategic Survey** approach was taken to assess the status of the Barn Owl population in Mayo and to inform their conservation requirements.
- The **Ballina Town Centre Health Check** was published.

- An **Invasive Alien Species** survey of the Castlebar to Turlough Greenway was undertaken with support from the National Biodiversity Action Plan Fund. A Management Plan has been prepared, recommending approaches to control/remove invasive species along the route.
- The theme chosen for the **2021 Mayo Heritage Calendar** was **Wetlands of Mayo**. The calendar featured images and information on a selection of wetlands in Mayo and the species which depend on them for survival

In 2021 Mayo Heritage Office continued its ongoing work with communities, assisting them in researching and collecting information, and protecting and promoting their built, natural and cultural heritage. Some of the key projects undertaken include:

- 40 projects celebrating Mayo's natural, built and cultural heritage organised by groups and volunteers showcased online or in person during **National Heritage Week 2021**.
- 17 Community Groups supported to undertake Heritage Projects with funding from the Mayo County Council **Community Heritage Grant Scheme**.
- Digital Surveys and 3D Recording of selected monuments carried out as part of the ongoing development of the **Kilmovee Heritage Trail**.
- Historic Ironwork restoration and repair was undertaken at **St Mary's Church of Ireland Graveyard** in Ballinrobe.
- **Old Irish Goat Gunnera Grazing Proof of Concept Project**. This pioneering initiative deployed Old Irish Goats to tackle the invasive plant Gunnera Tinctoria for the first time in Ireland
- A video celebrating the rich History and Heritage of **Lough Carra** was released to mark **National Water Heritage Day** in August 2021.
- Public consultation on **Ballina's draft Biodiversity Plan**. A wider information campaign on biodiversity, pollinators and the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan, featured in a series of advertisements aired on Midwest radio.
- **Mayo Culture and Creativity Strategy** supported.
- Implementation of the Mayo **Commemoration Strategy** continued during 2021.

Mayo Wetlands Project

A GIS dataset of known and potential wetlands sites in the county has been created. The boundaries of over 1170 sites have been identified and mapped. Created with the support of the National Biodiversity Action Plan, this dataset will be invaluable for future conservation planning and allow for the design of targeted wetland surveys and research programmes.

Mayo Hedgehog Survey

While we know the hedgehog is widely distributed in Ireland, we have little information about on whether the population is increasing, decreasing or holding steady. Recent monitoring studies from other European countries have shown a rapid decline in hedgehog populations. The Mayo Hedgehog Survey undertaken in 2021 is a citizen science initiative that involves volunteers surveying hedgehogs in their gardens or local areas.

Conservation Management

Conservation plans were prepared for Kilgeever Abbey and Graveyard, Louisburgh and Knockatemple Church, Ballyvary, with support from the National Monuments Service Community Monuments Fund. These plans highlight the significance of these sites and will inform conservation strategies for the sites. Informed by the Conservation Management Plan prepared in 2021, a programme of conservation works, necessary for the conservation of the monument was undertaken at Kill Abbey, Shrule, in association with the Ballinrobe area office.

Industrial Heritage Survey

A study of the industrial heritage of the towns of Castlebar, Ballina and Westport was undertaken, with support from the Heritage Council. Recommendations were made regarding re-use and management of sites. More recent 20th century industrial heritage was included in the study, with an oral history project on the former Asahi Plant in Killala carried out.

Communities for Biodiversity

This ongoing project provides support and advice to communities on habitat creation and enhancement, planting, invasive species mapping and control, vegetation management and species recording. Support is provided to communities to implement actions in their Local Biodiversity Action Plans. Key projects undertaken in 2021 include biodiversity enhancement projects at Raheens, Castlebar, Ballinrobe Library Grounds and Murrisk Millennium Park.

Kilmovee Heritage Trail

Work on the development of this east Mayo Heritage Trail is progressing. Archaeological works have been carried out at a number of the trail sites to improve presentation and provide access.

Old Killeen Graveyard

Conservation and repair works undertaken at Old Killeen Graveyard, Attymass. A recorded monument, the site is the location of the family grave of the late Father Patrick Peyton, CSS, the 'Rosary Priest'

40 projects celebrating Mayo's natural, built and cultural heritage organised by groups and volunteers showcased online or in person during **National Heritage Week 2021.**

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

The Development Management Section process all planning applications for County Mayo, including those from the former Town Council areas of Ballina, Castlebar, and Westport. The emphasis within the Development Management Section has changed from a planning control function (processing of planning applications) to economic development and assisting development throughout every town and area in the County.



While the coronavirus continued to impact the manner in which all local authorities sustained services in 2021, the Planning Development Management service continued to successfully deal with an increased volume of both pre-planning and formal Planning applications, through a combination of remote working arrangements and the prioritisation of essential tasks, which contributed to meeting the demands of the collective planning service.

The increased volume of applications is detailed below:

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY	2020	2021	+/- ON PREVIOUS YEAR	%
Pre-planning Consultation Applications	189	301	(112+)	37.2
Valid Planning Applications	1,055	1,433	(378+)	26.3
Decisions to Refuse	55	84	(29+)	34.5
Decisions to Grant Permission	784	1,196	(412+)	34.4
Decisions appeals to An Bord Pleanála	31	55	(24+)	43.6
Decisions by Mayo County Council confirmed by An Bord Pleanála	26	29	(3+)	10.3
Decisions by Mayo County Council reversed by An Bord Pleanála	5	7	(2+)	28.5

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

> Mayo County Development Plan: The Forward Planning section continued the advancement of the new Mayo County Development Plan with the public consultation stage phase of the Draft Mayo County Development Plan completed in Q1 of 2021, and the subsequent preparation of the Chief Executive's Report on Draft Submissions received, which was prepared in June 2021 for consideration by the members. However, as a result of special measures introduced by Government for all Planning Authorities in relation to extending the date for the adoption of Development Plans, consideration of the Chief Executive's Report and Draft Mayo County Development Plan was deferred by the Members to 2022.

> Local Area Plans: The Forward Planning Section of Mayo County Council commenced preparation work on Local Area Plans (LAP) for the towns of Ballina, Castlebar and Westport. Issue papers were prepared for each town, in conjunction with pre-draft public consultations in Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 of 2021, and Chief Executive Report's were prepared on submissions received during each display period.

2021 IN NUMBERS

55

appeals to **An Bord Pleanála** resulted from decisions made by Mayo County Council. Of the 55 decisions appealed, 7 were reversed by the Board.

301

A greater emphasis has been placed on the formal **pre-planning process**. In 2021 there were **301** pre-planning applications, an increase of **112** on 2020.

1,196

Decisions to Grant planning permission issued during 2021, an increase of **412** on 2020 figures. **84** Decisions to refuse planning permission issued during the year, an increase of **29** from 2020.

1,433

valid **Planning Applications** were received during 2021, an increase of **378** on 2020. This represented a **26.3%** increase.



PLANNING ENFORCEMENT

The main function of the Planning Enforcement Section is to investigate written complaints received in relation to alleged unauthorized developments in accordance with the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended).

As Mayo County Council is the Planning Enforcement Authority for the administrative area of County Mayo, our main function is to investigate written complaints, received in relation to alleged unauthorised developments in accordance with the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

A summary of activity for the Planning Enforcement Section is shown below, which also confirms an increase in unauthorised development activities during the pandemic, compared with previous years, and Mayo County Council's response to same.

Table 1: Planning Enforcement Activity from 2016 to 2020

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number of new complaints	129	131	129	151	210
Number of complaints resolved	115	83	52	89	72
Number of complaints dismissed	41	22	23	29	29
Number of Warning Letters issued	89	89	77	99	134
Number of Enforcement Notices issued	16	20	5	18	16
Number of files with County Council Solicitor	42	40	47	1	0
Number of prosecutions	0	0	0	0	0

BUILDING CONTROL

Mayo County Council is the Building Control Authority for the administrative area of County Mayo.

Duties include the regulatory oversight of the Building Control system, and market surveillance under the European Union Energy Performance of Buildings Regulations and the European Union Construction Products Regulations.

This incorporates the assessment for validation of commencement notices and certificates of compliance on completion, the assessment of Disability Access Certificate applications and applications for a Dispensation/ Relaxation in the Building Regulations. A summary of activity in relation to applications is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Disability Access Certificate Applications 2017 - 2021

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
DAC Applications	82	81	81	56	73
Valid DAC Applications	76	71	78	52	68
Invalid DAC Applications	6	10	3	4	5
No. of DAC applications where the applicant was invited to submit additional information	26	23	23	20	-
No. of DAC applications where the prescribed maximum period of time for considering applications was extended	6	6	9	12	0
No. of Disability Access Certificates issued	77	74	76	50	75
Within two months	72	69	66	34	75
Greater than 2 months	5	5	10	16	0
Granted with conditions	62	51	53	33	42
Granted without conditions	15	23	23	17	33
Number of DAC applications refused	3	0	0	0	0
Dispensation/Relaxation Applications	2	7	4	3	1
Dispensations/Relaxations Granted	2	6	5	2	1

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 fuel and energy and access for all.

Building Control Inspections are carried out on a limited number of buildings as identified by valid Commencement Notices lodged, the purpose of which is to perform spot checks on compliance with the Building Regulations. Most breaches of the regulations are addressed through protracted negotiations. On occasion it is necessary to instigate legal enforcement proceedings.

A summary of activity in relation to Commencement Notices processed and Building Control Inspections is shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Building Control Commencement Notices and Inspection Activity 2017 - 2021

COMMENCEMENT NOTICES	NUMBER OF BUILDINGS				
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
New	435	511	550	433	498
Extensions	90	107	104	101	121
Change of Use	21	13	18	9	18
Material Alteration		22	28	14	22
TOTAL	546	653	700	557	659

INSPECTIONS/ ENFORCEMENT	NUMBER OF BUILDINGS				
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number of new buildings inspected	65	59	77	56	100
Number of inspections carried out including multiple inspections of the same building	212	248	315	395	511
Number of buildings covered by valid CN where information/documents were requested		75	78	22	69
Number of Enforcement Notices served	1	0	0	0	0

Other appraisals carried out include assessments of BER's, Sound Test Reports, Air Tightness Reports and Certificates of Compliance on completion. A summary this activity is shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Other Appraisals

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY	NUMBER OF CERTIFICATES/REPORTS				
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number of Certificates of Compliance on Completion assessed	86	98	132	137	122
Number of Sound Test Results assessed	Statistics not noted		15	39	59
Number of Air Tightness Results assessed			87	180	158
Number of BER's assessed			80	178	162
Number of Certificates of Compliance on Completion assessed			15	39	59

INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Mayo County Council's IS Department provides IT Operations, Cloud Services, Software Development, hardware procurement, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), IT Network Security, and Infrastructure services for the Council



We provide our staff, councillors, citizens, visitors and businesses with a digital platform for enhanced service delivery. Our aim is to digitise more Council services for the public in line with the Connecting Government 2030 strategy :

“Connecting Government 2030: A Digital and ICT Strategy for Ireland’s Public Service sets out an approach to deliver digital government for all, benefitting both society and the broader economy. The Public Service in Ireland must harness digitalisation to drive a step-change in how people, businesses, and policy makers interact, ensuring interoperability across all levels of government and across public services. We must ensure that in digitalising our public services we take a “user first” and “business first” approach”

The IS Department continues to build its capabilities both from a technology platform and staff competency perspective with on-going technical and professional training and education completed throughout the year. Performance Management and Development System (PMDS) is a system used to set goals, review and strengthen the performance of staff; this was implemented in the IS Department in 2021.

2021 was a difficult year for Mayo County Council staff with the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic in Ireland. The technology capability of the organisation was a key factor in helping to maintain service delivery. The majority of Mayo County Council staff have Office 365 licences which facilitated remote working and shared collaboration, through the use of MS Teams and other applications.

