

Comhairle Contae Mhuíneacháin Monaghan County Council



Tuarascáil Bhliantúil 2015 Annual Report 2015



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CATHAOIRLEACH'S MESSAGE



As Cathaoirleach of County Monaghan it is my pleasure to introduce this Annual Report for the 2015. It was a great honour for me to be elected Cathaoirleach in June 2015 and I would like to thank my Sinn Fein Party colleagues for putting my name forward for the position and my fellow Councillors for their unanimous support.

During the year we saw further bedding down of the changes and structures laid out in the Local Government Reform Act 2014. Monaghan County Council have transformed and adapted their services and departments in order to conform with the Act. In this regard, I would like to thank Eugene Cummins, the first Chief Executive appointed under the new regime for implementing these changes. Eugene left Monaghan County Council in September to take up a position with Roscommon County Council. I wish him well in his new position. Following Eugene's departure, Adge King, took up the role of Chief Executive and continued in the post until the appointment of Eamonn O'Sullivan as Chief Executive in January 2016. I thank Adge for his courtesy to me during that period. I also want to welcome Eamonn and wish him every success in his new role.

Since the new Council took up office in 2014 it seems to me that the abolition of our five town councils and the important role that they played is only now becoming apparent to the general public. As a result of the excellent service that our former town councillors gave to their communities, which they can no longer do as elected representatives, the workload has increased dramatically on the 18 members currently elected to represent the people of the county.

The huge changes in local government in recent times have resulted in Monaghan County Council having a greater role in economic development. The Local Enterprise Office has come under the umbrella of the local authority, which is to be welcomed, given the *get up and go* and entrepreneurial spirit that we have in this county.

The county of Monaghan has one of the strongest community sectors in the country. The Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) and the Public Participation Network (PPN) (established under Putting People First) should help and encourage the community to engage further in the policy making process and encourage more people across the county to have their say and voice their opinion.

2015 saw the announcement of a very extensive programme of upcoming events and activities to mark the 1916 Rising. I was delighted to be part of the launch of this programme and wish to acknowledge the work of the Council's 2016 Steering Committee. I wish to commend, in particular, the community across the county for their input and engagement to make these events truly inclusive.

I would like to thank my colleagues in the Council for their co-operation during the year. I would also like to thank the Chief Executive and his staff for their support and assistance to me during my term as Cathaoirleach.

Noel Keelan
Cathaoirleach of Monaghan County Council

INTRODUCTION - CHIEF EXECUTIVE



I am very pleased to present the Annual Report for 2015 on behalf of Monaghan County Council. The report provides a wide range of information on the performance and achievements of the council across each of the council's functional areas. The Council still continue to operate in a challenging economic environment.

However, for the first time in many years, the annual trend of declining staff numbers has halted with 2015 showing a modest increase. Similarly, the funding available to the Local Authority for the year at €67 million, including revenue and capital expenditure would seem to have

finally reached a plateau.

The task of further embedding the reforms of the 2014 Local Government Act were substantially progressed in 2015, with the roles and functions of the Municipal Districts becoming clearer, the strengthening of the Local Enterprise Office team, and substantial progress being made by the LCDC and the new community PPN Networks.

On the economic side, the highlight of the year was the approval of planning for a new production facility for Combilift Ltd, the creation of 200 new jobs, and the commencement of the site development work.

The delivery of the Reform programme and the abolition of the former Town Councils have uniquely resulted in the preparation of a single budget for the County for 2015.

I acknowledge and commend the continued dedication, flexibility and commitment of all our staff, both indoor and outdoor during this time of change. These are challenging times for our citizens, and our staff and services continue to be delivered to a high standard in conjunction with the change management programme.

I wish to also thank the Cathaoirleach and elected members for their support and co-operation with staff and management, and acknowledge their contribution to ensuring a smooth transition to our new way of doing business.

Adge King
Chief Executive

MEMBERS OF COUNTY COUNCIL – JANUARY – DECEMBER 2015

CARRICKMACROSS-CASTLELBYNEY MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



**Aidan
Campbell**



**Colm
Carthy**



**Jackie
Crowe**



**Noel
Keelan**



**Padraig
McNally**



**P.J.
O'Hanlon**

BALLYBAY-CLONES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



**Eugene
Bannigan**
(resigned
Sept. 2015)



**Cathy
Bennett**



**Séamus
Coyle**



**Sean
Gilliland**
(co-opted
Dec. 2015)



**Ciara
McPhillips**



**Hugh
McElvaney**



**Pat
Treanor**

MONAGHAN MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



**Paudge
Connolly**



**Seán
Conlon**



**Robbie
Gallagher**



**David
Maxwell**



**Brian
McKenna**



**Seamus
Treanor**

HOUSING AND BUILDING

Housing and Building

The aim of the Council is to ensure that every household can obtain an affordable dwelling of good quality, suited to its needs, in a good environment, and as far as possible in a tenure of its choice. In order that the aim can be achieved it is important that:

- Unfit and overcrowded houses are eliminated.
- The demand for houses, subject to resources available, be met as they arise.
- The structural and environmental standard of housing is improved.
- Owner occupation be encouraged to the fullest extent, compatible with national economic and social development.

Services Provided and Future Plans

The output from 2015 and the proposed 2016 programme is given below. The 2015 programme will be subject to the necessary finance being provided by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

Location	Completed in 2015	Under Construction/To commence or be acquired in 2016
McCurtain Street	9	Completed
Latlorcan	0	17 houses +20 acres (High Court ruling awaited in Q2 of 2016)
Bree new build	0	8 to commence
Demountable dwellings	0	0
Farm Homes	0	0
Single Houses Acquisitions (second hand)	14	15+
House Acquisitions under Part V	0	9 to commence
Mullaghmatt Remedial Works Scheme Phase 3	23 (18 L.A. & 5 private) to be completed	Completed
Mullaghmatt Remedial Works Scheme Phase 4	0	76 (13 L.A. & 63 private) to commence
Long Term Leasing	0	5+ to be leased if available
Capital Advance Leasing Facility	9	44 (Lough na Glack & Liseggerton)
Returning Long Term Vacant Houses to Use	13	6 in progress and application for funding made for 2 Church Street, Castleblayney (protected structure)

Castleblayney Care Association Facilities for Intellectual Disability Drumillard, Castleblayney	<u>Revised Budget Approval €2,362,033</u> Total Expenditure to the end of 2015 - €2,354,322.40. Allocation of 10 Independent Units completed by December 2014. On-going negotiations between CCA /HSE regarding allocation of Group Home.
Respond Housing Association Group Home – Facility for Physical / Sensory Disabilities, Carrickmacross	<u>Revised Increased Budget Approved – October 2015 - €1,570,541</u> Contractor to commence works on site – Feb 2016.
Respond Housing Association Group Home – Lurgans - Facility for Intellectual Disabilities, Carrickmacross	<u>Property Purchase and Renovations Completed in 2014</u> Still awaiting HIQA clarification on compliance.
Respond Housing Association Extension to Steadfast House – Facility for Intellectual Disabilities - Carrickmacross	<u>Extension Works Complete</u> Unit allocated and occupied since June 2014.
Newgrove Housing Association Facility for Intellectual Disabilities 16 Coolshannagh View, Monaghan.	<u>All works complete June 2015</u> Awaiting HIQA clarification on compliance. Tenants of 11 An Corran expected to be transferred Q1 2016.

Energy Efficiency Programme

The Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government provided funding of €331,489 in 2014 to upgrade 336 housing units.

Maintenance Programme

Maintenance is a key activity for the Council's housing service with **€742,308**, **€383,785** and **€673,143** respectively spent in 2015 on response, work prior to re-letting and planned maintenance in respect of the current stock of 1,409 dwellings.

The Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government provided funding of €100,502 for returning vacant properties to productive use.

Disabled Persons Grants, IWIL's and Extensions

In 2015, €86,388 was spent on 17 council owned properties where adaptation works were necessary to improve accessibility for either the elderly tenants, and/or, those with a specific disability.

Allocations of tenancy

All allocations were made under the Scheme of Letting Priorities. There were 70 allocations of tenancy to persons on the housing waiting list, from within the existing stock. This enabled the Council to combine the best use of stock whilst addressing the needs of tenants.

Monaghan County Council	Stock of Rented at 31.12.15	No of Tenant Purchases	Waiting List at 31.01.16	New Tenancies 2015
	1412	0	1174	70

Rental Accommodation Scheme (R.A.S.)

At 31st December 2015, there were 152 long term recipients of rent supplement in Co. Monaghan.

The following is a summary of the Rental Accommodation Scheme activity to **31/12/2015** in Monaghan, which addressed the demand in the County.

Voluntary housing RS recipients to RAS (Total)	91
Private Rental market housed through RAS(Total)	166

Grants

Monaghan County Council operates 3 Housing Grant Schemes for people living in private accommodation to ensure they can continue to live independent lives. The 3 schemes are:-

- Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability (HGD)
- Mobility Aids Housing Grant Scheme (MAG)
- Housing Aid For Older People (HOP)

The table below indicates how many people applied for the schemes, how much was spent in total on each scheme, and how many people were successful in securing grants in 2015.

Grant Type	Applications Received	Applications Approved/Paid	Amount Approved/Paid
HGD	48	41	491,678.39
MAG	53	47	236,115.66
HOP	84	78	316,341.95
TOTAL	185	166	€1,044,316.00

Tidy Areas Competition

There were 20 entries for the Tidy Areas Competition. The principal prize winners in 2015 were:

Best Overall Village	Doohamlet Residents Association
Best Floral display	Ard Bannagher Residents Association
Most Improved Village	Cluain Lorcaín Residents Committee
Litter Control	Cloughvalley Local Development Group

Homeless Support

In 2015 there were 74 presentations to Monaghan County Council of persons who said they were homeless or at risk of homelessness. The Council provided emergency accommodation on 32 occasions and assisted a further 42 adults with advice and information to ensure their situation did not result in homelessness. Some of those presenting adults have children. They were all assessed and following this were provided with appropriate housing supports and advice.

ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION

Monaghan County Council is responsible for the upkeep and improvement of the road network within the county, which consists of 104km kilometres of national roads, 298 kilometres of regional roads and 2,144 kilometres of local roads.

A substantial programme of works was delivered, recording significant achievements by the Roads and Transportation Department during 2015.

The grant allocation from the National Roads Authority for National Roads in 2015 was **€3,377,607** comprising of:

- Improvement works € 2,731,578
- Maintenance works€ 646,029
- **Total 2015.....€3,377,607**

The NRA funding provided for:

NP Pavement & Minor Works

- The completion of works on the Coolkill East to Corracrin section of the N2 Monaghan to Emyvale phases 2 & 4
- N2 Monaghan to Emyvale 3 phase – (Gortmoney to Cornacreeve) – Notice to Treat was issued on 31st August 2015 and land acquisition is progressing

- N2 Derryellan to Tullyvin R/B surface replacement -re-surfacing of approximately 6.0km of national primary road with a pavement overlay

HD 28 Pavement Renewals 2015

- NP/NS Safety Barrier repairs at various locations (MN/15/12602)
- Surface retexturing at various locations on the national roads (MN/14/11841)

NP Safety Measures HD15 & HD 17 Minor works

- Upgrade of signalised junction on the N54 exiting Clones on the Monaghan Road
- Upgrade of Zebra Crossings and renewal of road markings on the N54 within Monaghan Town
- Shaws Corner - Traffic Calming measures implemented on the Northern approach to Emyvale village which is located on the N2 Dublin/Derry National Primary route



National Primary and National Secondary Maintenance

Maintenance of the National primary and Secondary roads continued with an allocation of €650,297.00 which included winter maintenance, national route lighting and engineering support. This allocation also catered for the following works:

1) Landscaping

Low Maintenance Landscaping was installed on the Annahagh roundabout on the Monaghan Bypass and the Clontibret 2 + 1 road at McPhillips garage in the townland of Kilcrow.



2) Monaghan Transport Plan and LUTS Study

This project involves the development of a detailed transport plan for Monaghan Town, which will then form the basis of a Land Use and Transportation plan for the town. The project was initiated and planned in 2015. A detailed traffic survey and consultation with all stakeholders was carried out. A Baseline Traffic Evaluation report was completed allowing for the development of a basic traffic model, in house. This model will be expanded by consulting specialists. Project completion is expected in late 2016.

Non-National Roads

Funding for Non National roads was provided through Grant receipts of **€7,648,680** from the Department of Transport and **€3,114,346** from Monaghan County Council's own resources. A total of 55,293m of non national roads was improved under the restoration improvement grant and 60,917m of non national roads (regional and local) was surface dressed under the Restoration Maintenance programme.