Cyber threats continued to pose a threat to Mayo County Council operations. Many mitigations have been put in place in the IS Department in 2021 to protect Mayo County Council’s systems and data.



4,200+ service desk requests received during 2021

ISO 27001:2013 Security Standard - Information Systems Management Systems (ISMS) successfully retained.

In 2021, the IS Department successfully worked on the following projects:

- Expansion of remote working capability to facilitate secure remote working for office-based staff, this involved the deployment of hardware and the provision of technical support to staff.
- Deployment, expansion, and monitoring of secure environments for remote working including VPNs (Virtual Private Networks) to allow staff to securely connect to Council systems from home.
- The old file server was decommissioned, obsolete data was removed and all remaining valid data was cleansed and migrated to the new file server.
- IT Service Desk system - incident and problem management and user device provisioning and lifecycle management. There were over 4,200 service desk requests received by the IS Department for 2021.
- Successful retention of ISO 27001:2013 Security Standard - Information Security Management Systems (ISMS).
- Expansion of Change Approval Board (CAB) for systems change management.
- Full upgrade and replacement of the Wireless WAN on various links and high sites.
- Network Switch replacement/upgrade completed in a number of sites.
- On-going proactive monitoring of wide area network sites and equipment.
- UPS replacements in Server rooms.
- Upgrade of the Server Room Air Conditioner Systems.
- On-going migration, upgrades and decommissioning of legacy systems and servers.
- Life-cycle management of mobile devices, phone, and data contracts with suppliers.
- Continued technical support and collaboration with the Communications Department on www.Mayo.ie.
- Developed a number of apps for office staff including the Customer Care & Health and Safety Apps.
- Completed tendering and procurement of hardware and service contracts.
- Systems development, automated workflows, and upgrades for business unit applications.
- Windows 2003 & 2008 Servers were decommissioned.
- Work commenced on the migration from Docuware to iDocs.
- Development was completed on a Defective Concrete Blocks CRM System.
- Provided ongoing support to Councillors and for Council meetings.
- GIS systems support, mapping services provision and management of GIS cloud platforms.
- FME Server & Application upgrade.
- Developed a variety of surveying Apps for sections / Municipal Districts including Water Services, Environment, Tourism & Roads.
- File and records management support and data governance and compliance management.
- Education and training support for IT Staff within a capability-building framework.
- Work completed on the Business Restart Grants.
- Participation in national and regional security groups including HIS Group, MyCoCo and Build To Share Groups.

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

The Digital Transformation Department worked towards a vision of a more digital workplace, enabling as much technology as possible to transform internal and external processes to make life easier for customers and staff alike.



The section is a lead partner on two projects funded by the Northern Periphery and Artic Programme under the Cultural and Heritage Axis. One of the objectives of Project Stratus is to increase the capacity of remote and sparsely populated communities for sustainable environmental management using disruptive technologies such as virtual reality.

Microsoft Teams has played an instrumental part in enabling staff to work remotely in 2021 as well as enhancing digital collaboration across the council.

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- › Customer Relationship Management (CRM) - Discovery Phase.
- › Chief Executive Orders Project - Phase I.
- › Consultation Portal enhancements to support the 2021-2027 County Development Plan.
- › Council Virtual Meetings.
- › Housing Inspections App.
- › National Services Catalogue (2018-2021).
- › Application Forms digitisation (throughout internal departments).





ENTERPRISE, COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

IN THIS SECTION

Community Engagement

Mayo County Childcare Committee

Mayo Sports Partnership

Local Enterprise Office

Invest

Tourism, Recreation & Amenity

Broadband & Digital Development Unit

Mayo Arts Service



Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo
Mayo County Council





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Community Engagement Section was established to strengthen and enhance community wellbeing by **Supporting Participation: Enabling civic participation in initiatives and policy-making aimed at improving quality of life for all, Building Strategic Partnerships: Working with other organisations and the voluntary sector to ensure better outcomes for communities throughout the County in the areas of community development, sports and childcare, and Oversight: Ensuring transparency and good governance in the administration of programmes supporting community, sporting and childcare development.**

Facilitating & Supporting Integrated Development, Community Development & Social Inclusion

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

› **Community Futures: Straide**, using online methods, renewed their Community Futures Plan, **Ballinrobe** and the **Traveller Community in Mayo** began the process during 2021. 32 plans have been developed and 18 communities have renewed their plans.

› **Ballyheane, Ballina, Killeen** and **The Cattle Raid Project** took part in the **National Pride of Place Awards 2021**.

› The **Mayo Says No To Racism** Group aims to make County Mayo “A No Racism” zone. Membership of the group comprises community activists, community and voluntary sector members and a statutory body. The Group was established in 2020 and has grown during 2021.

› The **Mayo Migrant Integration Strategy** was finalised in December 2021 by the Mayo Migrant Integration Forum.

› Launch of the **Healthy Mayo Strategy 2020 - 2023**, in April 2021 to support the significant actions of the **Healthy Mayo Programme** through the county.

› **Mayo Comhairle na nÓg** launched a mental health and fitness initiative with the help of Mayo County Council. 748 participants from around Mayo took part in the event which ran for 4 weeks. **Equality** was their key topic for 2021 and their AGM was held via Zoom in October.

› The **Education and Training** Working Group of the LCDC continued to support students by providing career path information for those leaving post primary school, and information to lifelong learners with an interest in returning to education for career change, upskilling or reskilling purposes. The working group hosted two interactive webinars during 2021.

› Events took place in Ballyhaunis, Ballinrobe, Castlebar and Westport to mark **National Play Day 2021**, with over 100 children from the Traveller and Refugee communities, and in Direct Provision.

› Launch of **We're Breastfeeding Friendly Mayo Campaign** to support and encourage greater numbers of mothers breastfeeding their children by developing a breastfeeding supportive environment in business, organisations and communities locally.

› Mayo Traveller Inter-Agency Group successfully re-structured in June 2020 and during 2021 work on the **Traveller Community Futures Plan** began.

› Connecting was the theme for **Mayo Social Inclusion Awareness Week** which took place in October 2021 comprising over 50 virtual and physical events throughout Mayo. The Flagship events were delivered by the LGBTI+ community on Gender and Sexual identity. The **Mayo Says No to Racism** group was also launched during Social Inclusion week. The group's first action was a **'Say No to Racism'** community video.

› The **Age Friendly Alliance** had five meetings in 2021 and **Mayo's Older Persons Council** met six times in 2021. All meetings were held online. Initiatives delivered during the year included: Minding your Health as we Age, providing tablets to four nursing homes, a Walkability study of Ballina Library to achieve Age Friendly status and an intergenerational project with Comhairle na nÓg.

› The Mayo Says No to Racism Group worked with the Irish Traveller Movement to establish the **Yellow Flag Schools Programme** in two schools in Mayo. This Programme is a whole school approach to tackling racism.

› The **Community Mental Health Fund Small Grant Scheme** of €30,000 benefited 13 community organisations rolling out of actions in line with the Healthy Ireland Mental Health.

FUNDING OUTCOMES 2021

FUNDING SOURCE	TOTAL ALLOCATION €	NUMBER OF PROJECTS FUNDED (if applicable)
Social Enterprise Capital Grants Scheme 2021	32,837.00	12
Covid -19 Emergency Fund	54,878.00	60
Community Enhancement Programme	145,2003.00	83
LEADER	4,658,477.15	67
Mayo Community Resilience Fund	67,225	-
Healthy Ireland (Round Three)	421,425.18	-

MAYO LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (LCDC):

The LCDC, a Committee of Statutory and Non-Statutory Members met on 4 occasions in 2021 and comprises 4 working groups:

- Education & Training
- Health & Wellbeing
- Social Inclusion
- Community Development and Culture

which operate as part of LCDC structures.

The committee's main task is develop and implement a 6 year Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) for the county and it has primary responsibility for co-ordinating, planning and overseeing local and community development funding in County Mayo i.e. SICAP and LEADER Programmes.

The committee brings a more joined-up approach and better co-ordination to the implementation, delivery and evaluation of local and community development programmes.

MAYO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NETWORK (PPN)

The Mayo Public Participation Network (Mayo PPN) is the main link through which the Local Authority connects with the community, voluntary and environmental sectors in the Community.

Over 1,000 community groups are registered with Mayo PPN .

Activities and Highlights during 2021 included:

- Developing Showcasing Climate Action & Biodiversity Videos
- Mayo PPN Community Open Day – Social Inclusion Awareness Event with the theme “Connecting Communities While Staying Apart”
- Mayo PPN Municipal District Meetings
- Delivery of free Training for PPN Community Groups
- Mayo PPN Friday Features: Spotlight on PPN Community Groups
- Mayo PPN County Plenaries and Information Evenings

JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE (JPC)

A forum to support consultation and cooperation on policing and crime issues between An Garda Síochána, local authority officials, elected members and the community and voluntary sectors. The committee held 4 meetings during 2021 (online) and the principal work areas were:

- › **Community Engagement**
- › **Crime and Drugs**
- › **The Swinford Local Policing Forum was established in 2021.**
- › **Traffic and Road Safety**
- › **Public Order & Anti-Social Behaviour**

MAYO COMMUNITY FUTURES

Mayo Community Futures is a bottom up, community led process, that helps communities put together a 5-year Community Action Plan for their community. It gives everyone in the community a chance to feed into an Action Plan and to put forward their concerns and ideas for the development of their own communities. To date, 32 plans have been developed and 18 communities have renewed their plans.

Due to the pandemic, Straide had to use alternative options and methods of communicating and collating information, e.g. online surveys, WhatsApp groups etc and successfully delivered a new renewal plan during 2021. Ballinrobe also began the Community Futures process in 2021. In 2021 the process of developing a Community Futures Plan with the Traveller Community in Mayo began, it is anticipated this project will complete in 2022.

MAYO COMMUNITY COVID RESPONSE FORUM

The Covid-19 Community Response Forum continued to meet regularly throughout 2021 and coordinated the provision of targeted responses to the challenges presented by Covid-19. These responses included the following:

- 7 days a week Covid-19 Helpline this Helpline
- Covid funding and restart grants
- Interactive map with details on Community Groups
- Supports and information via mayo.ie, and Mayo PPN
- Covid Information Leaflet
- Regular meetings of forum to identify any gaps in services
- Various initiatives under the Keep Well Campaign supported by the Community Resilience Fund
- A dedicated page to Covid-19 on Mayo.ie

60 groups received Covid Emergency Funding sharing the 2021 €54,878 COVID-19 Emergency Fund allocated to County Mayo in 2021 by the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD). This funding is administered by the Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs) in each Local Authority area.

Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo
Mayo County Council

Coronavirus
COVID-19

Community Response Contact Information

Phone: (094) 9064660 (8am-8pm)

E-Mail: covidsupport@mayococo.ie

Stay Safe - Stay Strong - Stay Separate



The ABCs
of
LGBT

Inclusion through Education

A workshop to take the "?" out
of LGBTQ+

Wednesday, October 13th
12:30pm - 2:30pm
Doré Room
Contact: Director@ShoutSligo.ie

This workshop is supported by Mayo Public Participation Network

Social Inclusion M Partnership Network LGBT LCDC



Welcome to FET!

msletb
Mayo LCDC in association with MSLETB

FURTHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES IN MAYO
Deiseanna le h-éascaitheachtaí agus tuisoirí i Mhaigh Eo - Deiseanna le h-éascaitheachtaí agus tuisoirí i Mhaigh Eo

**Wednesday 17th November 2021
7.00-8.00pm**

No need to register, just go to
bit.ly/FET-Mayo
EVENT WILL GO LIVE AT 7.00PM

Information on full and part-time courses

How to apply for courses

Meet from your teachers

Talk to our staff

Funding and supports available

Send any questions that you would like covered to
sharonhoaly@msletb.ie or if you need more
information, please contact Sharon on (098) 24017

LCDC Social Inclusion M Partnership Network LGBT

MAYO COUNTY CHILDCARE COMMITTEE

Mayo County Childcare Committee supports the delivery of early childhood care and education programmes in Mayo and works collaboratively and collectively with the Department of Children & Youth Affairs, Pobal and all stakeholders within the childcare sector.



Our key focus is to support and assist families and early learning and care and school age childcare providers with childcare matters at local level. We coordinate the delivery of national childcare programmes and policy at local level. We work to support and facilitate the development of quality, accessible early learning and care and school age childcare services for the overall benefit of children and their parents by taking a child-centred and partnership approach. We work collaboratively and effectively within Mayo County Council and with agencies such as Pobal, Túsla, Education and Training Boards and with other stakeholders

Mayo County Childcare Committee provides information, support and guidance about National Childcare Funding and related programmes to parents and early years services and co-ordinates local agencies that provide financial and educational support to these groups.

Programmes include the **National Childcare Scheme**, the first ever statutory entitlement to financial support for Childcare in Ireland and the **Free Pre-School Year Scheme** (ECCE), Other programmes supported include the **Community Childcare Subvention Programme** (CCSP), **Training and Employment Childcare** (TEC), **Community Childcare Subvention Resettlement** (CSSR), the **Access Inclusion Measure** (AIM), a programme that ensures that children with disabilities can access the ECCE free pre-school Scheme and **Aistear** and **Siolta** – the national quality and curriculum frameworks for Early Years, Parent & Toddler Grant Schemes,

Childminding Development Grant Schemes, Learner Fund Bursaries and Small-Scale Capital Grant schemes together with Covid funding and sustainability supports are also offered by Mayo County Childcare Committee.

A key priority for Mayo County Childcare Committee was to work intensively to support services to survive and reopen after Covid- 19.

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ **Transitions Project:** MCCC is part of the West Midlands North West Transitions from preschool to primary school pilot project which links EY Educators in preschools to their counterpart Primary School Teachers in their respective primary schools. The aim of the project is to support and assist positive transitions to school for the children involved and to encourage partnership and collaboration between the educational settings.
- ▶ Provision of support and information to parents, children and Early Years services on the **AIM (Access Inclusion Measure)** programme designed to support children with additional needs to access the free preschool ECCE scheme.
- ▶ Intensive **sustainability supports** were provided to **108** services through **866** assistance activities.
- ▶ Provided support, information and updates to 68 childminders in Mayo (67 voluntarily notified, 1 Túsła registered). Attendance at national launch by Minister O’Gorman. A **childminding network** was also established with plans for quarterly meetings focussing on all areas of childminding and quality practice.
- ▶ 50 Early Years Educators representing 36 services provided with support and guidance on **Designated Liaison Person** training and one on **Mandated Person** roles and responsibilities. This was a collaborative action between MCCC and Túsła.

2021 IN NUMBERS

74 Early Years services supported with preparation for Túsła inspections, changes in circumstances applications, registration preparation, etc.

134 Early Years Services, **10** School Aged Childcare Services and **68** childminders throughout the county were supported by Mayo County Childcare Committee.

2,900 children supported through national funding schemes, training, mentoring and quality initiatives.

€20,730 received for Access Inclusion Model funding supports and training to help support children with additional needs to participate in ECCE free preschool scheme.

31,762 support actions in 2021 through calls, emails, information sessions, meetings, onsite visits, training, presentations, mentoring supports and one to one workshops.

€13,890 focused on delivery for First Aid Response training for Early Years Services.

125 children in **8** preschools participated in the **Soundworlds** early years music programme.

MAYO SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

Mayo Sports Partnership works to increase participation in sport and physical activity among all sectors of the community through information sharing, education and policy development and implementation.



Core funded by Sport Ireland and hosted locally by Mayo County Council, Mayo Sports Partnership has three main functions:

- Information, providing a one stop shop for sport in Mayo.
- Education, providing quality opportunities for training courses for volunteers held locally.
- Implementation and development of sports policy within the county through a strategic plan for sport in Mayo and select participation programmes to suit local needs.

Mayo Sports Partnership continues to be a central body in the delivery of actions contained in the National Sports Policy, the National Physical Activity Plan and Mayo Sports Partnership Strategic Plan “ More People Enjoying More Sports”. Coming out of Covid -19 the emphasis is on promoting outdoor sport and rebuilding the capacity of our sports clubs particularly those of the indoor variety.

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

› Mayo Sports Partnerships outdoor physical activity programme from June to September was hugely successful. Programmes included **Buggy Buddies for New Mothers** in Ballina & Westport, **Walking with Poles** Programmes for Older Adults in Ballyhaunis, Knock, Westport and Ballinrobe, **Open Water Swimming** in Achill, Belmullet, Kilalla and Pontoon, **Women on Water Canoeing** in Lough Lannagh and the Moy Ballina, **Womens Tri a Triathlon** in Achill, and the **Junior Triathlon** Camp in Bertra Westport.

› The first **GAA Inclusive Cúl Camp** in the country took place in Mayo in the Connacht GAA Centre of Excellence on the 26th & 27th October. This was a partnership project between Mayo Sports Partnership and Mayo GAA.

› From January to May programmes such as **Men on the Move, Family Start Box at Home, Couch 2 5K, Teenage Girls Active, Children's Zoom Fitness, Activator Walking with Poles** and **Disability Inclusion** were delivered virtually with over **300** participants.

› Sport Ireland supported the Teenage Girls **8 week Skate Squad Pilot Programme** involving some 30 inactive teens in Castlebar.

2021 IN NUMBERS

€40,000

approximately was raised for charity by participants in the **Mayo.ie Western People West of Ireland Womens Mini Marathon 2021**. Delivered virtually, the event saw 3,500 participants in total including 900 children in the Primary Schools 2K Fun Run and 400 secondary school girls in the "Its For Girls" campaign take part.

40

teenage girls participated in the Sport Ireland National Women in Sport 6 week pilot programme, **Skate Squad**.

1,550

participants in 105 events held to mark **Bike Week (20 event, 300 participants)**, **European Week of Sport** (40 events, 800 participants), **Sports Ability Week for People with a Disability** (27 events, 200 participants) and **HER Outdoors Week** (18 events, 250 participants).

€187,000

of **Dormant Account Funding** was allocated to **Mayo Sports Partnership Projects** including Community Sports Hubs, Urban Adventure Initiatives, Innovation Walking with Poles Project, Sports Disability Equipment and Volunteer Education & Training.

600+

People participated in our virtual **Operation Transformation** Programme in January 2021

70

clubs/organisations supported through Round 2 Covid-19 **Return to Sport and Volunteers Support** small grant schemes

600

the **Community Sports Hubs** in **Ballinrobe** and **Ballyhaunis** and **Outdoor Hubs** in **Castlebar** and **Ballina** delivered 40 events targeting approximately 600 from hard to reach groups.



LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE

Since their establishment in 2014, Local Enterprise Offices have established themselves as the focal point for enterprise development and are central to nurturing an enterprise culture locally.



In Mayo, the LEO operates as a First Stop Shop to deliver support and services to start, grow and develop micro and small businesses. In addition, the LEO promotes awareness and works to develop an enterprise culture and contribute to the general economic development of the County.

2021 continued to bring challenges to LEO Mayo due to the continuing pandemic and Brexit, resulting in sustained increased demand in the number of businesses seeking advice and support from the LEO. The LEO team proactively responded to the increased volume of engagements with clients and delivered new and enhanced business supports including:

- Training programmes, with an emphasis on cashflow/trading online/trading through COVID-19 continued to be offered online
- Fáilte Ireland Scheme: Outdoor Seating and Accessories for Tourism and Hospitality Services.
- Additional grant aid was successfully sought for businesses.
- LEO Client Stimulus Refundable Aid scheme concluded.
- Green4Micro programme launched.

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- › Input and support was provided to the **West Regional Enterprise Plan** to 2024. Advancing the enterprise element of the Strategic Development Zone at Ireland West Airport Knock was identified as a significant regional priority.
- › LEO Mayo client, **Hawthorn Handmade Skincare**, attended **Showcase 2021** which took place virtually from 25th to 29th January. Showcase is one of the industry's largest international trade fairs where designers and craft makers provide a choice of contemporary and heritage collections, offering innovation, quality, sustainability and a distinctive point of difference to retail buyers from across the globe.
- › Just over 1,200 students from post primary schools throughout Mayo took part in the virtual County Finals of the **Student Enterprise Programme** in March. In the Senior Category of the national finals competition, Mayo was represented by Diarmuid Duffy and Ryan Corcoran from Bootfresh at Ballinrobe Community School who took the Intellectual Property Award and Emily Foy, Kellyann Walsh and Aoife Heaney from Reflecto Tags at Mount St. Michael Secondary School, Claremorris who won the same award at Junior Level.
- › The **Look for Local** campaign involved national and local advertising and promotion across the Summer encouraging consumers to look for local when purchasing products, services or experiences.

› Female entrepreneurs and budding businesswomen participated in a virtual event to mark **National Women's Enterprise Day** which took place in October. The event, titled "Build The Future", featured some of Ireland's best known female entrepreneurs including the likes of Aimee Connolly of Sculpted by Aimee, Rachel Doyle of The Arboretum and Sharon Keegan of Peachy Lean, who was supported on Dragon's Den UK.

- › **8 producers** from County Mayo won **Blas na hÉireann** awards which are the all-island food awards that recognise the very best Irish food and drink products, and the passionate people behind them.
- › The **REBOOT** programme was launched in September, a regional collaboration designed to assist the recovery of rural businesses and social enterprises in the aftermath of the Covid -19 pandemic and Brexit economic disruption. The initiative provides a programme of free tailored training, skills development, expert 1:1s and networking opportunities in Mayo, Roscommon and Sligo.
- › **Local Enterprise Week** took place in March with over 200 events including training workshops, information webinars and masterclasses with entrepreneurs and experts, designed to help Ireland's small businesses and those who were looking to start a new business in 2021. At a local level, highlights from the week included training programmes such as Effective Marketing for Small Business, Developing Your Business Online in the Covid Changed World, An Introduction to Starting your Own Business, a Pricing, Costing & Debt Collection workshop, and an information session on 'What next for your digital business presence?' which looked at how clone technology can help improve efficiencies in business.

2021 IN NUMBERS

€580,551.05

in payments administered to **199** clients under the Fáilte Ireland Scheme: Outdoor Seating and Accessories for Tourism and Hospitality Services.

317

clients received **free mentoring** services.

907

clients participated in subsidised training programmes and networking events.

200+

events for new and existing entrepreneurs during Local Enterprise Week 2021.

€754,939

Capital grants (including **Agile Innovation** approved for client businesses).

52

businesses received funding under the **Client Stimulus Scheme**.

161

Trading Online Vouchers approved at a value of **€336,318**.

15

schools from around County Mayo participated in the **Student Enterprise Programme** with 1,200+ students participating.

INVEST

Invest promotes the overall economic development of County Mayo and delivers innovative initiatives that strategically showcase Mayo as a destination of choice for businesses and investors.



Key projects in 2021 included:

- ▶ The Failte Ireland Outdoor Seating & Accessories for Tourism & Hospitality Business grant scheme was administered by Mayo County Council throughout 2021, resulting in circa €600,000 grants approved to Mayo businesses.
- ▶ Mayo County Council partnered with the Mayo Chambers on various initiatives throughout the year to promote shopping local, including a dedicated promotional campaign in the run up to Christmas.
- ▶ The Mayo Food & Drink Network continued to provide sectoral specific training and networking events throughout 2021.