The Department of Transport provided funding for the following:

€4,558,075 -	Discretionary & Restoration Improvement grant
€1,742,007 -	Discretionary Maintenance
€1,091,862 -	Restoration Maintenance
€40,000.00 -	Training (Health and Safety)

Bridge Rehabilitation Works (BRIDGES)	
Bridge Rehab Works – R186 (B11) Derrykinnighbeg	€10,587.05
Bridge Rehab Works – R183 (B33) Dernaglug	€28,429.81
Bridge Rehab Works – R162 (B92) Lackan Bridge	0.00
	€39,016.86

Low Cost Safety	
LCSI Mon – R183 Analore Bridge	€31,468.24
LCSI LP3444 Clontibret Village	€18,058.67
LCSI –LP4901 Drumgossatt School	€20,239.32
LCSI – R181/R184 Main Street Castleblayney	€50,028.89
LCSI Inniskeen Village	€32,537.05
	€152,332.17

Flood Mitigation Works

Grants from the OPW together with the Councils own resources catered for flood mitigation works at the following locations:

- Dunsinaire – OPW approved Funding of €134,472. This scheme was completed in 2015.
- Threemilehouse village: OPW approved funding of €135,000 for flood alleviation works in the village. The scheme was completed.

Machinery Yard

A programme for Monaghan County Council's fleet replacement was developed in 2015. So far 3 new 6x4 tipper lorries, 4 new Citroen Relay vans, 2 new Fiat Doblo Max 1.3 vans and 1 new Ford Ranger Pickup were purchased.

Monaghan County Council has implemented an entire fleet vehicle inspection and maintenance system to comply with the Road Safety Authority (Commercial Vehicle Roadworthiness) (Vehicle Maintenance and Repair) regulations 2013 (SI 348 of 2013).



MOTOR TAXATION

The Motor Taxation Section deals with transactions relating to ownership of vehicles and taxation of vehicles. A steady increase in the volume of licensed vehicles is counterbalanced by an increase on the number of transactions processed online.

The National Vehicle and Driver File (NVDF) is a national computerised database centrally controlled and updated in Shannon, County Clare and through the combined motor tax offices in Ireland. The purpose of this database file is:

- To facilitate the Penalty Points System
- Provide greater on-line facilities for Motor Tax Offices
- Improve the level of service offered to the public

Monaghan Motor Taxation office has welcomed the Motor Tax Online System – a component of the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government eGovernment strategy. Renewing Online minimises the impact of geographical constraints on the delivery of services.

Transaction Levels

Description	Recorded No of transactions*	Total Income
Motor Vehicles Discs / Trailer Licenses /Trade Plates/ V.R.C.'s/Statutory Off Road Declarations. (SORDS)	42,198	€8,775,131

In addition, Monaghan Motor Tax provides registration details on request to various statutory authorities in accordance with the relevant traffic regulations and in compliance with the Data Protection act.

Online Business

Motor Tax Discs issued online have risen to 50.69% of an overall total 69,341 in 2015.

WATER SERVICES

Irish Water took over responsibility for public water and wastewater services from the Local Authorities with effect from 1st January 2014. Irish Water is now responsible for the operation and maintenance of public water and wastewater services, including:

- Management of national water and wastewater assets;
- Maintenance of the water and wastewater system;
- Investment and planning;
- Managing capital projects; and
- Customer care and billing.

To manage water and waste water services from 2014, Irish Water have a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Monaghan County Council. This means that while the ownership and management of water assets transferred to Irish Water in 2014, asset operations continue to be delivered locally by Monaghan County Council. There will be phased transitions of further functions from Monaghan County Council to Irish Water over the next three years.

The Service Level Agreement sets out the arrangements by which water and waste water services will be provided by Monaghan County Council. Irish Water pay Monaghan County Council for the services provided. The Service Level Agreement will run for 12 years with reviews in year 2015 and 2021. The key objective is for the SLA to underpin an enduring collaborative relationship between Irish Water and Local Authorities.

A core part of the Service Level Agreement is the Multi-Annual Service Plan (MASP), which documents the agreed objectives of Irish Water and Monaghan County Council. The Multi Annual Service Level Plan commits both parties to deliver these specific objectives and standards of performance against a budget covering headcount, goods and services and investment.

The Service Plan identifies:

- The detailed and specific targets and objectives;
- The performance indicators being monitored to ensure achievement of objectives;
- The methodology for measurement and calculation of performance;
- The process of reporting against the agreed performance indicators;
- The budget and headcount agreed by Irish Water and Monaghan County Council for 2016/2017;
- The 3 Year Transformation initiative;
- The elements of the Irish Water Capital programme that are pertinent for Monaghan County Council.

The SLA also envisages developing a rolling Five Year Plan with each Local Authority with the first to be drafted in 2015. This will capture longer term transformation initiatives, capital programmes, efficiency measures and re-organisation.

Capital Investment Programme

Irish Water's proposed 2014-2016 Capital Investment Plan (CIP) outlines the indicative investment priorities in water services infrastructure over the next three years. The proposed CIP is required under Section 34 of the Water Services (No. 2) Act 2013 to "set out and particularise the investment in water services infrastructure that Irish Water considers necessary for the effective performance by it of its functions". The proposed CIP requires €1.77bn to meet the objectives identified by Irish Water and previous programmes of the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government (DECLG). The Plan will deliver improvements in drinking water quality, leakage, wastewater compliance, business efficiencies and customer service.



The County Monaghan priority projects included in the Capital Investment Plan include; watermain rehabilitation in Monaghan Town, watermain rehabilitation in Clones, an upgrade to the Lough Egish Regional water treatment plant at Kilkit, and; upgrades to the existing wastewater treatment plants at Carrickmacross and Castleblayney (photo opposite is the official opening of Carrickmacross Treatment Plant).

In addition to the actions outlined above, Irish Water has launched the Minor Capital Programme group which consists of programmes aimed at optimising the performance of existing assets with targeted low level investment. These programmes aim to address known asset deficiencies to deliver improvements in Health and Safety, quality/compliance, reliability, maintainability, operational costs and sustainability. The programme also targets standardisation and best practice, achieving significant business efficiencies and cost reductions.

Rural Water Programme

The Rural Water Programme in County Monaghan is administered by Monaghan County Council and is comprised of a number of measures to address deficiencies in:

- Group Water Schemes
- Group Sewerage Schemes
- Private Supplies where no alternative group or public supply is available.

Annual subsidies are administered by Monaghan County Council towards the cost of providing domestic water to Group Water Schemes.

In 2015, a subsidy of €2,539,917.39 towards the operational cost of supplying water for domestic use was paid to 12 Group Water Schemes. Grants totalling €3,487.58 were also paid to private householders for the provision or necessary improvement of individual water supplies to their house.

Group Water Schemes continued to carry out necessary upgrading and improvement works which were grant aided by the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government. Grants to the value of €737,500.00 were paid to 10 schemes in 2015.

FINANCE

Upgrade of Financial Management System

Monaghan County Council commenced the Milestone 4 Project during 2015. This project essentially involves the upgrade of the Council's Financial Management System (FMS) from Agresso 5.4 to Agresso Milestone 4. A dedicated project team has been put in place to deliver the roll-out of this large-scale project. The upgrade introduces enhanced procurement functionality and introduces workflow to the purchase to pay process. Improved budgetary control and purchase order approval also form part of the upgrade. Although the major enhancements are centred around procurement and purchase to pay, all modules of the FMS have to be tested before the go live date of June 2016.

Accounting and Budgeting

The unification of the Monaghan Local Authorities in 2014 had the effect of amalgamating the accounts of the former Town Councils with those of the County Council. 2015 was the first year that a single Budget applied, and a single Annual Financial Statement was prepared for the unified entity. The reduction in the number of entities from six to one resulted in a significant streamlining of the budgeting, financial reporting and auditing processes.

Payroll and Superannuation

2015 was the first full year that the National Local Authority shared service for payroll "My Pay" processed the payroll on behalf of Monaghan County Council. The shared service is operated by Laois County Council. The payroll processing moved to My Pay in November 2014, with some input of data and preparatory payroll work remaining in Monaghan.

The Council is currently in the preparation phase of a shared service for superannuation. The shared service will centralise the pension function under My Pay. It is expected that the centralisation will happen in the last quarter of 2016, following the updating, verification and handover of all superannuation data.

Corporate Procurement

The Finance section provides advice and support on procurement to other sections of the organisation, that are involved in the procurement process, and keeps all staff up to date on current developments in procurement. Procurement is a key value-adding function in Monaghan County Council. The Finance section produces, and regularly updates procurement guidelines and procedures that are designed to provide all staff involved in the procurement process with a thorough understanding of public sector accountability, best methods and processes involved in acquiring goods and services. The section also assists and supports staff across the organisation in complying with the requirements of the Public Spending Code.

Prompt Payment Legislation

The Prompt Payment of Accounts Act 1997 and the European Communities (Late Payment in Commercial Transactions) Regulations 2012 are aimed at combating late payment in commercial transactions. The legislation and Regulations provide that interest and compensation for late payment will become payable if supplier payments for commercial transactions are not made by the due deadline, generally 30 days.

Since 2011, the payment period applicable to Local Authorities has been reduced from 30 to 15 days, although interest and compensation for late payment still only applies to payments not met within 30 days. Monaghan County Council completes a quarterly return setting out details of its performance in paying suppliers. These quarterly returns are available on the Council's website.

During 2015 Monaghan County Council did not make any payments of prompt payment interest.

Revenue Collection

Revenue Collectors are the primary means of regular contact with the Council's commercial ratepayers and housing rent and annuity payees, and in certain cases housing loan payees. Revenue collection and debt management are increasingly important in the current financial climate. The impact of the economic downturn has been particularly pronounced and Local Authorities have long led the way in terms of the sympathetic and constructive treatment of borrowers in arrears. As part of the follow-up on arrears, Monaghan Local Authority has put in place the Central Bank's Code of Conduct - a Mortgage Arrears Resolution Process (MARP). The MARP sets out a framework for dealing with mortgage arrears in a timely, efficient and flexible way which is fair to both the lending authority and the borrower. In a small percentage of commercial rates arrears cases the Council has engaged the service of Stubbs Gazette, an outside debt collection agency. During 2015 Monaghan County Council implemented the National Debt Management Project for the collection of Commercial Rates. This project set out guidelines for the treatment of all aspects of the debt management function regarding Rates. In 2015 Monaghan County Council increased its rates collection percentage from 64% to 69%.

GOVERNANCE & CORPORATE AFFAIRS

The Corporate Affairs Section provides support to senior management, the Cathaoirleach & elected members and organises council and committee meetings and associated activities. It is responsible for the preparation of the Corporate Plan, the Annual Report, Customer Care, the compilation of the Register of Electors, Freedom of Information, and the management of Corporate Property and assets.

The section also co-ordinates the compilation of National Performance Service Indicators and monitors the implementation of the provisions of the Official Languages Act 2003.

Energy Efficiency

National and EU legislation requires public bodies, including Monaghan County Council, to achieve a 33% energy reduction by 2020. All public bodies submit their annual energy usage to SEAI for monitoring, reporting and for independent verification.

In 2015, the Energy team has been working on a number of fronts at collecting and monitoring the Council's energy usage, at putting in place systems and procedures and at implementing actions to reduce our Energy usage and work towards the 2020 target. Some of the initiatives undertaken include:-

- A number of staff undertook the SEAI's EnergyMAP training. This allows a structured approach to be taken towards energy management
- The Energy Team worked with all energy using sections of the Council to collect record and report to SEAI the total energy usage.

- A new automated system has been put in place for the monthly reading of energy meters, this allows all key staff to look at the energy usage within their area of responsibility and for the organisation to track and monitor energy usage.
- Monaghan County Council actively participated in the SEAI's Better Energy Community (BEC) scheme with our energy partners REIL, and received funding of 30% for a number of projects.
- The Council also organised for 18 Community Groups to participate in the BEC scheme in 2015.

From 2014, the Council does not report the Water Services element of energy use; this has reduced the energy consumption by 40%.

Figures for Energy Usage:

Monaghan County Councils total primary energy usage	9.24 GWh
With a total expenditure of	€980,000

Monaghan County Council's Energy Breakdown:

Thermal (Heating)	13%
Transport	33%
Electricity	55%

The significant energy users include:

- Public Lighting
- Monaghan Leisure Centre
- General Office
- Landfill
- Market House Building
- Carrickmacross Civic Building

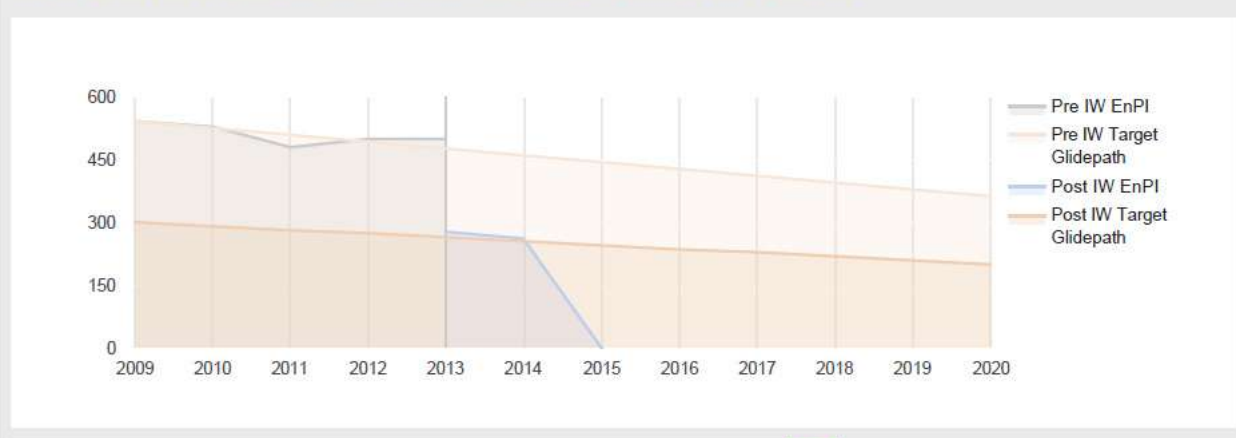
The Council have improved energy efficiency between 2009 and 2014 by 13.1% (SEAI annual report), with a balance of 21.5% to be achieved to meet the 33% target set for 2020.