▶ The Mayo Food & Drink Network continued to provide sectoral specific training and networking events throughout 2021. The “Move to Mayo” promotional campaign ran from August 2021 to October 2021. The aim of the campaign was to encourage prospective entrepreneurs to establish a new business in Mayo. A €10,000 prize fund was on offer and the campaign ran in partnership with the Western Development Commission, the Halo Business Angel Network and the European Entrepreneurial Region.

▶ Mayo businesses Fort Wayne Metals, Foxford Woollen Mills, DeCare Dental, Skillko, NORG Design and John Mullen of Version1 took part in two panel discussions focusing on doing business from Mayo. The event was a collaboration between Mayo County Council and the Irish Times as part of Mayo Day 2021 celebrations.

TOURISM, RECREATION & AMENITY

The Tourism, Recreation and Amenity Unit aims to position County Mayo as a high quality tourism and recreational destination of choice for visitors and locals through the implementation of the County Mayo Tourism Strategy and Work Programmes.



Central to this work is development of the following key pillars:

- Destination Marketing
- High Quality Infrastructure & Facilities
- Industry and Community Collaboration
- World Class Experiences

Throughout 2021 Covid -19 continued to present challenges, particularly to tourism and hospitality operations, as-well as constraining travel movements to and from Ireland. This led to a growth in staycations, which Mayo greatly benefitted from, and an increasing need by locals for outdoor recreational facilities including forest parks, greenways, walks and beaches.

Mayo County Council, working with industry, agencies and community on the Mayo Destination Recovery Taskforce, undertook the following development initiatives in 2021:

- National and local staycation promotional campaigns (TV, radio, digital) promoting key visitor towns for accommodation and outdoor activities and attractions including the Wild Atlantic Way, Croagh Patrick, the Great Western Greenway, the Islands and walks
- Supporting the production of two RTE programmes “No Place Like Home” (Erris) and “Neven Maguire’s Irish Seafood Trails” (Cong).
- Destination marketing campaign including a double feature in the international publication “Ireland of the Welcomes”.
- Piloting a new island hopping experience – the Clew Bay Bike trail – which through engagement with ferry companies led to a new scheduled service linking Achill Island, Clare island and Roonagh in 2021.
- Ongoing development of the Clew Bay Destination and Visitor Experience Development Plan.

Project Planning and Development:

Work continued during 2021 on the planning and delivery of 37 capital projects, with grants totalling €13.2 million including the following key projects:

- **Moorehall:** Completion of the restoration of the Walled Garden and Avenues. In July 2021 Mayo County Council, Coillte and the National Parks and Wildlife Service signed a Memorandum of Understanding that provides for a Masterplan to guide the future development and management of Moorehall and adjacent state owned lands.
- **Infrastructure and Facilities:** Improvement works to the Wild Atlantic Way, walking trails and greenway network throughout the county were completed in 2021. Greenways at Achill, Belleek, Turlough and Mayfield Lake were under construction in 2021



2021 HIGHLIGHTS

➤ The **Red Bull Cliff Diving World Series** took place at Downpatrick Head on the 11th & 12th of September 2021. Downpatrick Head was selected for this prestigious Sports Tourism event after a comprehensive assessment of locations and through close liaison between Mayo County Council staff, event promoters and with a range of stakeholders including landowners, local communities, An Garda Síochána, the National Parks and Wildlife Service, the HSE and the emergency services.

➤ Despite being affected by Covid restrictions in the early part of 2021, services at the **Lough Lannagh Leisure Complex** resumed in full during the remainder of the year and the centre retained its popularity with its loyal customers with memberships buoyant by year end. In 2021 the Centre was the recipient of the National Quality Standard (Outstanding Award) and best Newcomer Award from Active Ireland.

2021 IN NUMBERS

12 million +

75 media companies attended the Red Bull Cliff Diving World Series at Downpatrick Head in September, live broadcasting the event to in excess of 12 million viewers.

25,555

visitations to the Leisure Complex at Lough Lannagh.

€32,000

funding under the Regional Festivals Participative Fund distributed to 13 promoters during 2021.

€3.82 million

in new funding approved for 6 Capital Projects.

7.5km

of Greenways improved, with a further 5km of new Greenway under construction.

BROADBAND & DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT UNIT

The Broadband Unit of Mayo County Council continued to work towards enhancing digital connectivity in the county and assisting with the rollout of the National Broadband Plan in Mayo.



Key projects in 2021 included:

- ▶ The newly refurbished Swinford Courthouse, designated as one of the Digiwest Hubs, was formally opened by the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD, in May 2021 (pictured above)
- ▶ National Broadband Ireland surveys were carried out in Castlebar and Ballina and a Mayo islands survey was also carried out in September.

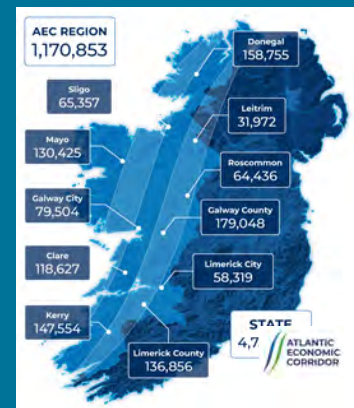
- ▶ There are currently 16 approved Broadband Connection Points (BCPs) in Mayo, at various stages of development. Mayo County Council was successful in obtaining €195,475 from the Department of Rural and Community Development for funding under the Connected Hubs Call for 11 of the BCPs. This funding assists the BCPs to upgrade their existing facilities.
- ▶ The free public outdoor Wi-Fi service was extended to Balla, Ballinrobe, Castlebar and Claremorris in 2021 bringing to 9 the number of towns with this service.

ATLANTIC ECONOMIC CORRIDOR

The Atlantic Economic Corridor seeks to grow the region from Donegal to Kerry by building and increasing collaboration with the AEC to maximise its assets, attract investment and create jobs and prosperity in the region.

Key Developments in 2021

- Working closely with the Western Development Commission on the development of the **AEC Enterprise Hubs Network**, creating an interconnected community network of hubs in the region, supported by backend ICT infrastructure, promotion of remote working, branding and coordinated marketing.
 - The **Connectedhubs.ie** platform, a key action of the AEC Enterprise Hubs Network, was officially launched at the opening of “The Courthouse” digital hub in Swinford by Minister Heather Humphreys, T.D. The Connectedhubs.ie platform provides the infrastructure to all hubs in the AEC region to easily book hot-desking spaces and meeting room facilities in any of the hubs registered on the platform. 17 Mayo hubs are currently registered on the platform.
 - Work continued to progress the **e-health pilot project** in conjunction with the Cliara Development Company.



MAYO ARTS SERVICE

Mayo Arts Service is responsible for the development and implementation of services which supports the Arts in Mayo. The service ensures that the Arts and associated areas are open, enjoyable, accessible and provides challenging events for all to experience, regardless of their background or previous experience of the Arts.



2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- › Delivered an **online programme of professional development** opportunities for artists, arts professionals, venues, and festivals in the county.
- › **Elizabeth Reapy** was **Mayo County Council Writer in Residence 2021**. Highlights included a mentoring opportunity for a local writer, online and in person workshops/engagements with Mayo writing groups, Artist's Way workshops and a podcast series with 16 writers with Mayo connections. Supported by Creative Ireland and Heinrich Boll Cottage, Achill.
- › **Poetry Day Ireland 2021** saw poets Geraldine Mitchell, Terry Mc Donagh and Anne Walsh Donnelly read their work on The Tommy Marren's Show on Mid-West Radio.
- › **Come Together** Information Session and **Kickstart** supported engagement opportunities through the **Arts & Disability Programme**.
- › Creative Ireland's **Creativity & Older Age** supported Music in Community Nursing Units, Hearth (10 week one to one visual art workshops with socially isolated older people on Achill), The Memories Project with Elaine Mears and the Na Cailleacha Residency in Ballinglen Arts Foundation.
- › Belmullet was **Mayo's inaugural Poetry Town**. Anne Walsh Donnelly, Belmullet's Poet Laureate, was commissioned to write a poem about the town. A programme of events took place around the town from 10-18 September. Supported by Poetry Ireland.
- › As part of the of Mayo County Council's **Decade of Centenaries** Programme for 2021, Mayo County Council Arts Service in partnership with the **Jackie Clarke Collection** provided a 6-month residency to visual artist Margo McNulty which culminated in an exhibition at the Jackie Clarke Collection as well as a billboard exhibition in Castlebar, Ballina & Westport.
- › **I Am What I Am** - a six-month Cultural Diversity Curatorial award culminated in an exhibition and accompanying series of events in **Ballina Arts Centre** in July 2021. The project was curated by Sinead Keogh.
- › Two phases of the **Local Live Performance Programming Scheme** were offered in 2021. The scheme assisted Mayo based producers, promoters, and venues to provide support for live performance in Mayo.
- › **Invitation to Collaborate:** Art in the Landscape is a partnership with Offaly County Council and Visual Artists Ireland. Research Report completed by Terre Duffy and project partners successfully applied for Continuation Phase Funding under the Arts Council's Invitation to Collaborate Scheme 2021 for an online seminar which will take place in 2022.
- › Armchair Azure Tours (for persons living with dementia), Perspectives on Online Photography project, The Willow Project, Art Packs for Disability groups in Mayo, The Poetry Line and Music at the Garden Gates (partnership The Linenhall Arts Centre) were all delivered with support from the **Community Resilience Fund**.

2021 IN NUMBERS

90 events (online & in person) were organised by the Arts Service in 2021 which engaged the services of **112** artists.

Provided **11** Visual Art Materials & Exhibition Assistance Awards; **2** Drama League of Ireland Bursaries, **1** Theatre Artist Bursary, **13** Culture Night Grants and **9** grants to community-led Arts Festivals & Events through the Arts Act Grants.

Local Live Performance Programming Scheme supported **35** events (in person and on-line) providing employment for **333** performers and **185** live events industry professionals in the county with a combined live and online audience of almost **41,000** people.

600 older people engaged with our Arts & Older People Programme – including the annual Bealtaine programme.

271 individuals engaged (online & in person) with the Professional Development Programme.

Film Mayo supported almost **100** film related queries in 2021.

As part of the I Am What I Am, **185** artists and members of the public attended a series of talks and events exploring themes of cultural diversity and social identity.

Venue partnership funding totalling **€141,000** was provided to **6** arts venues. These venues collectively had audiences, both online and actual, of almost **100,000** for their programmes and events.

22 venues took part in Culture Night 2021, with over **10,000** online and live engagements for the evening's culturally diverse programme.

Poetry Day Ireland in partnership with Mid-West Radio had a listenership of over **30,000** people for poetry readings with Mayo poets.





HOUSING, ROADS & SERVICE DEVELOPMENT

IN THIS SECTION

Housing

Roads Transportation & Safety

Procurement & Efficiency Review



Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo
Mayo County Council



HOUSING

2021 was another busy year for Mayo County Council's Housing Service. The provision of good quality, affordable accommodation presents challenges, but also opportunities for Mayo and significant funding has been provided for the delivery of housing solutions for those in need. The standard of housing being delivered by Mayo County Council is of the highest standard and in line with national standards.



Rebuilding Ireland 2016-2021 is now complete, and Mayo County Council exceeded the target of 708 with a total of 737 housing solutions delivered under the programme.

The new Housing Programme 'Housing for All' 2022-2026 was announced in 2021 and Mayo County Council have a target of 730 Social Housing new builds. There will be a priority to use Repair & Leasing, Buy & Renew, Derelict Sites and Vacant Units to maximise the provision of accommodation, which will help contribute to the revitalisation of the County's towns and villages.

Mayo County Council has submitted an Implementation Plan to the Department outlining how these targets will be delivered. The target for 2022 is 90 houses, and projects are currently in progress to achieve this.

The Principal work areas for the Housing Service in 2021 were:

- Delivery of the Housing Capital Programme 2016-2021
- Summary of Social Housing Assessments 2021
- Management of the Housing Assistance Programme (HAP), Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS), and Social Leasing Scheme (SLS)
- Operation and Management of the three Housing Grant Schemes
- Mortgage to Rent
- Administration of the Defective Concrete Blocks Scheme

- Review and development of Housing Policies
- Administration of the Buy & Renew and the Repair & Leasing Schemes
- Development and implementation of the Housing First Initiative.
- Implementation of the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024
- Rebuilding Ireland Home Loans
- Management and refurbishment of the housing stock
- Homelessness/Tenancy Sustainment

2021 IN NUMBERS

737 housing solutions delivered under the Rebuilding Ireland Programme 2016 - 2021

2,116 households supported by RAS and HAP by the end of 2021

314 households supported under the Leasing Programme in Mayo by the end of 2021

The total number of homeless presentations in 2021 was **95**

8 Mortgage to Rent applications received and approved in 2021. **17** Mortgage to Rent cases were closed during the year, with a total of **30** Mortgage to Rent cases approved by the end of 2021

Agreements to lease for **5** units signed under the Repair and Lease Scheme during 2021

54 vacant/void units were brought back into use during 2021

199 Stage 1 Confirmation of Eligibility Grant Applications received at the end of 2021. **94** Stage 1 Confirmation of Eligibility Grant Approvals under the Defective Concrete Blocks Scheme issued. **16** Stage 2 applications were received in 2021, with **11** Stage 2 applications approved.



TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION PLAN 2019 - 2024

The projected accommodation requirement in the Traveller Accommodation Plan 2019 - 2024 is **100** units:

- **29** units in the Ballina Municipal District
- **30** units in the Castlebar Municipal District
- **36** units in the Claremorris Swinford Municipal District
- **4** units in the Westport Belmullet Municipal District

Up to December 2021, 60% of the targets had been reached of the 2019-2024 Traveller Accommodation Programme. This figure has been reached by using all accommodation options available to Mayo County Council. Casual vacancies, new acquisitions, private rented accommodation (using the HAP and RAS schemes, Voluntary housing bodies, STL etc). A count was conducted at the end of November 2021 to ascertain the number of Traveller families living in Mayo and the estimated figure was 437 families.

Covid -19 has provided challenges for Traveller families, particularly those in roadside accommodation and Mayo County Council has worked alongside the HSE Public Health Team to ensure that isolation units were provided where required.

ROADS TRANSPORTATION & SAFETY

An efficient road transportation system provides the necessary infrastructure to support the economic and social development of a region. Mayo County Council continued to play its part in 2021 in supporting the county's economy through the maintenance and improvement of the road network throughout the county.



2021 IN NUMBERS

52 staff availed of the Cycle to Work Scheme in 2021, bringing the total number of participants to **603**

N17/R320 Junction at Lisduff Contract signed valued at **€5,187,168** excluding VAT

€113,141,139 expended on 6,615 kms maintenance and improvements, with **€79,615,223** on National Primary & Secondary Roads, **€33,525,916** on Regional & Local Roads

Pavement Overlay/Inlay Programme turnover was **€4.989** million

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- TII located high cluster accident location sites on our National Roads and asked the council to design and implement safety measures. **Low Cost Safety Remedial Measures** managed by the Roads Design Office were carried out on six national roads at a cost of €206,993.
- Designed, procured contractors for and supervised seven **Pavement Overlay** contracts with a value of €4,989,375.
- Two Capital Maintenance National Roads Schemes delivered on the **N84 Sauleen** and **N26 Foxford** at a cost of €200, 000 per Scheme.
- New Road Realignment and Glenisland Bridge for the R312 Castlebar to Bellacorrick Road **at Glenisland** completed and opened to the public in July, with funding of €1,200,00 provided by the DTTAS.
- **11 bridges** were rehabilitated/enhanced, 16 were treated for de-vegetation and cleaning at a total cost of €595,000.
- Two **Strategic Regional and Local Roads Schemes** delivered on the R332 Kilmaine to Foxhall and the Cong outer Relief Road delivered, costing €100,000 and €40,000 respectively.

NATIONAL PRIMARY ROUTE ROAD PROJECTS ADVANCED IN 2021

N5 Westport to Turlough	Wills Bam Joint Venture progressed construction as follows: establishment of site office 100%, site clearance 100%, topsoil strip 100%, earthworks 80%, drainage 25%, utilities 75%, structures 80%, accommodation works 10%, pavement 5%. Landowner negotiations are substantially concluded. Anticipated substantial completion is Q2 2023.
N17 & R320 Junction at Lisduff	Mayo County Council and BAM Civil Limited construction contract signed in November for €5,187,168 (excluding VAT). December saw site mobilisation. February 2023 is marked for substantial completion. Notice to Treat served on the 18 landowners in February, legal and valuation services procured. Notice to Enter served in November and liaising about accommodation works and compensation continued.
N26 Realignment at Cloongullane Bridge	BAM Civil Limited progressed works as set out below: establishment of site office 100%, site clearance 95%, topsoil strip 95%, earthworks 90%, drainage 60%, utilities 80%, structures 70%, accommodation works 80%, pavement 40%. Land acquisition is substantially complete and the date for substantial completion is 12 July 2022.
N26 Ballina Bypass Phase I	Progress made on Phase 0, Scope & Pre-Appraisal and Phase 1, Concept & Feasibility. Technical and environmental specialists enlisted to inform Phase 2 Options Selection.
N17 Knock to Collooney Project	Environmental, economic and engineering assessments executed for Feasible Route Options. Preferred route selection anticipated for Q2 2022. Mayo County Council and Sligo County Council signed a Section 85 Agreement. Sligo County Council authority role and Mayo County Council supporting role obtained.

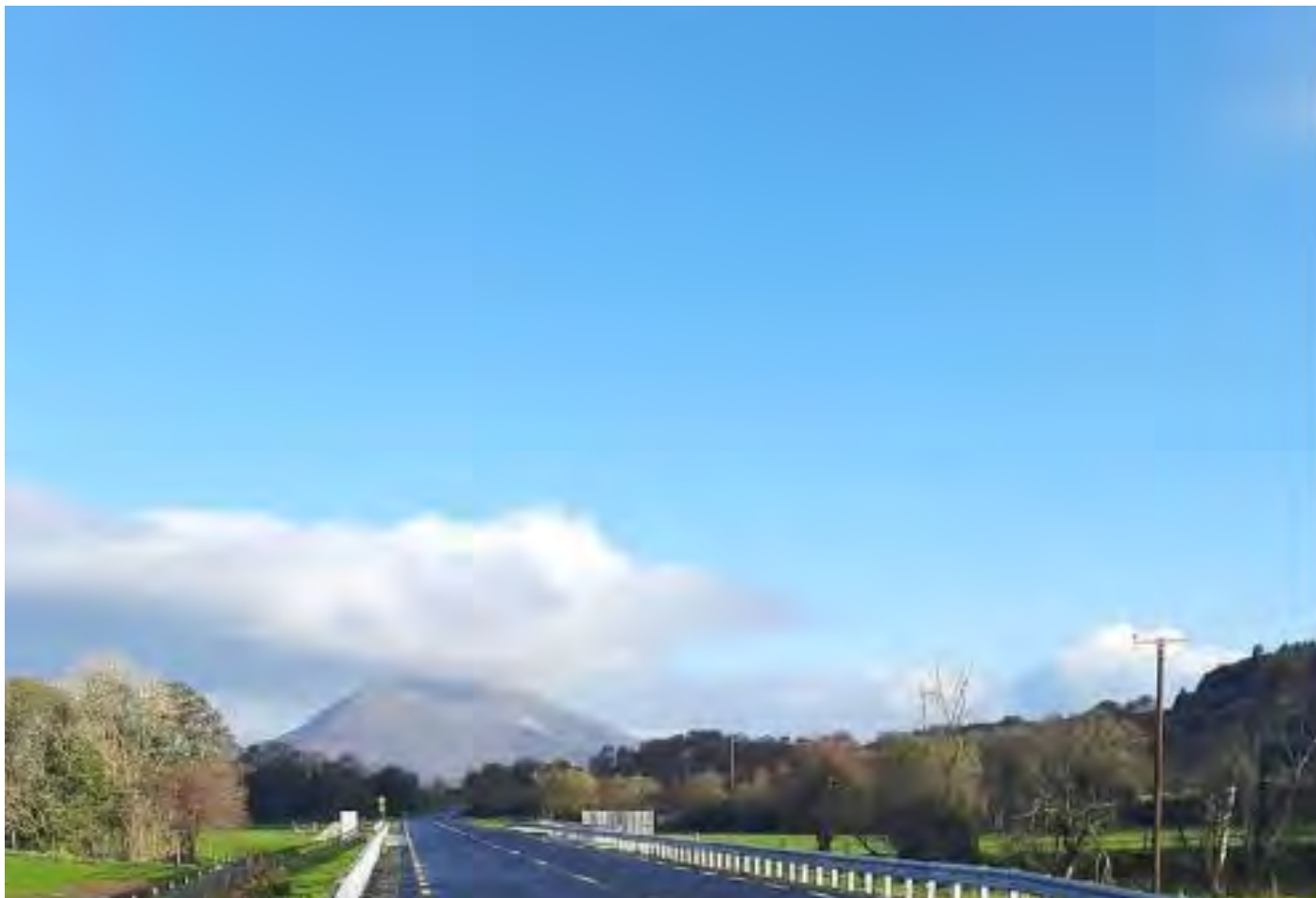
NATIONAL SECONDARY ROUTE ROAD PROJECTS ADVANCED IN 2021

<p>N59 Westport to Mulranny Project</p>	<p>3km section at Kilbride is complete; 2km section at Rossow bends completed in 2018 and the 3km section at Kilmeena completed in 2020.</p> <p>Detailed design of the next stage of the N59 Newport and Derradda progressed; contract documents preparation too. Objective: to be ready to commence the procurement of a construction contract in Q3 2022, subject to TII approval.</p> <p>Minimal progression on detailed design of the N59 between Roskeen and Derradda.</p>
<p>N60 Lagnamuck</p>	<p>All land acquisition cases closed out. P&D Lydon Limited completed 1.5 N60 section construction in December 2019. Completion of outstanding road safety audit matters continued.</p>
<p>N60 Heathlawn</p>	<p>Most landowner negotiations are concluded. The detailed design and preparation of contract documents progressed in anticipation of TII approval facilitating procurement of a construction contract in 2022.</p>
<p>N60 Manulla Cross</p>	<p>During 2021 it was decided to curtail the scheme extents and progress same through the various stages of project progression. The Options Selection Process was revisited with a draft constraints report prepared off previous studies. Development and exhibition of two road options held at a public consultation in Manulla in November with preferred route selection anticipated in 2022.</p>



ACTIVE TRAVEL PROJECTS ADVANCED IN 2021

N60 Breaffy Active Travel and Safety Measures	Roughan & O'Donovan Consulting Engineers appointed to provide technical and environmental support helping progress this project through appraisal, preliminary design, statutory processes, detailed design and construction administration. Detailed topographical survey delayed, hampering progress. Local publicity took place in September. Part 8 Planning to commence in Q2 2022.
N60 Claremorris to Brize Active Travel	Impact assessment completed on residential property arising from provision of active travel facilities along existing N60. This assessment concluded a profound impact, resulting in agreement to focus on a 1km Active Travel link provision from N60 Heathlawn Scheme to Balla throughout 2022.
N59 Newport Town Active Travel	Mayo County Council assessed the study area for challenges under engineering, environmental and property-related perspectives for the facilitation of 2022 route selection progress.
2021 NTA Active Travel	<p>The initial allocation for Active Travel 2021 was €3,349,500. Further €2,827,625 NTA funding awarded due to additional Active Travel Projects requests. Funding covers 54 active travel projects throughout the county that consist mainly of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrian Crossings • New Footpaths, Footpath improvements & Extensions • Walkways & Cycleways • Active Travel Transport and Mobility Plan developments for Ballina and Castlebar



PROCUREMENT & EFFICIENCY REVIEW

The Procurement & Efficiency Review Team delivers significant reform of public procurement within Mayo County Council. Our focus is on achieving better outcomes for the wider public procurement community and delivering sustainable, high-quality services into the future.