The council undertook a number of projects in 2015 to improve energy efficiency, which included: -

- Installation of solar PV panels on Carrickmacross Civic Building to reduce grid electricity usage by 9,000kWh per year.
- Installation of an air to water heating system in Clones Library HQ to reduce LPG usage by 116,000 kWh per year.
- Extensive energy efficiency works in Monaghan Leisure Centre, including replacing internal lighting with LED and upgrading the Building Management System to deliver 82,000 kWh saving per year.
- Replacing lights in Glen HQ building with LED lighting.
- Replace external flood lighting with LED lights to exterior of Museum, which saves energy and gives a more natural light.
- Upgrading of Lighting and heating systems in Clones MD building.
- Ongoing pilot Public Lighting upgrades to LED lights.

Figure 1 Energy Performance Indicator 2009 to 2014

Graph shows EnPI before and after transfer of water services to Irish Water (IW).



New PV Solar Panels at Carrickmacross Civic Building



Public Street Lighting

Monaghan County Council has a dedicated Public Lighting team in place as part of the Energy unit. In 2015, works have commenced in putting in place an Asset Management approach to the management of the Counties Public Street Lighting. There is also a national drive to replace public lighting with LED lights to maximise energy efficiency, and Monaghan County Council are working with the National Public Lighting Steering Committee to put in place these changes. The total number of public lights in contract has increased from 4,400 at the end of 2014 to 5,000 at the end of 2015.

Public lighting makes up 32% of the Council's overall energy usage and is a key element in the Council achieving the 33% Energy efficiency target. A number of initiatives have been commenced and were implemented in 2015 to improve the accuracy and efficiency of the Public Lighting stock, these include:

- WWW.deadsureapp.com is a Google maps based system that allow members of the public to report faults directly and provides for a more rapid response to carrying out lighting repairs.
- Detailed surveys of lighting assets, recording of meter numbers, condition and lighting types are ongoing. National guidelines are in place to ensure consistence between counties.
- Work to bring long-term faulty lights back into operation.
- Ongoing pilot projects to replace old inefficient lights with energy efficient LED lights have been put in place in a number of housing estates, Swan's Cross, Broad road Monaghan, and Oriel Road Carrickmacross.
- Working with Planning Section to take in charge lights in housing estates and to transfer these into the Council's maintenance and energy contracts. This is expected to grow further in 2016 increasing the Council's energy and maintenance costs as well as the energy footprint.

Property Asset Management

The Council's Property Assets Unit has responsibility for the following strategic objectives;

- Maintain and update a detailed inventory of all property
- Participate in the national asset management programme
- Coordinate the purchase, sale, lease or transfer of all properties
- Facilitate Water Services in the transfer of property assets to Irish Water
- Optimise the use of all properties
- Coordination of Council buildings facility management

The Council is continuing the process of reviewing its property inventory and updating this to ensure the inventory is accurate and up-to-date. This is currently managed through a GIS database system. As of December 2015, the Council has in excess of 1,300 individual properties comprising of land and buildings. Of these, the Council has 51 buildings of which 43 are owned and 8 are rented.

The Council have provided the necessary information to the national property database and are working with the National Property Management Network to put in place modern and efficient systems and procedures to ensure that property assets are managed in a professional, co-ordinated and effective manner and to ensure value for money. Corporate Assets have been working with Water Services in processing the transfer of water assets to Irish Water, this will continue in 2016.

Corporate Assets seeks to maximise the use and condition of the Council's property assets. Work is ongoing with internal stakeholders in identifying asset upgrade projects, progressing them and seeking potential funding sources. In 2015, a number of improvement and energy saving projects were completed to Council Buildings.

Register of Electors

The Register of Electors is compiled annually to ensure that members of the public can exercise their democratic right to vote in any elections/referendum that arise during the year. In compiling the Register we liaise with the Councils Revenue Collectors who act as fieldworkers and undertake the necessary enquiries to ensure an accurate document is produced. Members of the public can check if they are registered at www.checktheregister.ie

Twinning

Monaghan County Council continued to progress and expand its twinning arrangements that have been developed over the years, and is twinned with:-

- Geel, Belgium (the parish of Tydavnet in North Monaghan is also twinned with this area)
- Prince Edward Island, Canada
- Peterboro, Canada
- Miramichi, Canada
- Cavan-Millbrook-North Monaghan, Canada

On 9th May, Cllr Sean Conlon visited Prince Edward Island for the Annual Settlers Day Celebrations.

In October, Cllrs Noel Keelan and David Maxwell, along with Director of Service, Paul Clifford visited Prince Edward Island and Miramichi for the International Famine Commemorations.

Cllr Paudge Connolly accepted an invitation from the Monaghan Association of Beds and Herts (Luton) to attend their annual function on 2nd May.

Expenditure on Twinning amounted to circa €12,000.

Gaeltacht Scholarship Scheme

Thirty six secondary school students were awarded part scholarships to attend five Gaeltacht Colleges in summer 2015.

Civic Receptions

During 2015, Monaghan County Council held two Civic Receptions (as below), at a cost of approximately €4,400.00:

- Monaghan County Senior Football Team
- Matt Carthy, MEP and Minister Heather Humphreys

Ireland 2016



In early 2015, the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht informed Monaghan County Council that each Local Authority was to co-ordinate and support the Ireland 2016 Centenary Celebrations in each county. A Steering Committee was established and supported by the Corporate Affairs Section organised a public consultation meeting in May to garner the communities' opinion on what type of activities they would like to organise to help commemorate the occasion. The Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht also provided €30,000 for seed funding for community groups to try and develop their activities/events for 2016. A total of 40 applications were approved for funding which was distributed through the Corporate Affairs office. A countywide brochure listing all the events for the year was also published and distributed countywide. It is hoped to have Minister Heather Humphreys officially launch the programme of events in January 2016.

PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Forward Planning

The Forward Planning Section is responsible for drafting, reviewing and publishing planning and development policies for the county.

The Monaghan County Development Plan 2013-2019 (incorporating the plans for the towns of Monaghan, Carrickmacross, Castleblayney, Clones and Ballybay) is the principal policy document used to manage physical development in the county. During the year, work continued on the preparation of the Retail Development Strategy, with a draft strategy having been prepared for public consultation by the end of the year.

Built Heritage

The comprehensive review of the Record of Protected Structures in Monaghan Local Authorities was progressed in 2014, on foot of recommendations arising from the 2013 National Inventory of Architectural Heritage survey of the county. This included the significant task of cross referencing the 1,481 structures recommended by the survey, with 636 already included on the Record of Protected Structures, and the identification of the owners of these structures. **Planning section administered the Built Heritage Jobs Leverage Scheme in 2015. The scheme which was concluded in November, provided grant aid of €103,658 to seven projects in the County, leveraging €189,067 of private funds**

Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Strategy (CFRAMS)

The National CFRAMs Programme in County Monaghan includes the four Areas for Further Assessment (AFA) of Monaghan Town, Carrickmacross, Ballybay and Inniskeen. Public Consultation Days on Draft Flood Risk Maps was held in February 2015 whilst a four week period of Statutory Consultation was completed on the Draft Flood Risk Maps in November and December 2015.

Monaghan Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA)

The DECLG Flood Risk Management Guidelines 2009 require each Local Authority to carry out an SFRA for their administrative area. Monaghan County Council commenced work on the SFRA in Q3 2015 for all urban and rural areas of County Monaghan.

Development Management

Monaghan County Council received a total of 526 planning applications in 2015 and issued 406 notifications of decision. A total of 16 applications were refused during the year, representing a refusal rate of approximately 0.3 %.

In 2015 10 decisions were appealed to An Bord Pleanála, of which 1 was overturned, 4 were upheld, 4 decisions were modified and 1 remains undecided.

Enforcement

When the Planning Authority becomes aware of a breach of permission or unauthorised development, discussions with the offender(s) are often sufficient to ensure remedy. However, where issues are not addressed by the offender(s) then formal enforcement action is taken. Enforcement statistics for the year are shown below.

2015 Enforcement Statistics	
No. of cases subject to complaints	109
Warning Letters under Section 152	71
Enforcement Notices under Section 154	17
No. of cases dismissed	27
No. of cases resolved through negotiation	4
Prosecutions	0

Unfinished Housing Developments

The ongoing review of unfinished housing developments and performance bonds in respect of housing developments was continued through 2015. Site resolution engagement involving developers, lenders, and where applicable, administrators/receivers was progressed.

Monaghan County Council co-ordinated resolution works to four developments under the DoECLG Special Resolution Fund, having secured funding of just over €202,000 to resolve these sites. These works were completed in 2015. The planning authority continued to claim insurance bonds during the year and two bonds were paid to Monaghan County Council in 2015. Survey work commenced in 2015 to inform site resolution plans for each of these unfinished housing developments. Derelict Site Notices were issued in respect of 2 unfinished developments. A total of 15 housing developments are classified as unfinished in County Monaghan at the end of 2015.

Development Contribution Scheme

The Development Contribution Scheme for County Monaghan 2013-2019 sets out development contributions to be levied on developments. The total amount of contributions that will accrue, when or if development commences, on planning applications granted in 2015 is €668,958. The total amount of financial contributions received in 2015 was €1,157,675.50. A detailed breakdown is contained in the table below.

Development Contributions 2014	
Water	€ 72,516.90
Waste Water	€ 216,030.23
Footpaths & Lighting	€ 17,801.43
Community, Recreation, Amenity Levy	€ 607,602.25
Carpark	€242,724.69
Total	€ 72,516.90

Service Improvement

Planning Staff continued to be available for pre-planning meetings and telephone enquiries throughout the year. Although a significant commitment in terms of resources, it is considered that the time invested in pre-planning discussions results in the more efficient processing of planning applications, to

the benefit of all parties. Agents Workshops were held in April and December of 2015 and provided updates and information to agents on topics such as, the changes in Building Control Regulations, Flood Risk Assessment, the Review of the Record of Protected Structures, and an explanation of ribbon development. The Agents' Forum which provides a mechanism for discussion and resolution of issues of general concern continued to meet in 2015.

TOURISM

A key focus of the Tourism Section in 2015 was the delivery of the remaining projects funded through the East Border Region INTERREG IVA Tourism Development Plan. These were as follows:

- *Development of walking trails in Ballybay*
Three looped walking trails, together with associated signage and promotional literature were developed in Ballybay.
- *Heritage Interpretation and Enhancement works at Errigal Truagh Graveyard*
Monaghan County Council, in conjunction with Truagh Development Association, improved access at the graveyard and developed visitor interpretation panels and promotional leaflets to enable visitors to fully appreciate the historical importance of the site.

Community Tourism Diaspora Initiative 2015

In 2015, a joint partnership between Fáilte Ireland, IPB Insurance and the 34 Local Authorities provided an annual fund of €1m nationally to support local community-based events and festivals. Monaghan County Council implemented the initiative at county level and was responsible for funds administration, grant applications and awards, in accordance with agreed national criteria. The full county allocation of €32,223 was awarded and a total of 19 festivals were funded.

Tourism Promotion

The following promotional materials/collateral was produced in 2015:

Print

- Calendar of Events 2015 (and on-line)
- Explore County Monaghan pamphlet
- Update and reprint of Explore County Monaghan Guide

Website

The County Tourism Website www.monaghantourism.com was updated and completely revamped.

Publicity & PR

A successful PR campaign was undertaken during the summer months and resulted in several national press articles on Tourism in Monaghan. Features on the county were published in The Irish Independent, Irish Times, Sunday World, Daily Star and the Irish Sun. The Scottish Sun also printed a feature on Monaghan.

Tourist Office Provision

Monaghan County Council operated a Tourist Office in the Market House, Monaghan Town from June to end September. The majority of enquiries related to information on things to do in Monaghan and the surrounding areas, places to eat and stay, bus timetables etc.