The Programme for Government sets out an ambitious range of actions for public procurement for the coming years, particularly in the areas of green and social procurement and digitalisation.



In 2021, the Covid-19 health crisis continued to see a significant procurement effort in meeting the needs of not just our own staff, but also members of the public. A major focus of our work in 2021 has been support for the professionalisation of the practice of public procurement in all areas of Mayo County Council.

The role of the Procurement Office is outlined in the Corporate Procurement Plan and the team have developed this role achieving increased value for money and greater efficiencies through common procurement frameworks, increased professionalism and innovative use of technology.

Procurement within the organisation is decentralised, with buyers in all areas of the council, with most of the procurement being conducted using the two electronic procurement portals; www.ETenders.gov.ie and www.SupplyGov.ie.

The launch of our own self learning portal was a significant initiative in 2021. The portal provides video tutorials for staff on different procurement aspects.

Another area of focus is to continue to promote the wider use of environmental and social considerations in procurement with specific regard to the Climate Action Plan 2019.

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- › Purchase of Velocity Patcher.
- › RFT for Provision of Garage Services.

- ›• Fire Services West Region Communication Centre Refurbishment works.
- › Unmetered electricity national contract awarded to Energia for a three year period.

2021 IN NUMBERS

€6 million

spend on Plant & Machinery hire checked and monitored for compliance.

338

competitions published through existing frameworks for goods, services and housing retrofits on **SupplyGov**.ie.

45

tender competitions advertised, evaluated and awarded for a variety of works, goods and services.

CASTLEBAR



WATER SERVICES, ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE & EMERGENCY SERVICES

IN THIS SECTION

Rural Water

Environment, Climate Change and Agriculture

Mayo County Fire Service

West Region Fire Service

Mayo Civil Defence

Water Safety



Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo
Mayo County Council





RURAL WATER

Mayo County Council, under the 2014 European Drinking Water Regulations, is the Supervisory Authority for all Private Water Suppliers in County Mayo. The council administers the Rural Water Programme in County Mayo, which is funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, and is committed to working with communities with the aim of schemes being economically viable and environmentally sustainable.

There are 178 schemes in operation in County Mayo serving more than 18,700 households and businesses.

2021 was the third year of the new 2019 – 2021 Multi-Annual Funding Framework, the objective of which is to provide certainty for priority investment to:

- Support implementation of sustainable development in rural areas
- Meet the requirements of Drinking Water Regulations
- Support objectives in River Basin Management Plans

In October 2019 we received our allocations from the DHLGH (Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage) under the new MARWP 2019 – 2021. €50 million was allocated to the Programme nationally and of this amount Mayo was allocated €15.513 million. This allocation will be spent on over fifty projects benefiting over seventy Group Water Schemes in Mayo. In August 2021, DHLGH allocated a further €5.069 million to fund a new Community Water Connection to serve approximately 600 domestic households in the Murrisk/Lecanvey/Kilsallagh area of Mayo.

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

➔ **Design, Build & Operate:** The design stage continued for the Mayo DBO Bundle 2 Group Water Schemes treatment plant upgrades to address THM exceedances that have arisen on several schemes. A preliminary design report for the 10 schemes was submitted by the DBO operator. Following on from the completion of the DBO Bundle 1A in 2020, the DBO Bundle 2 upgrade contract when completed will leave all 23 Schemes with a water supply fully compliant with the Drinking Water Regulations.

➔ The strong focus on **identifying and reducing water leakage and wastage** continues. The Rural Water Conservation Engineer advises schemes on how to reduce leakage and assists with minor works which help the Section prioritise future capital projects. Where a publicly sourced GWS has accumulated a large water bill due to leakage, a report is drawn up by the Section and submitted to IW requesting a leak credit. The report describes works carried out by the Scheme to reduce their unaccounted-for water (UFW) levels. It highlights the reduction in UFW demonstrating that the Scheme is well managed and maintained. The Rural Water Section have been very successful in obtaining leaks credits using this process.

➔ **Network Upgrades and New Schemes: Measure 1: Source Protection (Group Water Scheme Sector).** Consultant Engineers appointed to the Ballycroy GWS and the Glenhest GWS for the Design and Procurement of extensions to the scheme's Raw Water Intake Mains which will lower risk of contamination from any future forestry works. Design works have also commenced on source protection works for Tooreen/Aughamore GWS & Killaturley GWS.

➔ **Measure 2: Public Health Compliance (Group Water Scheme Sector).** Consultant Engineers appointed and the design phase commenced for Killaturley GWS, Tooreen/Aughamore GWS and Midfield GWS for the upgrade of their existing treatment systems to install an appropriate cryptosporidium barrier. Consultant Engineers appointed to manage network upgrades and the amalgamations of Callow Lake GWS with Attymass GWS, PBKS GWS with Derryvohey GWS and Robeen GWS with Lough Carra GWS.

➔ **Measure 3: Enhancement of Existing Schemes including Water Conservation.** Works completed on upgrades to the Drum/Binghamstown GWS and on the Killaturley GWS networks. Killasser GWS, Glencorrib GWS, Tooreen/Aughamore GWS and Midfield GWS appointed Consultant Engineers to prepare and manage upgrade contracts for the replacement of water mains.

➔ **Measure 5: Transition of Existing Group Water Schemes and Group Sewerage Schemes.** Work commenced on design and construction phases of upgrade contracts for Irishtown GWS, Drumsheen/Newtown GWS, Barnacarroil GWS, Loughnamon GWS, Rosspoint GWS, Cornboy GWS, Killgalligan GWS, Johnstown/Levallyroe GWS, and Cloonmore/Cloonlavish GWS to enable these schemes to connect to the public water network and be Taken In Charge by Irish Water.

➔ **Measure 6 – Community Water/Wastewater Connections.** Consultants appointed to the Murrisk CWC, Clearagh CWC, Enaghbeg CWC and Aughinish CWC. The design stage commenced to provide new drinking water supplies to these communities. Construction work commenced on the new Downpatrick Head CWC.

2021 IN NUMBERS

€15,513,000

was invested in the **Rural Water Programme** in Mayo in 2020 from a national budget of €50 million.

3

Group Water Schemes were taken in charge by Irish Water in 2021. **17** other Schemes have been submitted for takeover which are hoped to be progressed in 2022.

18,700+

households and businesses in Mayo are served by the 178 schemes in County Mayo's Rural Water Programme

550

water samples taken by ELS on behalf of Mayo County Council.

10

works are being carried out on **10** Group Water Schemes in advance of them being submitted for Taking In Charge by Irish Water.

600

The DHLGH allocated €5.069 million to fund a new Community Water Connection to serve approximately 600 domestic households in Murrisk/Lecanvey/Killsallagh.

€4.94 million

in subsidies towards the operation costs of schemes were paid out to schemes who applied.

15

Well Grant Subsidy applications were received in 2021, 11 were processed totalling €31,124.47

ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE & AGRICULTURE

Reflecting a shift in national priorities towards advancing climate action and acknowledging the contribution of agriculture were two key motivations for the department in 2021.

Assisted and supported by the Planning, Environment and Agriculture Strategic Policy Committee and the Agriculture Working Group, the department continued to promote the integration of knowledge and perspectives from a wide range of stakeholders.



A high-quality environment is essential for a good quality of life and is a key component of sustainable development. Mayo County Council places a high emphasis on increasing environmental awareness and promoting behavioural changes to foster that quality.

In tandem with the climate action work of the Department, the Environment, Climate Change & Agriculture team is tasked with the enforcement of environmental legislation, the implementation of EU directives and regulations, national and regional policies and the raising of awareness of environmental issues with the general public.

The Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) - Atlantic Seaboard North, which is hosted by Mayo County Council, has continued to support the local authority sector in leading and transitioning to a low carbon and resilient future. Notable elements of work during 2021 include :

- the rollout of the Weather Impact Register (WIRE) App across the sector.
- the development of a Climate Risk & Vulnerability Methodology in partnership with Climate Ireland.
- progressing the Regional Energy Bureau to tender stage.
- developing and leading a national campaign to create awareness of the role of Sand Dunes in building resilience to climate change for which we are shortlisted for the LAMA 2021 awards.
- the development of Climate Action Signage in conjunction with the Mayo Climate Action Team and the continued implementation of training and workshops to build capacity across the sector.
- The CAROs in conjunction with the EPA have also been developing guidance documents for Local Authority Climate Action Plans which are expected to commence in 2022.



2021 HIGHLIGHTS

➔ **Mayo's Climate Action Gathering**, organised in conjunction with Ballina Green Town was held in November to coincide with the end of **COP 26**. At the same event, the Cathaoirleach launched the **Climate Action Signage** initiative, which highlights climate action and biodiversity measures being delivered at locations across the county.

➔ Mayo County Council funded **Save our Dunes** signage was unveiled at Bertra Beach as part of the **Bertra Connected** Culture Night event.

➔ **20** communities, including Climate Action Louisburgh, Tourmakeady and Westport 2030 submitted Expressions of Interest in becoming Mayo's first **Decarbonising Zone**, 10 of which, representing 30% of the population of the county progressed to applications with **Mulranny** being announced as the initial Decarbonising Zone in May 2021. Grant funding was distributed as agreed in the DZ report.

➔ Although **Electrical Recycling Events** were curtailed during 2021, recycling was promoted through our Civic Amenity Sites.

➔ The **SEAI Annual Public Sector Energy Statement** for 2020, published in late 2021 showed that Mayo County Council has reduced energy emissions by **36.3%** from the 1996-99 baseline surpassing the required 33% reduction. Public lighting, fleet and buildings accounted for 41%, 14% and 45% of overall energy usage respectively.

➔ Mayo County Council completed the largest county-wide river and lake monitoring programme in **Ireland**, monitoring 49 rivers, 21 lakes and 29 bathing areas in the county, to manage and protect our water resources.

➔ A full LIFE Application for **Lough Carra** was made and approved or commencement in 2022. The beneficiaries include Mayo County Council, the Lough Carra Catchment Association and other stakeholders and the project is intended to conserve the rare and designated habitats and species of Lough Carra and to ensure their future conservation.

➔ Mayo County Council's **Climate Adaptation Progress Report** was submitted to the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications.

➔ Many environmental awareness campaigns ran during 2021 to further increase environmental awareness and build on strong links with communities throughout Mayo, including our **Schools Programme, Smoky Coal** and **Dog Fouling** campaigns, and **Safe use of Pesticides, Reuse Month**, reducing food waste, pollinator friendly activities, **Leave no Trace** camping advice and a **composting scheme** at Rathroeen.

➔ In response to complaints from the public, the Catchment Team focused again on a campaign to promote the safe use of **Pesticides** in the community in 2021. Engaging with the Environmental Education Officer this focussed on domestic pesticide use.

➔ Staff participation in Smarter Travel Workplace initiatives including **Marchathon** and **Walktober** was co-ordinated by the Environment Section, as was Climate Action training for all staff.

➔ Preparation for the **River Basin Management Plan 2022-2027** continued in 2021, in consultation with the Environmental Protection Agency and other stake-holders including the Local Authorities Water Programme Regional Office and Inland Fisheries Ireland, providing the framework for advancement of priorities for the new Plan. Following lengthy submissions, discussions and negotiations, the Western Regional Operational Committee ratified proposals for Areas for Restoration, Areas for Protection and Catchment Projects for the new Plan.

➔ An additional **Ambient Air Monitoring** station was approved for installation in **Achill Island** in 2021. A site has been selected with preparation works planned for 2022. This will enhance the National Air Monitoring Programme in the county and bring the total number of sites to four, with other sites located in Claremorris, Ballina and Castlebar. All measurements are available on-line in realtime.

➔ A submission was made on the **Significant Water Management Issues in Ireland** public consultation document. This was an opportunity for Mayo County Council to highlight the issues encountered in our communities whilst implementing the River Basin Management Plan, and to put forward proposals to assist in reaching the targets of the Water Framework Directive.

➔ Mayo County Council entered a Memorandum of Understanding with SEAI which provides bridge financing for Sustainable Energy Communities to undertake Energy Masterplans. **Achill Island SEC** was the first in Ireland to be supported through this process.

2021 IN NUMBERS

66,000+

customers visited Civic Amenity Sites at Derrinnumera and Rathroeen which remained fully functional during public health restrictions. 642 tonnes of street cleaning treated at Rathroeen, reducing the associated waste charges by approximately €92,000.

108

Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems (DWWTS) inspected.

10

Blue Flag Beaches in the county and 6 Green Coast Awards. **29** bathing areas were monitored during the bathing season.

54

sites removed from the Derelict Sites Register in 2021.

500+

tonnes of waste electrical items and batteries collected from recycling centres at Derrinnumera and Rathroeen during 2021.

1,221

non-routine waste inspections carried out following complaints, in addition **497** routine inspections and the investigation of **25** C&D (Construction) waste cases.

179

groups registered and participated in the **National Spring Clean**.

1300+

water quality samples taken from our rivers, lakes and bathing areas.

7

projects successfully undertaken with €103,155.86 in **Anti-Dumping Initiative** grant funding from the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications, including clean-ups and remediation of large-scale historical dump sites, a waste bonfire prevention project and two bulky waste recycling events.

VETERINARY DEPARTMENT

The Department has two main areas of focus, Food Safety and the Dog Warden Service



The Veterinary Department works with local Food Business Operators to achieve and maintain the highest standards of food safety, and is actively involved in combating zoonotic diseases i.e. diseases transmittable between animals and humans. The Department has a direct input into the elimination of Notifiable Diseases. This work is carried out under a Service Contract with the Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI), with particular emphasis on hygiene and traceability.

Within the county there are 7 approved Small Meat-Manufacturing Premises and 6 registered premises. The approved premises produce/distribute a range of products including bacon products, sausages, black and white puddings, luncheon rolls and cooked hams, minced meat and cuts of chicken, supplying local shops and supermarkets, along with manufacturing products for other Food Business Operations around the county. Some are now considering supplying international markets. All small meat-processing premises are inspected and monitored on a regular basis.

Veterinary staff carry out ante-mortem and post-mortem inspections on every animal slaughtered in the 13 abattoirs in Co. Mayo, as well as overseeing general conditions of operational and structural hygiene. In 2021 there were 1,048 cattle, 8,857 sheep, and 22 goats slaughtered in Mayo abattoirs.

In Mayo the Dog Control Service is provided directly by Mayo County Council. Our main responsibility is to ensure that dogs in Mayo are licenced and kept under effectual control thus ensuring safety of the public and protecting people's property (e.g. livestock). A second Dog Warden was appointed in 2021 to work along side the existing Dog Warden.

In 2021 120 dogs were taken into the Dog Pound. The number of dogs rehomed was 78. 35 dogs were reclaimed. 6,032 dog licences issued and 23 dog fines issued during the year. There were 19 premises registered under the Dog Breeding Establishment 2010 Act. The Act requires dog owners with six or more bitches over six months old and capable of breeding to register with the Veterinary Department.

In 2021 an allocation of €35,000 for animal welfare was made available to 7 animal welfare groups.

Campaigns, using print and social media and on local radio, during 2021 included raising awareness of the legal requirements of becoming a dog owner, reminding dog owners of the consequences of dogs worrying sheep and a joint campaign with the National Parks & Wildlife Service asking visitors to keep their dogs under effective control when visiting National Parks.

MAYO COUNTY FIRE SERVICE

Mayo Fire Service is responsible for protecting the life and property of the approximate 130,507 people living in the county, providing a range of services aimed at enhancing fire safety in the community by preventing fires from happening in the first instance, ensuring appropriate fire protection measures are in place in buildings, and providing an operational response to incidents when they do occur. Our focus is protecting the communities we serve.



Mayo County Council currently employs 122 firefighters in 12 fire brigades located around the county.

These skilled and dedicated firefighters delivered a prompt, efficient and effective response to 687 incidents on a 24/7 basis in 2021.

The 687 incidents in 2021 resulted in 779 fire brigade responses.

Mayo Fire Service continued delivery of a comprehensive training programme to develop firefighters skills and to ensure that all personnel are suitably trained and competent to perform their duties and tasks in a safe, efficient and effective manner.

In addition to the provision of training to our own firefighters, accomplished and experienced instructors from Mayo Fire Service were seconded by the National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management to deliver national training courses.

Mayo Fire Service's commitment to the ongoing improvement of health and safety through the Fire Service's Safety Management System was recognised through another successful ISO 45001 surveillance audit by the National Standards Authority of Ireland in August 2021.



2021 HIGHLIGHTS

➔ In July, contracts were signed for the construction of a new fire station in **Crossmolina**, with Mayo based company LPB Building Services. At a cost of almost **€2 million** the build will be 100% grant aided by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. This new purpose built fire station located at Crossmolina Business Park will provide significantly improved access and facilities for the Crossmolina fire brigade unit. Construction has commenced and the works are expected to take 18 months to complete.

➔ Mayo Fire Service takes a proactive role in promoting fire safety, in particular, during **Fire Safety Week** which took place from 4th - 11th October. Activities carried out during the week included the use of social media and local radio to deliver fire safety messages and fire safety education. We also ran an afternoon of demonstrations outside of Fire Brigade Headquarters in Castlebar where members of the public were invited to learn about fire safety and the risks that exist within the home.



➔ A valuable fire education programme was delivered 5 **Transition Year** Classes. Topics included the role and functions of the fire service, the type of work carried out and the recruitment of firefighters. Also included were demonstration of specialised firefighting equipment and breathing apparatus, demonstration of a simulated chip pan fire and the use of fire extinguishers by all the students.

➔ To continue to promote fire safety awareness amongst children we ran a very successful **'Design a Fire Engine'** competition in schools. Participating children drew a Fire Engine and explained their design. Prizes were presented virtually via a Zoom call to the class of the winning entrants.

➔ Our firefighters are proactive and enthusiastic in their response and support for the local community. Crews across the county assisted **'Team Hope's Christmas Shoebox Appeal'** through the collection of over one thousand shoeboxes filled with Christmas gifts for children affected by poverty.

➔ A full review of Mayo County Council's **Major Emergency Plan** was completed in January. Prepared in accordance with the Government's Major Emergency Management Framework following consultation with relevant stakeholders, the Plan sets out arrangements which will be activated by an authorised officer to facilitate Mayo County Council's response to a major emergency. It is designed to integrate and support corresponding plans from the other Principal Response Agencies of An Garda Síochána and the Health Service Executive. An exercise to test the activation procedures of the Major Emergency Plan was conducted through the West Region Communications Centre in March. As part of the continuous Seveso programme aimed at ensuring the protection of people and the environment through agreed and co-ordinated response procedures in the event of a major accident at Upper Tier Seveso Sites, the Emergency Response Plan for European Refreshments, Ballina was reviewed, revised and issued for public consultation. As part of this programme, both a live and virtual tabletop exercise was carried out with key personnel from An Garda Síochána, the Health Service Executive and European Refreshments (pictured left).

➔ Mayo Fire Service conducted a successful inter-agency live training exercise at **Oweninny Wind Farm** to test response procedures, develop co-ordination and increase fire service familiarisation of wind turbines.

2021 IN NUMBERS

Dangerous Substances Licences issued to **10** sites in Mayo following **26** inspections

99 Licensing Application inspections carried out, and **20** other inspections carried out

91 Fire Safety Certificate applications received and processed

164 Building Energy Rating Certificates, **158** airtightness results and **59** sound test results assessed

511 Building Control Inspections carried out

471 valid commencement notices validated relating to **672** buildings/works. **114** Certificates of Compliance on Completion validated relating to **176** buildings/works.

WEST REGION FIRE CONTROL

Mayo County Council is the contracting authority for the West Regional Communications Centre providing a 24-hour call-taking and mobilisation service to 999/112 emergency fire calls on behalf of the local authorities of Mayo, Galway, Roscommon, Sligo, Leitrim and Donegal.



Staff successfully completed in-house training in November on the new National Mobilisation and Communication CAD System currently being rolled out by the Ctrí Project Team.

The new system will facilitate the development of standardised national technological systems and operational processes. WRCC is due to go live with the new system in the final quarter of 2022.

2021 IN NUMBERS



15,287

Incoming calls were received



12,357

Outgoing calls were made



3,797

Fire brigade emergency incidents across the region resulted



ISO 9001

Since January 1st 2018, the West Region Fire Control Centre has ISO 9001 Quality Management Standard accreditation.

MAYO CIVIL DEFENCE

A voluntary organisation, with approximately 60 highly trained volunteers, Mayo Civil Defence provides support to Primary Response Agencies and local communities. The activities of our highly trained members are valued by the front line emergency services and communities which we serve.



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 and training on a weekly basis.

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- ➔ Purchase of Civil Defence Building: Mayo County Council in conjunction with the Civil Defence Branch at the Department of Defence purchased a building for use by Mayo Civil Defence at the Golden Mile Industrial Estate in Castlebar.
- ➔ New equipment including an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle, a remotely operated underwater vehicle, and a multi-purpose Peugeot Expert passenger vehicle purchased using funding provided by the Civil Defence Branch of the Department of Defence.
- ➔ Volunteers participated in successful training events during 2021, in the areas of Medical Response, Search and Rescue, Emergency Response and Community Assistance.



Photo: Galway Civil Defence

2021 IN NUMBERS



60

60 Volunteers willingly and freely give of their time, expertise, and training on a weekly basis.



11

Assistance provided for 11 missing persons searches during 2021.



1

Peugeot Expert Multi-Purpose Passenger Vehicle acquired, funded by the Civil Defence Branch of the Department of Defence.



49

taskings supporting the response to the Covid-19 Pandemic at the request of the Local Authority and the Health Service Executive. 23 Community/Sporting events supported along with 1 Climatic Emergency.

WATER SAFETY

There are 10 Designated Bathing Areas in County Mayo comprising of 9 beaches and Belmullet Tidal Pool.

In 2021, Mayo County Council employed 21 Full-Time Beach Lifeguards with 8 Reserve Beach Lifeguards and 2 Full-Time Pool Lifeguards from 5th June to 5th September, 2021 and the following are the statistics reported by the Lifeguards on each of the Designated Bathing Areas.

LOCATION	RESCUE WITHOUT CRAFT	RESCUE USING CRAFT	FIRST AID	LOST CHILD	ADVICE GIVEN	ACCIDENT PREVENTED	OTHER	NON-FATAL DROWING
Belmullet	1	0	8	1	3,134	82	0	0
Bertra Beach	0	0	8	0	711	0	0	0
Carrowmore	0	0	35	1	726	1	1	0
Carrowniskey	0	0	49	0	837	0	0	0
Keel	0	13	110	3	3,663	95	6	0
Keem	0	1	26	1	1,081	2	6	0
Mulranny	0	0	36	1	630	4	0	0
Old Head	0	2	23	2	841	3	0	0
Ross	0	0	4	1	375	0	1	0
Silver Strand	2	3	17	0	616	2	2	0
TOTALS	3	19	316	10	12,614	189	16	0

The 537 ringbuoys located at public areas in County Mayo were inspected and maintained on a regular basis during 2021.