The County Library at Clones and Carrickmacross Library had designated stands for tourist literature and the library staff was available to respond to any visitor queries.

Trade Engagement

A networking workshop for tourism trade providers was held in April and was very well attended. Arising out of this workshop, three familiarisation trips were arranged in North, Mid and South Monaghan to make all tourism industry providers aware of the range and diversity of the county's amenities and tourist offering. The rationale for this was to encourage cross-selling among the trade in the county.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Local Community Development Committee

The Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) was set up under the Local Government Reform Act 2014, *"for the purposes of developing, coordinating and implementing a coherent and integrated approach to local and community development"*.

In September 2014 Monaghan LCDC was formed. It is a 17 member committee made up of Statutory (8 members) and non-statutory (9 members). Monaghan LCDC's main task is the development and implementation of a 6 year Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) for the county. The LECP will facilitate the emerging local development role of Local Government and bring about improved alignment of the work of the Local Authority, Local Development Company and other providers of social, community and economic development, thereby achieving better returns for the communities they serve.

LCDC Meetings in 2015

The LCDC is required to meet at least six times per year and the following is a list of LCDC meetings that took place in 2015.

- 20 January, 2015
- 3 March, 2015
- 14 April, 2015
- 12 May, 2015
- 30 June, 2015
- 1 September, 2015
- 13 October, 2015
- 10 November, 2015
- 8 December, 2015

The Main activities of the LCDC in 2015 are:

1. Local Economic & Community Plan
2. Socio-Economic Framework

3. Social Inclusion Activation programme (SICAP)
4. Rural Development Programme (Leader) 2014-2020
5. Monaghan Public Participation Network
6. LCDC Website
7. Peace Programme

Social Inclusion

Monaghan Age Friendly Alliance - An Age Friendly guide to Communication

An Age Friendly guide to Communications was developed to raise awareness of the difficulties some older people experience when trying to access services, information and supports. The booklet was developed by Monaghan Older people's network as a way of encouraging service providers to become more Age Friendly when communicating with older people.

Age Friendly Business town

Monaghan Age Friendly Alliance, Carrickmacross Chamber of Commerce and Carrickmacross/Castleblaney Municipal District were delighted when Carrickmacross was selected for inclusion in Age Friendly Ireland's Age Friendly Business Recognition Scheme for 2015. Clones town decided to become an Age Friendly business town in September and it is hoped in 2016 to bring Monaghan, Castleblaney and Ballybay into the Age Friendly business town programme. By including all five towns in the county in the programme it is planned that Monaghan will become the first Age Friendly business county in the country.

Autumn Information talks for older people

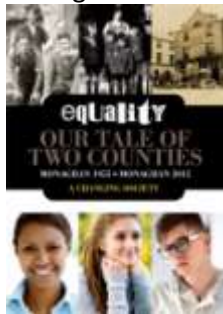
In recent consultation older people in the county raised the issue of information talks as being a very effective way for older people to receive information and support in their local community. In response to this a series of information talks were organised in conjunction with the older people's network.

Making Monaghan Accessible

Monaghan County Council took part in the National Job Shadow day in April 2015, supported by Drumlin House training centre for adults with a learning disability. Thirteen people from Drumlin house "shadowed" staff from the Library, the Museum, Community Forum, Canteen, Outdoor staff and Fire Services for a day to experience what a day working in these areas is like.

Social Inclusion Week 2015

Monaghan's annual Social Inclusion Week took place in June 2015. A week long programme of activities promoting social inclusion and equality took place throughout the county. With over 1,000 people attending events this year, 2015 has been the most successful social inclusion week to date. As part of Social Inclusion Week the Community Development department of the Council produced a fascinating booklet tracing the history of equality in Monaghan over the past sixty years. The booklet looks at the lives of the people in Monaghan in 1955 and compares it to life in Monaghan in 2015. It highlights the difference that equality legislation has made to the people of the county and has received widespread recognition throughout the county and further afield.



Community Development Fund

In 2015 the annual Community Development Fund allocated €75,000 to 90 community groups in the county. The funding supports community development activity in the local community.

Positive Mental Health Week

Positive Mental Health Week was held in October. It saw a large number of events take place throughout the county to help raise awareness of mental health issues and how it impacts on people, also pointing out where help is available.

Recognition of Monaghan County Councils contribution to supporting refugees

In May 2015 Monaghan County Council was invited by the United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki Moon to a special event to mark the contribution that Monaghan County Council has made to supporting refugee resettlement. Bernie Bradley, who co-ordinated the resettlement programme in 2009, which resettled 66 programme refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo, attended the event on behalf of Council and presented Ban Ki Moon with a booklet on the cultural diversity of County Monaghan.

Public Participation Network

Monaghan PPN continued to gather momentum in 2015. Established towards the end of 2014, the PPN was very active in January 2015 with a series of Municipal District meetings where groups were asked to identify the issues facing the community sector in the county, and also how community well-being could be promoted. The results of this process formed the basis for a Community Well-Being Statement which was adopted at a county plenary meeting in March. This work in turn informed a series of workshops which were collated into a submission to the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC). The PPN considered the draft actions in the draft plan later in the year, and again fed its thoughts into the LCDC's planning process.



PPN workshop on draft Local Community Plan, Corcaghan, November 2015

The PPN also made submissions on the Joint Policing Committee's Strategic Plan and Monaghan County Council's Tourism Plan during 2015. A novel initiative of Monaghan PPN was the establishment of a Reps Network. This body meets every quarter, and provides the Community Reps who have been appointed to the various Council (and other bodies') committees with an opportunity to meet with the Secretariat, development workers from organisations which are working to support the voluntary sector around the county, and the Chairs of the various networks operating in the county.

Pride of Place

Monaghan's strong tradition in community development once again brought success on the national stage at the all Ireland IPB Co-operation Ireland Pride of Place Awards 2015, where Clones' Largy College Young Social Innovators class of 2014 -2015 (Transition Year) took top place in the Young People in the Community Category. This was in recognition for their work both within their school and in the wider community to help de-stigmatise the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community.



Largy College students accepting their award

Smithboro Playground upgrade

During 2014, Monaghan County Council engaged with the parents and children of Smithboro to discuss plans for upgrading the basic playground on Mullaghduff green, to a space with something to offer all ages of child, built along Natural Play principles. €50,000 was invested in the upgrade, with €20,000 of this being sourced from the Dept of Children and Youth Affairs.



Supporting Community Activity

Monaghan County Council invests strongly in a number of Networks as an effective way of providing support to community groups whose work is helping the Council to improve the well being of the people of Monaghan. Among the Networks we support are the Tidy Towns Network and the Community Safety Network.

Joint Policing Committee

A new JPC was constituted following the 2014 Local Elections. 2015 was therefore the first year of operation for the new JPC, and it spent the year developing a new Strategic Plan. Consultation with the public and the community sector was conducted in the spring, resulting in three priority areas being identified:

- Road Safety
- Policing Communities

- Crime Prevention

Sub Committees have been established to drive progress on each of these priorities. Each committee has been tasked with identifying one action which it will implement during 2016, and has been directed to concentrate on where it can add value to the work already being done by the individual agencies.

Ulster Canal Greenway



The numbers of walkers and cyclists using the Ulster Canal Greenway in Monaghan town exceeded 100,000 in 2015. Linking the schools to the north of the town to the town centre and Mullaghmatt and Rossmore Park to the west, the Council's investment in the 4.2km route has proven to be an outstanding success. Last year was the first full year of operation for the facility, which is proving a hit with both commuters and leisure users. The Glen Road to Rossmore section was used by 54,940 people in 2015, whilst the Rooskey to Coolshannagh section was used by 47,404. The numbers equate to every person in Monaghan town using the amenity 12 times a year!

Monaghan Sports Partnership

The Sports Partnership is funded through Sport Ireland (formerly the Irish Sports Council) and is charged with developing opportunities which increase participation in sport and physical activity. 2015 saw the Sports Partnership plan, coordinate, deliver and support 54 activity programmes, events and training courses throughout County Monaghan in line with our strategic objectives and service delivery plan.

Comhairle na nÓg

Monaghan Comhairle na nÓg is the recognised voice of young people in County Monaghan. In 2015 their key project was the promotion of positive mental health in young people. Their "LETS GO MENTAL" event engaged over 150 teenagers from all over the County in a series of interactive workshops. One of these was the production of outdoor graffiti signage which will be displayed at a range of locations across the County in 2016.

Youth participation in Public Art Work

The unveiling of a beautiful bronze sculpture, produced by sculptor Joanne Behan, took place at the PEACE Link Sports Complex, Clones on 6th October. This project involved a group of 20 students from Largy College working closely with the artist to produce an art piece that would represent the ethos of the Clones Erne East Sports Partnership.

Youth Consultation

At the request of the Public Participation Network, the Youth Network created and circulated an online survey, targeted at young people, which would feed into the development of the Local Economic and Community Plan, (LECP). Over 200 young people submitted responses, ensuring that their views were considered as part of the development of Plan.

Youth Facility for County Monaghan

Monaghan County Council, in partnership with the Youth Network, engaged the services of a consultancy firm to consider the feasibility of a Regional Youth Facility for the County. The report considered possible funding avenues that might support its development and long term sustainability of the project.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Protecting the environment is the responsibility of all our citizens and Monaghan County Councils works along with its stakeholders in protecting the Environment at local level in order to safeguard its protection for of our future generations.

Monaghan County Council's Environment Section is charged with the responsibility of overseeing the protection of the county's land, waters and air from pollutants that are harmful to humans, animal and plant life respectively. Responsibility for protecting the Environment rests with each individual living and working in the county. The Council's staff needs the support and co-operation of the wider community in order to discharge their duties.

The Council has a broad range of environmental functions including:

- Waste Management
- Litter Control
- Water Quality Protection and Improvement
- Environmental awareness
- Food Safety
- Dog Control

Waste Management

The new Connacht Ulster Regional Waste Management Plan for this region came into effect in May 2015 and launched at a national event that took place in Galway City Council offices. The Connacht Ulster Waste Region consists of the administrative areas of the Galway City and counties Galway, Mayo, Roscommon, Sligo, Leitrim, Donegal, Cavan and Monaghan. The region represents 18% of the national population and has 36% of the land area. The regional plan provides the framework for waste management for the next six years 2015 – 2021 and sets out a range of policies and actions in order to meet the specified mandatory and performance targets.

Landfill facility

Monaghan County Council operates one landfill facility at Letterbane, Scotch Corner. The "polluter-pays" principle is applied to the operation of the Landfill facility. During 2015 the total volume of waste landfilled at the Scotch Corner facility was 44,900 tonnes. Again in 2015 a significant amount of this waste was material repatriated from illegal disposal sites in Northern Ireland which Monaghan County Council secured following a competitive nationwide tender during 2013. It is significant that in 2015 there were more tonnes of material recycled than was disposed in landfill for the first time in Ireland. In 2015 Monaghan County Council presented an RPS Group Consultants report into the future options for the land fill facility including the long term aftercare costs.

Scotch Corner Recycling Centre and Carrickmacross Recycling

The recycling centre at Scotch Corner comprises of a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) and a Civic Amenity site. There is also a Civic amenity site in Carrickmacross. Both facilities are operated by McElvaney Waste and Recycling. At the MRF recyclables are separated into individual waste streams to

meet the requirements of secondary markets, whilst the Civic Amenity Site is primarily a facility where members of the public can recycle household wastes including WEEE and certain hazardous materials.

Bring Sites

1,065 tonne of glass, 34 tonne of aluminium cans, 41 tonnes of plastic bottles and 26 tonnes of textiles were collected at the 27 active bring sites in the county during 2015 .

Waste Facility Permits and Registrations

At the end of 2015 there were 15 Waste Facility Permits (WFP) and 6 Certificates of Registration (COR) in operation in County Monaghan. As the WFP / COR granting authority, it is a priority of Monaghan County Council to ensure that these facilities are operated to the highest possible environmental standard.

Waste Collection Permits

The National Waste Collection Permit Office in Tullamore processes new applications and applications for the review of existing waste collection permits in the Republic of Ireland. Waste collection permit holders in Monaghan can be inspected by Monaghan County Council. A total of 52 permits have their headquarters address in County Monaghan. Monaghan County Council will have to validate all AER data and work with the NWCPO on this issue.

Litter Awareness and Enforcement Activities

1. A new CCTV Project was launched in 2015 and ran from April to July. Three private companies were used which produced 45 detections resulting in 23 on the spot fines being issued. A further ten Northern Ireland registered cars were detected which were forwarded to a London based company for collection.
2. During 2015 the total spend on litter related activities in County Monaghan was €680,000.
3. Total spend on street cleaning was €445,000, with a total of 700 tonne being deposited at the landfill during 2015.
4. 108 on the spot litter fines were issued in 2015.
5. Monaghan County Council responded to almost 223 litter related complaints during 2015 an average of almost 4 a week.
6. A grant of €15,000 was drawn down for litter related awareness activities. This was spent on Tidy Towns activities, Green Schools Programme, Spring and Autumn Clean, radio, billboard and print advertising and sponsorship.
7. 50 groups participated in Spring Clean activities during 2015.
8. Over 6,000 students are participating in the green school programme.
9. 6 litter blackspots were cleared during 2015.
10. A major clean up was undertaken on the N2 in May 2015; over 1,000 bags of rubbish were collected by Monaghan County Council staff. Castleblayney By-Pass was closed for a day and more than one hundred of volunteers from Castleblayney litter picked the bypass.



Litter Pick Volunteers Castleblayney By-Pass in May 2015.

Environmental Awareness

Monaghan County Council continues to have a strong environmental awareness strategy, and highlights in 2015 include:

- Waste Prevention and Brown Bin awareness campaigns
- Litter awareness campaigns during Spring Clean
- Green schools workshops
- ECO summer camps
- Funding provided to community groups to carry out environmental projects.



Taste of Monaghan Schools Food Waste Cookery.



Environmental Enforcement

Monaghan County Council completed the Recommended Criteria for Environmental Inspection programme with the EPA during 2015. There were 1,321 environmental inspections carried out by staff in the areas of waste, water, air and planning. There was one successful prosecution under the Waste Management Act 1996 secured during 2015.

Castleblayney Summer ECO Camp with painted mural.

Water Quality

In recent years, there has been significant progress in tackling serious sources of pollution but numerous small point and diffuse source pollution remain. Currently 34% of our biological Q monitoring stations are at good or high status. In 2015, the EPA have upgraded 2 of our river monitoring stations to high water quality sites bringing the total of such sites to 7 across the county. Our monitoring programme indicates that phosphate, sediment and degraded ecology remain a problem in Monaghan's streams, rivers and lakes. Ammonia is still an issue at some river station locations and can occur intermittingly.

Monaghan County Council continues its programme of water quality monitoring, development control, catchment surveys, licensing and the investigation of water pollution complaints. In addition to this the water team have invested in a new boat for the programme ahead. The boat is an excellent addition for carrying out sampling and investigative work. Over 400 river and lake samples were collected and in excess of 653 investigations and inspections were carried out



in 2015. In addition to this, 255 environmental planning permission inspections were completed. The water team continue to work with farmers and businesses to address sources of water pollution and to promote best practice. The review of discharge licences is nearing completion in addition to new applications being processed. Most companies submitted Annual Environmental Reports in 2015, an initiative to promote best practice. Further such initiatives will be explored in the coming year.

The Streamscapes Project continued in 2015. The project delivered by the Coomhola Salmon Trust and Monaghan County Council Environment Section is aimed at schools and community groups or any organisation interested in learning more about their local river or lake in their community. Activities included a field trip/ walk to your local river and a look at what's living there. In 2015 streamscape activities took place at the following locations:

- Doohamlet National School
- Carrickmacross Boys' National School
- Corduff National School
- Scoil Mhuire Latton National School
- Doohamlet Development Association & Local Community
- Bawn/Latton Communities
- Magheracloone Farm & Community Group
- Glaslough Tidy Towns & Local Community



Three generations of one family at Bawn having a look at some of the amazing bugs and wildlife in a sample taken from the river.



Some local kids in Glaslough getting busy looking for bugs and other wildlife in their local river.

Complaints

The Environment section investigates complaints covering the whole spectrum of our activities from illegal dumping of domestic refuse to water pollution, and dumping of hazardous wastes (such as by-products of illegal diesel laundering activities). In 2015, 380 complaints were investigated with 341 resolved. The Council may serve a range of statutory and legal notices on landowners requiring them to carry out certain works, and our investigations may result in cases being referred for prosecution. In 2015, 11 such notices were issued. Air and Noise Complaints are dealt with by the Council's Environmental Health Officers.

Food Safety

Monaghan County Council has a contract with the Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI), to provide food safety control and support services to small food business operators in the County engaged in the slaughtering, processing and wholesaling of meat and meat products. The products range from fresh beef, lamb and poultry meat to cooked sliced ham and cooked sausages. These businesses supply the

Irish market mainly but are now entitled to sell their products anywhere within the European Community.



The Council employs a County Veterinary Officer (CVO) and two temporary veterinary inspectors. The inspectors carry out ante and post mortem (i.e. before and after death) examinations on all livestock slaughtered in the four local abattoirs in Monaghan (details are available on the Council website). The CVO carries out regular inspections of structural and operational hygiene standards in premises, and operates sampling and training programmes to assist owners and staff in attaining the required standards set out in national and EU legislation. In 2015, 946 cattle and 3,744 sheep were slaughtered in local abattoirs in Monaghan.

Dog Control Service

The council employs one full-time Dog Warden for the county. 5,605 dogs were licensed in the county in 2015, while 19 general dog licences were issued. 3 lifetime dog licences were issued in 2015. These licences cost €140, but the holder does not have to buy a licence for the dog for the rest of its life.

In 2015, 137 on-the-spot fines were issued to people for keeping a dog without a licence, 21 fines for not keeping a dog under control, and 8 fines for not ensuring that the dog wears a collar and/or tag with the owner's name and address on it. 7 dog owners were successfully prosecuted in court. There were 14 premises registered with Monaghan County Council under the Dog Breeding Establishments Act in 2015.

566 dogs passed through the dog pounds in 2015. Of these, 4 dogs were dead on arrival, while a further 10 were euthanised at the Dog Pound because they were unsuitable for rehoming. Of the remaining 552 dogs, 76 were reclaimed by their owners, 233 were rehomed to the public and 247 were re-homed, with the much-appreciated assistance of the CDS, the MSPCA and Dogs Trust. No dog that was suitable for rehoming was euthanised in Monaghan Dog Pound in 2015.

The Microchipping of Dogs Regulations 2015 came into practice from 31st March 2016, requiring all dogs over 12 weeks of age to be microchipped and registered with an approved database. The introduction of the Microchipping of Dogs Regulations 2015 should result in far less unidentified dogs being admitted to the Dog Pound, more dogs being reunited with their owners, and far greater accountability of dog owners. All dogs rehomed directly to the public from the Monaghan County Council Dog Pound over the last 10 years were microchipped and registered.



FIRE SERVICE

Fire Operations

Monaghan Fire Service dealt with 341 callouts in 2015. This is a 5.5% reduction on the year before. Unfortunately a number of these incidents involved fatalities and it is clear that Monaghan would benefit greatly from a Road Safety Strategy. There were no major incidents during the year.

The NOAC reports show an improvement of 3.5% in the 'Time Taken to Mobilise Fire Brigades' in respect of fire, and 10% in the Time Taken to Mobilise Fire Brigades in respect of all other emergencies. The number of First Attendance at Fire Scenes after 20 minutes was reduced by 3%.

There was a significant turnover in senior staff within the section. Dermot Brannigan moved to Meath in June. Both station officers in Carrickmacross and Monaghan retired. 3 substation officers in Monaghan, Carrickmacross and Ballybay also retired.

The fire station in Castleblayney had significant repair works completed to electrical installations. A new station has been included in the DECLG Capital Programme for 2019. A new fire appliance for Clones was tendered for in 2015 following inclusion in the DECLG capital programme, and further new equipment such as a water tanker, a new van and a second hand fire appliance was purchased.

Preparatory work has commenced on our health and safety system with a view to applying for OHSAS18001 accreditation in 2016.

Fire Safety

A total of 96 fire certificate applications and 25 planning reports were processed in 2015. A large number of open Fire Safety Certificates were investigated with a view to closing them out as soon as possible.

BUILDING CONTROL

Monaghan Building Control Authority received a total of 171 Commencement Notices, which is an increase of 2.9% from 2014. All of the commencement notices received in 2015 were submitted through the new BCMS system, with a significant increase on 2014 where 72 commencement notices were submitted through the new system. An inspection rate of 22.9% was conducted of all works of which it was notified in 2015.

On the 1st of September 2015, the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government introduced an amendment clause to the Building Regulations 2014 with the provision to allow building owners to "opt out" of the statutory certification in respect of new dwellings on a single unit development or for a domestic extension. Monaghan Building Control Authority have actively engaged with consultation and advice sessions with the public and their agents on these changes and how they are to be submitted through the BCMS system.

The changes introduced on the 1st of September, also stipulates that Local Authorities are required to provide a Commencement Notice for all future works carried out within its own functional area. Disability Access Certificates (DAC) have increased from 19 in 2014, to 55 in 2015, with the increase due to the reduction in fees of a Disability Access Certificate from €800 to €500, if the application for a DAC to the Building Control Authority is made simultaneously with the submission of a Fire Safety Certificate. This change of legislation came into effect on the 1st of July 2015.

Surveillance of the Construction Product Regulations (CPR) has been maintained throughout 2014, this involves ensuring that a mandatory 'CE' marking for all construction products placed on the market for which a harmonised standard are in place. Information notes and advice is ongoing with manufacturers, importers, distributors, builders, specifiers and designers in Co. Monaghan on their obligation to conform to the CPR.

CIVIL DEFENCE SERVICE



Civil Defence is a volunteer based organisation that supports the front line emergency services, and assists the local communities. Civil Defence has 70 volunteer members throughout County Monaghan, with 8 new members joining in 2015.

In 2015 Monaghan Civil Defence attended 88 events and incidents which involved 632 volunteers. We have volunteers trained in each of the following services: Casualty, Search & Rescue, Auxiliary Fire Service, Radiation Monitoring, Welfare & Communications. The Civil Defence also visit secondary schools to help promote the organisation and to make the public aware of Civil Defence's work in the community. We also provide support to other Civil Defence units within the region.

The benefits to volunteers of being part of a Civil Defence team include;

- Training – our training is at a very high standard and is independently certified by bodies such as QQI and PHECC. These qualifications may be useful in your career.
- Personal development – our volunteers get involved in a wide range of activities and develop many useful personal skills.
- Friendships – working with other volunteers is a great way of meeting new people.
- Giving something back - our volunteers know they are helping their communities often in times of great need.
- Uniforms and equipment are all provided.
- We continue to provide assistance to Local Authority, Garda, & other primary response agencies at operational duties at community events & emergencies.

The following training was conducted during the year:

- Cardiac First Responder Instructor Courses.
- National Radiation Monitoring Training & Exercise.
- Water & Flood Awareness / Management of Water Incidents.
- Occupational First Aid Courses.
- Emergency First Responder Course.
- Emergency Medical Technician CPC up skilling.
- Voluntary Sector Training Skills Instructors Course.
- Radio Instructors Course.
- Manual Handling & People Moving Instructors Course.
- Power Boat Level 2 Certificate Course.
- Swift water training course.

- Radiation Monitoring Training.
- CVRT training for drivers of Civil Defence vehicles.
- Defensive Driving Course.

Other Civil Defence activities that took place during 2015 were:

1. Cardiac First Responder & First Aid training courses were organised for schools & community groups.
2. The Boat Unit continued to provide assistance to Monaghan County Council in the lake monitoring programme and also at numerous water based events and incidents.
3. Civil Defence organised two county training exercises in 2015 incorporating all aspects of Civil Defence activities.
4. A National Radiation Monitoring Exercise was held in November. This involved collecting samples of differing types including soil and vegetation and transporting them to the laboratories of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for analysis.
5. During the year funding was allocated by the Civil Defence College for the refurbishment of an old Ambulance to a Command & Control vehicle.
6. Civil Defence now operates a number of TETRA digital radio terminals which provide inter-communication with the primary response agencies, such as the Gardai, HSE.



LIBRARY SERVICE

Monaghan County Libraries plays a vital role in the heart of the communities it serves, as a resource which provides access to the world of information and which supports all members of the community in their quest for knowledge, education, employment and self development.

The Library Service is administered from the library headquarters in Clones. It has five fully automated branches located in the principal towns of Monaghan, Carrickmacross, Castleblayney, Clones and Ballybay. The five branches provide a constantly updated collection of popular fiction and non-fiction books, audio books, DVDs, CDs and magazines for lending.

A Mobile Library Service is available to pre-schools, playschools, crèches and afterschool services operating from 26 service points around the county on a fortnightly basis. A Primary Schools Library Service visits each of the 62 primary schools twice yearly.

In conjunction with the ETB, a wide range of computer classes are provided for adults in the Monaghan, Castleblayney, Carrickmacross and Clones branches, either through our 52 branch library Internet PCs, through the 26 laptops shared by the library branches or through iPads provided for the classes by the ETB.

Library Statistics 2015

- 266,597 Visitors to the 5 branch libraries
- 331,638 Items borrowed
- 10,230 active members of the library
- 32,348 Internet Sessions booked
- 13,444 WIFI connections made
- 1,500 Local History enquiries answered
- 431 Computers classes taught
- 2,618 Book requests answered
- 1,102 Library events organised, attended by 18,170
- 26,126 Visits to the Library Web Page

Wi-Fi Service

The free public WIFI service continues to increase in popularity in our four larger branches, Monaghan, Carrickmacross, Castleblayney and Clones. Demand for the service has grown steadily throughout the year with a total of 13,444 sessions booked, an increase of 65.2% on 2014.

Outreach

In 2015 Monaghan County Library hosted a diverse range of Outreach events for all ages. Events included;

- Children's Book Festival, Summer Reading Challenge, Poetry Ireland Day, National Bike Week, Culture Night, Science Week, Bealtaine Festival, Heritage Week Events, World Book Day, Seachtain na Gaeilge, Clones Film Festival, Irish Design 2015 Exhibition.
- **Classes.** Creative Writing, CV Preparation, Interview Skills, IT Training for the Unemployed, Adult Computer Skills, iPad Classes, English Language, Literacy, Driver Theory, BenefIT4 Digital Literacy Training Classes, University of the Third Age, National Learning Network Courses, Arts and Crafts, Millinery Workshops, Silver Surfers.
- Lecture Series, Exhibitions, Parent and Toddler Group visits, School Class Visits, Author Talks, Storytelling Sessions, Nursing Home Visits, National Learning Network Groups visits for participants in TURAS, Fresh Start and Access courses. Open University Information Sessions. Engineers Week Information Sessions. Book Clubs, Sewing Club, Craft Afternoons, Film Club.

Erasmus+ Project

Our EU Erasmus+ funded programme entitled '*LinkINjob: Job-hunting with the Help of Librarians*' was progressed throughout 2015.

Monaghan County Libraries worked in partnership with Monaghan Integrated Development to run the 'Paths to Learning Project'. The project encouraged members of the public currently unemployed to visit their local library and discover the resources freely available to them to assist them in their search for work. The project was run in Monaghan and Carrickmacross Libraries for the month of August. All participants were given free membership to the library and were entered into a draw to win an iPad on completion of 4 tasks which made up the project.

The library service also worked with MID to provide follow up training to jobseekers, including;

- IT Classes
- CV Preparation
- Interview Skills

- Job Searching

Leaflets, bookmarks and a staff resource handbook were also developed to promote the jobseekers service throughout the county.

The National Strategy for Public Libraries 2013 – 2017

2015 saw work continuing on a number of the key objectives identified in the National Strategy. These included:

- **E-Services Tender**

A national tender was published in October for the supply of a full suite of e-resources to all public library services throughout the country. The contracts were awarded in December in time for the services to be made available in the first week in January 2016.

- **Free Membership**

December 31st marked the end of membership fees for all customers. The service is now free to all at the point of contact

Local History

In 2015 the following resources were added to the Local History collection;

- Death Notices & Obituaries in The Northern Standard Newspaper 1940 – 1946 (Available in all County Monaghan Branch Libraries)
- Inquisitions for County Monaghan by Coroner Hugh Swanzy 1876-1877
- County Monaghan natives Buried in Canada
- County Monaghan natives Married in Canada
- Indexed Minute book of Register of Births in the Castleblayney area 1879 – 1881
- School Roll Books and Daily Report Books from Drumgossatt National School, Magheraclone
- School Roll Books and Daily Report Books from The Model National School, Monaghan

WIFI Printing Service

In December 2015 new WIFI printing service was launched in Monaghan, Carrickmacross and Clones branch libraries. The service allows customers from the comfort of their own home, or any other location, to order a print copy of virtually any document or web page from their Internet connected Laptop, Tablet or Mobile device for collection at the Library of their choice. Customers can simply download the 'PrinterOn' App to their Smartphone or Tablet or visit <http://www.printeron.com/printspots-directory.html> from their Laptop or Desktop computer to upload their print requests.

COUNTY MUSEUM

World Within Walls Exhibition



This ground breaking exhibition provided a fascinating insight into the history of St. Davnet's, County Monaghan. The site has gone by a number of names over its lifetime and has evolved from Cavan Monaghan District Lunatic Asylum, to the Monaghan Mental Hospital, then St.

Davnet's hospital and finally a multi-purpose campus. In recent years the campus had begun to close its wards as mental health care changed in nature and became more focused on providing care in the community. It is in this context that this exhibition aimed to recall the histories of the institution, charting its evolution from 1869 to the modern day.

For generations the buildings which make up St. Davnet's have been a silent witness to the changing history of county Monaghan. Thousands of people have passed through its halls, some spending the majority of their life there, either as staff or as service users. Yet for the majority of the population of Monaghan and indeed Cavan, St. Davnet's own story has remained largely untold. This pioneering exhibition presented a poignant and challenging display of the history of an institution's evolution from a district lunatic asylum to a community service. The story was told through original artefacts, archives, images, audio visual displays, catalogue and a dedicated website with additional information on all of the themes explored in the exhibition. The display formed a key part of a larger project which was enacted by HSE Cavan Monaghan to conduct a thorough investigation of the archives, which date back to the opening of the Asylum in 1869.

Monaghan Social Inclusion Week

Monaghan Social Inclusion Week 2015 had a very special message; *'It's okay to be Different'*. Many people experience social exclusion every day. Regardless of age, gender, race, religion, sexuality or ability, everyone is a part of society and has a part to play. The launch of Monaghan Social Inclusion week took place on Tuesday 9th June 2015, at the opening of the *'Here I Am'* photo exhibition from Down Syndrome Ireland in the Diamond in Monaghan. Its aim was to promote awareness and compliment a



Down Syndrome Ireland publication marking World Down Syndrome Day in March, and was on display in the Diamond, Monaghan from 8th June to 14th June, 2015. The launch of a Monaghan County Council booklet, *'A Tale of Two Counties'*, which charts the progress achieved in social inclusion in the 60 years between 1995 and 2015 by Minister of State with responsibility for New Communities, Culture and Equality, Aodhán Ó Riordáin TD, took place in the Museum. Largy College Transition Year Students re-enacted their mock wedding and national award winning Young Social Innovators presentation *Let's Get By together (LGBT)* in the Museum.

The Museum took to the streets

Museum staff were busy during the summer mounting a new exhibition on the streets of Monaghan. The display is a collection of images from the museum's archive which depict how Monaghan looked over a century ago. The 20 images are mounted near or in the areas that they depict. Local people and visitors to the town can now be transported back in time as they stroll around Monaghan before making their way to the museum to discover the rest of the Monaghan story. Monaghan County Museum would like to acknowledge the Heritage Council for the funding they contributed towards this project.

The Museums goes Country!

Our 'Lunchtime with the Ladies' event in partnership with Monaghan Town Country Music Festival was a huge success. Thank you to all involved especially Julie Brannigan, Secretary of the Organising Committee and our singers on the day, Patricia, Kerry, Seana and of course the wonderful Gloria!

The Blues came to the Museum

Our first year as a venue for the Harvest Times Blues Festival was a great experience for all involved. We hosted two incredible acts in Davis Rogan and Kris Dollimore, and we look forward to a long association with the festival in the years to come.

A Museum Treasure Online

Monaghan County Museum has recently launched a new service on its website showcasing a selection of video footage from its archive. Included on the site are a collection of original cinereels showing life in Monaghan during the late 1950s and early 1960s. The collection has become an incredible insight into the social culture of Monaghan during this time. These cinereels were captured by two pioneers, Canons Bernard Maguire and Terence Kirke. Another important video that is available to download and enjoy is a recording of Sir Jack Leslie recounting his experiences of fighting and becoming a prisoner of war during World War II. To view this remarkable collection go to our website www.monaghan.ie/museum.

Local Authority Museums Network (LAMN) Strategy Launch

The Minister for Arts, Heritage & the Gaeltacht, Heather Humphreys, recently launched the new Local Authority Museums Network Strategy 2016 -2019, 'Preserving the Past – Shaping the Future'. The Local Authority Museums Network (LAMN) represents the 12 Local Authority Museums across Ireland, which plays a vital role in the social, cultural and economic life of regions around Ireland.



ARTS OFFICE

Monaghan County Council supported Arts projects in the county through the Arts Partners Grant Scheme. A total of €59,000K was invested in 2015 in the projects listed below:

- **The Garage Theatre**, Monaghan Town
- **Clones Film Festival**
- **Muckno Mania**, Castleblayney
- **Castleblayney Arts & Resource Centre** (Iontas)
- **Patrick Kavanagh Weekend**, Inniskeen
- **Scoil Cheoil Na Botha**, Scotstown
- **Carrickmacross Arts Festival**
- **Féile Patrick Byrne**, Carrickmacross
- **Castleblayney Drama Festival**



Separate to the above listed grants, Monaghan County Council awarded both The Garage Theatre in Monaghan & the Iontas Theatre in Castleblayney (Arts well) €25K each towards their programming.

Monaghan Arts Network

The Monaghan Arts Network is up and running nearly two years, and they hold their monthly event in the Market House, where each month four acts from various arts backgrounds are chosen. They each give a short presentation of their area of expertise; this event has gone from strength to strength and provides entertainment as well as education to the wider public audience.

The Market House



The Market House a unique venue continues to host both music and exhibitions, and is now being used by groups nearly every evening and at weekends, whether for rehearsals or workshops.

A major project run directly by the Arts office is the international “Harvest Time Blues Festival” which is held in September each year. It has become widely recognised now as one of the Top Blues festival in Europe. 2015 was

the 20th Edition of the Festival, and it continues to grow and become a major cultural and tourist attraction nationwide.

The Arts office continues to assist and support individual Artists such as writers, theatre practitioners, and visual Artists, with the help of grants from both the Arts Council and Culture Ireland.

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Recruitment

The staff complement for Monaghan County Council at 31st December 2015 was:

Core Staff	Number	Whole Time Equivalent
Managerial	3	3
Clerical/Administrative	162	149.62
Professional/Technical	60	59.70
Outdoor	140	129.93
Supernumeraries	2	2
	43	

Total Core Staff	367	344.25
Other Staff		
Contract Posts	6	6
Temporary/Seasonal	14	14
Retained Firefighters		47
	47	
Non DoEC&LG	15	12.15
Total Other Posts	82	79.15

The HE Unit processed applications in relation to 35 competitions that were held during the year. From the 495 applications received, 365 were male and 130 were female.

As a result of the competitions held for the posts, 195 applicants were deemed qualified and placed on panels. 43 posts were offered.

HR Payroll and Superannuation System (Core)

As part of the implementation of the Shared Superannuation Service, Monaghan County Council commenced the Superannuation Data Readiness Project in October 2015. Our scheduled date for 'cutover' for this project is December 2016.

Gateway Labour Activation Scheme

As part of the Government Action Plan on Jobs, Monaghan County Council committed to the provision of 55 placements on the Gateway Scheme. The scheme offers an opportunity for the long term unemployed to gain or update experience of the workplace, to learn new skills and to return to the routine of work.

Training and Development

During 2015 the training programme delivered in-house training to staff covering Performance Management, Health and Safety, and twenty nine skills related programmes. Sixteen staff members were approved assistance for courses of further education.

Employee Assistance Programme

Monaghan County Council values all their employees and recognises their contribution and commitment to achieving the goals and objectives of the organisation. In order to support staff and to assist them during difficult periods an Employee Assistance Programme is available to all staff through "Staffcare" confidential counselling service. The programme is designed to help staff deal with problems they may be experiencing whether work related or personal.

Retirements

The following staff retired during 2015:

2015	Name	Grade	Retired/Resigned
1	Thomas Martin	General Operative	Retired
2	John Donnelly	Driver	Retired
3	Kevin Boylan	General Operative	Retired
4	Michael Bradley	Driver B	Retired
5	Francis Byrne	Caretaker	Retired
6	Eugene Murray	General Operative	Retired
7	Mary Sherlock	Library Assistant	Retired
8	Brendan Buckley	Station Officer, Fire Service	Retired
9	Anita McKeever	Clerical Officer	Retired
10	Dominic Meehan	Sub Station Officer, Fire Service	Retired
11	Michael O'Rourke	Station Officer, Fire Service	Retired
12	Con McCrossan	Senior Executive Engineer	Retired

Industrial and Employee Relations

Human Resources manage the relationship with trade unions and staff representatives dealing with both national and local issues as they arise. The provisions of the various pay agreements including the Lansdowne Road Agreement and any consequential changes have been implemented and continue to be reviewed.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Cathaoirleach 2015/2016

Cllr. Noel Keelan

Leas-Chathaoirleach 2015/2016

Cllr. Seamus Coyle

Corporate Policy Group

Cathaoirleach of the Day

Cllr. Robbie Gallagher

Cllr. Ciara McPhillips

Cllr. Brian McKenna

Cllr. Pat Treanor

Cavan/Monaghan Education and Training Board

Cllr. Cathy Bennett

Cllr. Ciara McPhillips

Cllr. Matt Carthy

Cllr. P.J. O'Hanlon

Cllr. Seamus Coyle

Monaghan Local Sports Partnership Board

Cllr. Sean Conlon

Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee

Cllr. Seamus Coyle
Cllr. Matt Carthy
Cllr. Ciara McPhillips
Cllr. Seamus Treanor

Audit Committee

Cllr. Sean Conlon
Cllr. Ciara McPhillips
Dermot Mc Crystal
Fern Ross
Des O'Connor

Border, Midland and Western Regional Assembly

Cllr. Seamus Coyle
Cllr. Jackie Crowe

East Border Region Members Forum

Cllr. P.J. O'Hanlon
Cllr. Pdraig McNally
Cllr. Noel Keelan
Cllr. J. Crowe (Director to the Board of East Border Region Ltd.)
Cllr. Aidan Campbell
Cllr. David Maxwell

Management Board of ICBAN Ltd, (Irish Central Border Areas Network)

Cllr. Robbie Gallagher
Cllr. Pat Treanor

Blackwater Regional Partnership

Cllr. David Maxwell
Cllr. Seamus Coyle
Cllr. Sean Conlon
Cllr. Seamus Treanor

Local Community Development Committee

Cllr Seamus Coyle
Cllr Brian McKenna
Cllr David Maxwell
Eamonn O'Sullivan, CE
John Mc Entegart, CE of LEO
John Kearney, Cavan Monaghan ETB

Jim Manning, Dept. of Social Protection
Cathal Hand, HSE
Gabriel O'Connell, MID
Breege Lenihan, County Monaghan Community Network
Noel Carney, Heritage Network
Packie Kelly, Teach na nDaoine
Robert Wilson, County Monaghan Community Network
Emer Brennan, County Monaghan Network of Tidy Towns Groups
Brian Treanor, IFA
Michael Treanor, Business / Employer Interests
Denis Sheridan, SIPTU

Regional Health Forum – Dublin and North East

Cllr. Robbie Gallagher
Cllr. Brian McKenna
Cllr. David Maxwell

Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances

Cllr. Seamus Coyle

Association of Irish Local Government (Annual Conference)

Cllr. Pdraig McNally
Cllr. Robbie Gallagher
Cllr. Cathy Bennett

Association of Irish Local Government (Standing Policy Council)

Cllr. Pdraig McNally
Cllr. Robbie Gallagher
Cllr. Cathy Bennett

Local Authority Members Association (LAMA)

Cllr. Sean Conlon

Co. Monaghan Joint Policing Committee

Cllr. B. McKenna
Cllr. N. Keelan
Cllr. J. Crowe
Cllr. P. Treanor
Cllr. C. Bennett
Cllr. S. Coyle
Cllr. R. Gallagher
Cllr. P.J. O'Hanlon
Cllr. A. Campbell
Cllr. C. McPhillips
Cllr. E. Bannigan
Cllr. H. McElvaney

Cllr. P. Connolly
Mr. PJ Harte
Mr. Michael Watters
Mr. Eugene Treanor
Mr. Brendan Mc Nally
Mr. James Hand
Chief Supt. James Sheridan
Supt. Noel Cunningham
Supt. Alan Cunningham
Mr. Sean Conlon, TD
Mr. Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin, TD
Vacant (Community)

Local Steering Group for the Use of Irish in Monaghan County Council (Coiste Gaeilge)

Cllr. Hugh McElvaney
Cllr. Pat Treanor
Cllr. Jackie Crowe
Cllr. Cathy Bennett
Cllr. Robbie Gallagher

An Coiste Logainmneacha

Cllr. Pat Treanor
Cllr. Robbie Gallagher
Cllr. Jackie Crowe
Cllr. Hugh McElvaney

Museum Advisory Committee

Cllr. Jackie Crowe
Cllr. P.J. O’Hanlon
Cllr. David Maxwell
Cllr. Seamus Treanor

Local Monitoring Committee (Rural Water Programme)

Cllr. Brian McKenna
Cllr. Aidan Campbell
Cllr. P.J. O’Hanlon
Cllr. Paudge Connolly

Speed Limits Committee

Cllr. Pdraig McNally
Cllr. Robbie Gallagher
Cllr. Jackie Crowe
Cllr. Pat Treanor
Cllr. Eugene Bannigan
Cllr. Seamus Treanor

Disability Act 2005 Steering Committee

Cllr. Ciara McPhillips
Cllr. Paudge Connolly
Cllr. Seamus Coyle
Cllr. Cathy Bennett

Twining Committee

Cllr. Pat Treanor
Cllr. Pdraig McNally
Cllr. Aidan Campbell
Cllr. Seamus Treanor
Cllr. Sean Conlon

Clones Erne East Partnership

Cllr. Ciara McPhillips
Cllr. Pat Treanor
Cllr. Hugh McElvaney
Cllr. Seamus Coyle
Cllr. Eugene Bannigan
Cllr. Cathy Bennett

County Monaghan Heritage Forum

Cllr. Ciara McPhillips
Cllr. Pat Treanor
Cllr. Seamus Coyle
Cllr. Seamus Treanor

Lough Muckno Sub Committee

Cllr. Pdraig McNally
Cllr. P.J. O'Hanlon
Cllr. Eugene Bannigan
Cllr. Brian McKenna
Cllr. Jackie Crowe
Cllr. Aidan Campbell

Standing Orders & Procedures Committee

Cllr. Pdraig McNally
Cllr. Hugh McElvaney
Cllr. David Maxwell
Cllr. Brian McKenna
Cllr. Jackie Crowe
Cllr. Paudge Connolly

Road Safety Committee

Cllr. Hugh McElvaney

Monaghan Leisure Complex Management Committee

Cllr. David Maxwell

Cllr. Sean Conlon

Cllr. Robbie Gallagher

Monaghan Age Friendly Alliance

Cllr. Cathy Bennett

North Eastern Regional Drugs and Alcohol Task Force

Cllr. Paudge Connolly

Appointment of members to witness the affixing of the Official Seal

All Members of Monaghan County Council appointed to witness the affixing of the Official Seal

Appointment of Members to Witness the opening of Tenders

Cllr. Sean Conlon

Cllr. Seamus Treanor

Cllr. Brian McKenna

Cllr. Robbie Gallagher

Cllr. David Maxwell

Cllr. Paudge Connolly

EirGrid Sub Committee (apptd. at October 6 2014 meeting)

Cathaoirleach of the day

Cllr. Noel Keelan

Cllr. Jackie Crowe

Cllr. Seamus Coyle

Cllr. Robbie Gallagher

Cllr. Aidan Campbell

Cllr. Eugene Bannigan

Cllr. Paudge Connolly

Landfill Sub-Committee (apptd at November 3 2014 meeting)

Cllr B. McKenna

Cllr P.J. O'Hanlon

Cllr E. Bannigan

Cllr S. Treanor

Ireland 2016 Steering Committee

Cllr. Pdraig McNally

Cllr. Ciara McPhillips
Cllr. Pat Treanor
Cllr. Seamus Treanor

Municipal Districts

Monaghan Municipal District

Cllr. Robbie Gallagher (Cathaoirleach 2015/2016)
Cllr. David Maxwell (Leas-Chathaoirleach 2015/2016)
Cllr. Sean Conlon
Cllr. Brian Mc Kenna
Cllr. Seamus Treanor
Cllr. Paudge Connolly

Carrickmacross-Castleblayney Municipal District

Cllr. PJ O'Hanlon (Cathaoirleach 2015/2016)
Cllr. Aidan Campbell (Leas-Chathaoirleach 2015/2016)
Cllr. Colm Carthy
Cllr. Padraig McNally
Cllr. Jackie Crowe
Cllr. Noel Keelan

Ballybay-Clones Municipal District

Cllr. Ciara McPhillips (Cathaoirleach January – May 2015)
Cllr. Pat Treanor (Leas-Chathaoirleach January – May 2015)
Cllr. Eugene Bannigan (Cathaoirleach June – September 2015)
Cllr. Cathy Bennett (Leas-Chathaoirleach June – September 2015)
Cllr. Hugh Mc Elvaney (Cathaoirleach October – December 2015)
Cllr. Cathy Bennett (Leas-Cathaoirleach October – December 2015)
Cllr. Sean Gilliland
Cllr. Seamus Coyle

Strategic Policy Committees

SPC for Social Cultural and Community Development

Cllr. Brian McKenna (Chair)
Cllr J. Crowe
Cllr S. Gilliland
Cllr H. McElvaney
Cllr S. Coyle
Cllr P. Connolly
Anja Nohlen (Environment Pillar)
Fiona Keenan-O'Brien (Community – Cultural)
Noel Carney (Community – Cultural)
Henry Blackburn (Community)

Ursula McKenna (Community)

Lorraine Cunningham (Community)

SPC for Economic Development and Enterprise Support

Cllr. Pat Treanor (Chair)

Cllr S. Conlon

Cllr S. Coyle

Cllr P.J. O'Hanlon

Cllr A. Campbell

Cllr S. Treanor

Michael Connolly (Environment Pillar)

Joe Rudden (Farming Pillar)

Orla Cassin (Community)

Colm McBride (Business- Construction)

Aidan Quigley (Trade Union)

Vacant (Business)

SPC for Housing and Fire & Civil Protection

Cllr. Ciara McPhillips (Chair)

Cllr H. McElvaney

Cllr C. Bennett

Cllr C. Carthy

Cllr P.J. O'Hanlon

Cllr S. Treanor

Barry McCarron (Environment Pillar)

Marc Mullen (Community)

Fiona McCaffrey Jones (Community)

Teresa Carolan (Community)

Tom Freeman (Community)

Vacant (Business)

SPC for Transport and Environment

Cllr. Robbie Gallagher (Chair)

Cllr P. McNally

Cllr D. Maxwell

Cllr P. Connolly

Cllr N. Keelan

Cllr C. Bennett

Conan Connolly (Environment Pillar)

Kathleen Ward (Farming Pillar)

Paddy Sherry (Community)

Jean Rosney (Federation of GWS)

Colm Lynch (Trade Union)

Vacant (Business)

NUMBER OF MEETINGS HELD DURING 2015

Council meetings	11
Annual Council meeting	1
Council Budget meetings	1
Special Council meetings	4
CPG meetings	12
Municipal District of Monaghan	12
Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones	11
Municipal District of Carrickmacross-Castleblayney	12
Joint Policing Committee	5
Economic Development & Support SPC	5
Social, Cultural & Community SPC	4
Housing, Fire & Civil Protection SPC	4
Transport & Environment SPC	4
Rural Water Programme meetings	1
Local Community Development Committee	10
Ireland 2016 Steering Committee	7
Traveller Accommodation Committee	3
Coiste Gaelige	4
Audit Committee	5
Heritage Forum	2
Landfill Sub Committee	1
Speed Limits Committee	1

EirGrid Sub Committee	3
Muckno Development Committee	3
Local Monitoring Committee	1
Museum Advisory Committee	4
Twinning Committee	2
Clones Erne East	9
Local Sports Partnership	4
Monaghan Leisure Centre	1
Ulster Canal Meeting	1

REPORT ON STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES DURING

Environment and Transport SPC

- ***Consideration of Draft Corporate Plan 2015-2019 (FM)***
Overview of the focus and priorities of the Draft Corporate Plan was presented to members, including the Mission Statement, Core Values, Strategic Objectives and the legislative requirements to produce this Plan.
- ***Litter Management Plan 2014-2016 – Draft Action Plan 2015***
A list of the aims, actions, objectives, priorities and focus of the Litter Management Plan 2015 was examined and discussed. At a further meeting it was agreed that the full focus would be on litter and littering offences, which would include cameras being installed in the County.
- ***Connacht Ulster Regional Waste Management Plan 2015-2021***
The Connacht Ulster Regional Waste Management Plan 2015-2021 was launched on the 15th of May.
- ***Funding Opportunities***
Funding from the following organisations were explained at the May SPC meeting– Leader, Interegg, Peace IV, Life+, Department of Children and Youth Affairs, National Lottery Health Fund, Sports Capital Programme, Ireland Funds, Irish Public Bodies Insurance Community Engagement Fund, The Heritage Council and Community Tourism Grants, including Initiatives, timeframes and explanations.
- ***Household Waste Regulations***
A presentation outlining the introduction of pay by weight systems by 1st July 2015, charging customers by 1st July 2016, and the ability of Local Authorities to issue fixed penalty notices to those non compliant, was reported upon.
- ***Water Quality Presentation – (EPA)***
Water Framework Directive, the Drinking Water Directive and the pressures on monitoring of waste quality programmes were explained. Awareness and improvements in agriculture practise including the implementation of the nitrates directive, have all assisted in the dropping off levels in the past number of years, it was advised.
- ***Dealing with Water Quality Problems Presentation***
An overview including the current situation, local authority measures to protect the water, pesticides in drinking water, farm inspection programmes, awareness and public engagement were all portrayed to members.
- ***Hedgecutting***
A report presented to the September 2015 meeting of the SPC outlined the legislative and procedural requirements in relation to Hedgecutting, which formed the Hedgecutting policy.

- **Environmental Policy Update**
A synopsis of the Environment (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2015 and the European Union (Properties of Waste which render it hazardous) Regulations 2015 were outlined.
- **Significant Water Management Issues Public Consultation Document 2015 (SWMI)**
This document was issued on the 17th June 2015 by the Department of the Environment with closing date for submissions December 2015. This consultation document covered the Water Framework Directive in Ireland, current condition of our waters, pressures on our water environment, river basin management planning and the challenges ahead, and environmental issues to be addressed.
- **Litter Enforcement CCTV update**
A summary of the CCTV Project which ran from April to July 2015 was summarised. Costs involved were approximately €14,000 for this project. Three private companies were used which produced 45 detections resulting in 23 on-the-spot fines being issued. A further ten Northern Ireland registered cars were detected which were forwarded to a London based company for collection.

Economic Development & Enterprise Support SPC

Planning & Economic Development SPC

Following its inaugural meeting in January 2015, The Planning and Economic Enterprise SPC met a further 5 times in the year.

- **Local Economic & Community Plan**
The requirement and an outline of the content of Local Economic and Community Plan was introduced to the SPC in February and regular updates were given throughout the year. The final draft was approved at the December meeting.
- **Tourism Strategy**
A draft Tourism Strategy 2015 was presented in April and progressed through the SPC for approval by the County Council.
- **Variations to The County Development Plan 2013-2019**

Three potential variations to the County Development Plan were put to the SPC during 2015.

1. The Draft Retail Strategy was introduced to the SPC in February and progressed through to CPG and public consultation at the end of 2015.
2. A presentation given on Departmental Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS), outlined the premise of the manual “to put people at the centre of development” which is a reversal of the previous policy. It was published after the County Development Plan and will require a variation to be made to The Development Plan.

3. A variation to Policy WWP7 of County Development Plan was discussed. This policy aims to protect water courses by keeping a 200 metre distance between them and developments. Consideration to reduce the distance will require further examination before a variation is proposed.

Social, Cultural & Community Development SPC

- **County Library**

A comprehensive overview of the Monaghan County Library Service was outlined to members detailing the various services offered to the public as well as events held in the various branches. A new Library Management System is being rolled out nationally. The main features of the new system will be: –

- Single membership – membership of one library will be recognised across all libraries in the country
- Increase in fines for overdue and non-return of books, dvd's, etc
- Changes in loan periods and number of items that can be borrowed.
- Users will be able to reserve books, etc.
- Savings of up to 70% should be achievable on existing maintenance contracts.

- **Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)**

Tenders for the delivery of the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme for 2015 were received on 19 December 2014. A SICAP Evaluation Sub Committee was established to provide oversight of the SICAP tendering evaluation process and that evaluation has recently finished. The contract with Monaghan Integrated Development has now been signed. The Socio Economic Statement and 6 High Level Goals have been approved by the LCDC. This document will assist and guide the LCDC in preparing the six-year Local Economic & Community Plan for the county.

- **Public Participation Network (PPN)**

Work is on going with the registration of Community Groups on the Public Participation Network, and at the end of December, over 289 groups have registered with the PPN. A series of PPN meetings were held in each Municipal District. A new PPN Support Worker, Leona Keenan was employed during 2015.

- **Rural Development Programme (LEADER) 2014-2020**

The Leader Programme will operate from 2014 – 2020. The European Commission have accepted that LEADER Local Action Groups (LAGs) will be drawn from Local Community Development Committees (LCDC'S) Local Development Companies (LDCs) and other potential groups that emerge locally. An allocation of nearly €7.6m has been made to Monaghan sub region area under the new Leader (2014 – 2020) programme. Monaghan Local Community Development Committee, in partnership with Monaghan County Council and Monaghan Integrated Development Ltd, has been appointed the Local Action Group for the purposes of the roll out of Leader in the County for the new programme.

- **Arts**

The Draft Arts Policy 2016-2025) is in the process of being developed and it is hoped to have it approved in early 2016.

Housing, Fire & Civil Protection SPC

- The Housing, Fire and Civil Protection Committee met 4 times in 2015 (February, April, July and October). Items discussed included Revisions to the Housing Rent Scheme, methods of Housing Supply, introduction of the Laserfiche document management system in the housing section, presentations by RESPOND housing and Age Actions organisations.

- **Fire and Civil Protection**

The following policy documents were discussed and agreed by the SPC last year:

- Community Fire Safety Strategy
- During Performance Inspection Policy
- Building Control Inspection Policy

The following policy documents were brought forward for discussion.

- Fire Section Customer Charter
- Civil Defence Customer Charter
- Fire Safety Complaints Policy

TRAINING & CONFERENCES ATTENDED BY MEMBERS IN 2015

(Training is denoted in blue)

Title	Venue	No's Attended
Joint ICLR/ Centre for Cross Border Studies	Killyhevlin Hotel, Enniskillen	3
Urbact National Infoday	South Campus, Maynooth University	1
Irish Renewable Energy Summit	Crowne Plaza Hotel, Santry	1
Future of Local Government in Ireland under the New System	Colmcille Heritage Centre, Letterkenny	5
AILG Training day	The Welcome Inn, Castlebar	6
AILG Annual Conference	Nuremore Hotel, Carrickmacross	7
Domestic Water Charges, Preparation & Practicalities	Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford	1
LAMA Spring Training Seminar	Ard Ri House Hotel, Tuam	9
AILG Training day	Limerick	1
AILG Training day	Clayton Hotel, Galway	5
AILG Training day	Kilkenny	1
AILG Training day	Radisson Blu Hotel, Sligo	8
Irish Ramsar Wetlands Committee & Monaghan County Council	Ballybay Wetlands Centre	3
The Relevance of the 1916 Proclamation in the Ireland of Today	Kiltyclogher, Leitrim	1
AILG Training day	Hodson Bay Hotel, Athlone	8
Local Economic & Community Plans	Clonakilty Hotel	1
The Housing debate – Building our	Maynooth University Campus	1

Communities through Integrated Working with Local Government		
EU Interreg Information Day	Tullamore, Co. Offaly	1
AILG Autumn Seminar	Clonakilty	11
LAMA Autumn Seminar	Hotel Kilkenny	8
Ireland Information Event	Maynooth University	2
AILG - Roads, Transportation & Safety – A key function for Local Authorities	Silver Springs Hotel, Cork	6
A Practical Guide to Budget 2016	Clonakilty Hotel, Cork	1
AILG - Roads, Transportation & Safety – A key function for Local Authorities	Landmark Hotel, Carrick-on-Shannon	8
AILG – Groundwater & Septic tanks & Registration of Lobbying Act 2014	Shearwater Hotel, Ballinasloe	8
Consumer Rights Bill	Clonakilty Hotel, Clonakilty	1
Regulation of Lobbying Act	Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford	1
Local Authority Budgets 2016	Whites Hotel, Wexford	1

Expenses incurred by non members of the Council during 2015 amounted to circa €950.00.

Total payments (including travel & subsistence for Elected members) incurred for conferences, seminars and training amounted to circa €9,600, €3,800.00 approximately of which was payment for training/conference fees.

See Appendix 1 for Members Expenses 2015.

BALLYBAY CLONES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

Opening of Barry McGuigan Park



Barry McGuigan (The Clones Cyclone) was delighted to return to his hometown of Clones and officially open the park which had been named in his honour. The Park is a wonderful asset to the Town Centre, providing a lovely leisure facility complete with fountain, seating and benching. Funding for the park was received from Cavan-Monaghan LEADER, Clones Town Council and Clones Community Forum and the East Border Region. Barry attended the launch with his wife Sandra and other family members.

Establishment of Regeneration Committees

At the Monthly meeting of the Ballybay-Clones Municipal District it was agreed to establish a Clones Regeneration Committee and a Ballybay Regeneration Committee. These committees would be made up of all the Elected Members, plus it would seek representation from a number of local groups such as Clones Community Forum, Clones Erne East Partnership, Ballybay/Clones Chambers of Commerce, Ballybay/Clones Developments Associations and County Council staff from the Municipal District Office. The purpose of these groups is to bring all the community groups together to discuss projects/plans to help regenerate the towns under the umbrella of the regeneration committees and with the support and guidance of the Municipal District.

Comfortas Na Bhfuinneog

To coincide with Seachtain Na Gaeilge week, and in conjunction with Monaghan County Council, the Municipal District held a highly successful competition "Comortas na bhFuinneog". This competition was open to all businesses, schools and community groups. The judges were very impressed by the artistic work and use of the Irish language in the displays and eventually picked St Tiarnachs Primary School, Clones, and Tina's Floral Arts, Ballybay as worthy winners.





Spring Clean – Clones (April 2015)

The Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones were once again delighted to be associated with Clones Tidy Towns annual spring clean. The Municipal District extended an invitation to Daniel McKenna, World Champion Rally Driver to join them on the day. The Municipal District are delighted to announce an increase of 14 points in the 2015 Tidy Towns Competition.

Other events that took place during the year included:

- **Unveiling of Plaque and Exhibition for Seamus McCabe – All Ireland Handball Champion**
- **Launch of Walking Trails in Ballybay**
- **O Neill Park Residents – 80th Birthday**
- **Installation of sound proofing in Clones**
- **Beer Festival, Ballybay - 9th-11th October**
- **Unveiling of Art Sculpture at the Peace Link Clones**
- **Revamping and expansion of Smithboro Playground**
- **Business Exhibition and presentation of Age Friendly Charter**
- **Twinning visit to Gergweis and Osterhofen in Bavaria, Germany**

Excellence in Local Government Awards

Monaghan County Council were chosen as the worthy winners of Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards 2015 for the Peace Link, Clones. The award was presented under the heading of Supporting Active Communities. Four Local Authorities were shortlisted under this heading, namely Leitrim County Council, South Dublin County Council, Limerick City and County Council and Monaghan County Council. The judging panel were very impressed with the high calibre of entries and competition for a place on the shortlist was extremely tough.

These presentations are hosted by Chambers Ireland in partnership with the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government. This awards ceremony is held to recognise community initiatives which support and encourage communities to work for and with one another.

The event itself was held in the Ballsbridge Hotel, Pembroke Road, Dublin 4, on Thursday 12th November 2015 and attended by the Cathaoirleach of Monaghan County Council Noel Keelan, Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District of Ballybay–Clones, Hugh McElvaney, Declan McKernan, Chairperson Peace Link Clones, and Kevin McNally, Ballybay-Clones Municipal District.



Some of the works that were undertaken by Ballybay-Clones MD during 2015 included:

- Surface dressing works on both Local & Regional roads – 20KM of local roads & 4KM of Regional roads in 2015
- Road Patching on all roads – number of public queries recorded in 2015 was 563 in total
- Winter Maintenance
- Flood alleviation works @ Threemilehouse
- Low cost accident improvement works @ Abbots factory Cootehill
- Provision of new footpath on the Castleblayney R183 road in Ballybay
- Provision of new footpath on the R183 Newbliss road out of Clones
- Upkeep of the towns in our district, Clones, Ballybay & Castleblayney
- Upkeep & inspections of the playgrounds in our district, of which we have 11 in total
- Maintenance & cleaning of signage
- Providing emergency on-call cover – we had a total of 51 emergency callouts in 2015
- Working with local groups within the district – some of these being Tidy Towns committees, Regeneration groups, sporting groups etc.

MONAGHAN MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

Monaghan Public Art Sculpture

The official opening of the Monaghan Public Art Sculpture opposite the Coolshannagh Roundabout took place on the 30th October, 2015. This sculpture was funded by the Arts Council NI, and depicts the importance of the Ulster Canal, which once facilitating the movement of goods, animals and people throughout the region.

Events throughout the Year

Monaghan Municipal District staff provided administrative support, and the outdoor staff provided assistance in relation to barriers and traffic management for the following festivals:

The St. Patrick's Day Parade, The Country Music Festival, Harvest Blues Festival, Taste of Monaghan, Bats Halloween Festival and Christmas Lights Switch On. The festivals were a great success, bringing many visitors to our town and providing a great economic boost for our local businesses. Other events such as Social Inclusion Week and a Down Syndrome Ireland Exhibition took place in Monaghan Town. Monaghan Municipal District also facilitated the running of the Farmer's Market each Friday in 2015.

Comortas Na Bhfuinneog

To coincide with Seachtain Na Gaeilge week, and in conjunction with Monaghan County Council, the Municipal District held a highly successful competition "Comortas na bhFuinneog". This competition was opened to all businesses, schools and community groups.

In conjunction with the Youth Development Officer, Fiona McEntee, the Municipal District invited students from the local secondary schools to help businesses in the town decorate their windows for St. Patrick's Day. This was a very successful initiative and it is envisioned that this will be conducted on a yearly basis. The judges were very impressed by the artistic work and use of the Irish language in the displays.

Retail Strategy for Monaghan Town

Trevor Connolly, was appointed as Monaghan Town Retail Co-ordinator, whose role is to set up a Town Team to work together to enhance Monaghan Town through festivals, retail vouchers, Age Friendly Programme, web development and marketing campaigns. A successful advertising programme was conducted in border counties resulting in