WORLD DROWNING PREVENTION DAY

The United Nations General Assembly adopted a historic resolution on global drowning prevention and declared 25th July, 2021 as the first World Drowning Prevention Day.

Around Ireland, buildings, landmarks and windowfronts were lit up in blue to mark the day and Water Safety Ireland asked everyone to mark the day by practicing water safety in everything they do at home, at work and at play. In Mayo, Lannagh Leisure Centre, Castlebar and the bridges over Carrowbeg River in Westport turned blue and our Beach Lifeguards also marked the day by using blue face paint.



FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT & MOTOR TAX

IN THIS SECTION

Finance

Motor Taxation



Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo
Mayo County Council



FINANCE

The Finance Department is responsible for the financial operations in Mayo County Council with particular emphasis on ensuring that adequate arrangements are in place to finance revenue and capital activity.



Revenue, or day-to-day expenditure, is defrayed from sources such as:



Government Grants



Commercial Rates



Housing Rents



Planning Application Fees



Other goods and services such as:

Landfill/Civic Amenity Charges, Pay & Display Charges

A wide range of services are provided by the Finance Section including:

- Financial and Budgetary Control, Cash Flow and Treasury Management
- Preparation of the Annual Budget
- Preparation of Annual Financial Statements
- Administration of the Financial Management Systems
- Payroll Administration
- Commercial Rates Billing and Collection
- Housing Rents and Loans Billing and Collection
- Payment of Supplier Accounts
- Cash Receipting
- Administration and collection of the Non-Principal Private Residence Charge.

The Finance Department also ensures that statutory and financial accounting principles, which apply to all money paid by, or to, the Council are complied with.

2021 was another challenging year. Notwithstanding the significant financial challenges which this Council has faced over the past number of years and especially with the current Covid- 19 pandemic, the Council was overall in a stable financial position at the end of 2021.

2021 IN NUMBERS

Revenue Expenditure of **€184,359,829** and Capital Expenditure of **€126,545,945** indicate the extent of day to day service delivery and infrastructural development and demonstrates the significance of Council operations on the local economy.

Expenditure levels increased in key areas including Roads Grants and Active Travel, Group Water Schemes, Tourism, Greenways and Amenities and in the Economic Development Sector.

€9,401,049 of the total **Local Property Tax** received was collected within the county with a further **€11,455,856** being received from the Equalisation Fund

2021 Collection levels in the three major collection areas are:

➤ Rates*	83.2%➤
Rent and Annuities	85.9%➤
Housing Loans	81.4%

* €10.1 million Commercial Rates Waiver Grant received from Local Government Finance, equal to the amount waived due to the impact of Covid- 19. If this was included, the collection rate would be 88%

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT STATEMENT

FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2021

The Income and Expenditure Account Statement brings together all the revenue related income and expenditure. It shows the surplus/(deficit) for the year. Transfers to/from reserves are shown separately and not allocated by service division. Note 16 allocates transfers by service division in the same format as Table A of the adopted Local Authority budget.

Expenditure by Division	Notes	Gross Expenditure	Income	Net Expenditure	Net Expenditure
		2021	2021	2021	2020
		€	€	€	€
Housing & Building		22,346,394	20,238,645	2,107,749	832,543
Roads Transportation & Safety		52,828,451	40,278,598	12,549,853	11,223,887
Water Services		19,462,474	19,396,650	65,824	46,930
Development Management		16,213,556	7,614,097	8,599,459	7,659,821
Environmental Services		17,789,560	6,076,823	11,712,737	11,599,272
Recreation & Amenity		11,107,263	3,492,669	7,614,594	8,070,102
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare		1,551,444	717,184	834,260	767,082
Miscellaneous Services		26,179,370	25,767,032	412,338	2,270,299
Total Expenditure/Income	15	167,478,511	123,581,698		
Net cost of Divisions to be funded from Rates & Local Property Tax				43,896,813	42,469,936
Rates				34,518,132	34,542,787
Local Property Tax				20,856,905	19,812,342
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year before Transfers	16			11,478,224	11,885,193
Transfers from/(to) Reserves	14			(11,293,870)	(11,691,311)
Overall Surplus/(Deficit) for Year				184,353	193,882
General Reserve @ 1st January 2021				(3,871,794)	(4,065,676)
General Reserve @ 31st December 2021				(3,687,441)	(3,871,794)

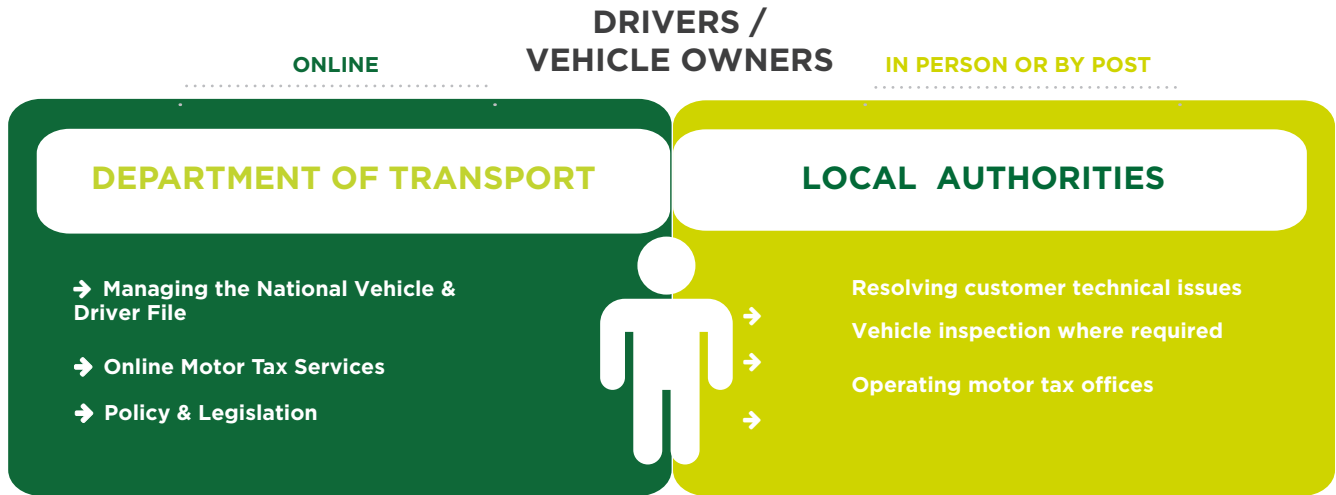
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (BALANCE SHEET) AT 31st DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	2021	2020
		€	€
FIXED ASSETS	1		
Operational		484,884,040	473,241,217
Infrastructural	,	2,990,650,459	2,988,377,438
Community		10,370,064	10,580,724
Non-Operational		57,567,004	58,243,748
		3,543,471,567	3,530,443,127
Work in Progress ad Preliminary Expenses	2	186,874,133	112,396,825
Long Term Debtors	3	55,522,872	58,251,674
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks	4	344,184	350,943
Trade Debtors & Prepayments	5	23,368,284	25,869,337
Bank Investments		49,141,160	27,227,485
Cash at Bank		4,520,422	14,215,815
Cash in Transit		105,057	127,522
		77,479,107	67,791,101
CURRENT LIABILITIES (AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR)			
Bank Overdraft		-	-
Creditors & Accruals	6	68,393,241	63,555,267
Finance Leases		398,685	486,439
		68,791,927	64,041,705
NET CURRENT ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)		8,687,181	3,749,396
CREDITORS (AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR)			
Loans Payable	7	114,009,096	120,704,558
Finance Leases		701,623	1,100,309
Refundable Deposits	8	7,372,975	6,606,615
Other		1,722,435	1,373,639
		123,806,130	129,785,121
NET ASSETS		3,670,749,623	3,575,055,902
REPRESENTED BY			
Capitalisation Account	9	3,543,471,567	3,530,443,127
Income WIP	2	183,141,925	108,280,855
General Revenue Reserve		(3,687,441)	(3,871,794)
Other Specific Reserves		-	-
Other Balances	10	(52,176,429)	(59,796,286)
TOTAL RESERVES		3,670,749,623	3,575,055,902

MOTOR TAX

Mayo Motor Tax deals with the administration of Vehicle Licensing Legislation in county Mayo, delivering quality and timely services, providing customer focused and friendly services to its users.

Below is a breakdown of the roles and responsibilities for the collection of Motor Tax, identifying the key role Mayo Motor Tax has in the collection and delivery of this service.



These services are delivered through our three strategically located offices within Mayo.

01 Glenpark, The Mall,
Castlebar

02 Civic Offices,
Ballina

03 Belmullet Civic Centre,
Belmullet

Mayo Motor Tax also provides telephone services and an email contact address at motortax@mayococo.ie.

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

› Mayo Motor Tax collected €27,339,494 during 2021, €22,446,91 was collected online and €4,892,523 across the three offices.

› 85.04% of motor tax transactions were dealt with online in 2021.

2021 IN NUMBERS

28,318 transactions were completed by the Motor Tax Office in 2021



2021 IN PHOTOS



M MAYO.IE
MAYO DAY 1st MAY 2021

SATURDAY, 1st MAY 2021

MAYO.IE FACEBOOK LIVE-UP INCLUDES:

- 10:00 MAYO DAY GREETINGS FROM THE CATHAOIRLEACH OF MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL. [CLICK HERE TO WATCH](#)
- 10:00 LAUNCH OF MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL CATHAOIRLEACH'S AWARDS
- 10:30 PERFORMANCES BY ELLEN SHAW AND THE BRIDGES
- 11:00 **WE AND MAYO** - A STORY OF MAYO EMPLOYMENT'S SIMILARITIES EXPLORING THE LIVES EXPERIENCES OF MAYO PEOPLE MAKING THEIR LIVES ELSEWHERE AND THOSE FROM ELSEWHERE WHO MAKE THEIR HOME IN MAYO
- 11:30 **SAFE ONLINE: LEARNING BENEVOLENT** FROM THE EDUCATION TEAM AT THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF IRELAND - COUNTY LIFE
- 12:00 **WELFARE OF THE ISLANDS** - JOIN THE ADZOLL LADS FOR A TAPING PERFORMANCE FROM INCHSTOWN
- 12:30 HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MAYO COUNTY DANCE AND THE EDUCATION
- 1:00 SHOUTING CASTLE DANCE PERFORMANCE FROM THE N.M.M. MERRY SCHOOL OF DANCE
- 1:30 STUART MURPHY'S PERFORMANCE
- 1:45 **THE LADY OF THE LAKES** - WITH THE LAKES AND ADZOLL ONSTAGE FOR THE FACEBOOK LIVE SAFE HOME IRELAND (MAYO DAY) COUNTY
- 1:50 **MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL GUEST REPRESENTATIVE GILL SHAW** - [CLICK HERE TO WATCH](#)

ON TG4 at 9.30pm - MAYO DAY - Ár bPobal, Our People. CELEBRATING OUR PEOPLE AND PLACE AND SHOWCASING MAYO TO A WORLDWIDE AUDIENCE

A Regain TV programme at 8.30pm on Mayo Day evening on [TG4](#) catch up [HERE](#). Music and culture, conversation and chat with very special guests, and showcasing the incredible beauty of our Atlantic county.

CELEBRATING MAYO DAY, THE MAYO WAY EVERYONE IS WELCOME - GET INVOLVED!

Mayo Day 2021 will be fully online. Keep up to date on what's happening by visiting [www.Mayo.ie](#) and our social media:

[www.facebook.com/MayoDotIE](#)
[www.instagram.com/MayoDotIE](#)





Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo
Mayo County Council



ANNUAL REPORT

2021

A PUBLICATION OF THE COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT AT MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL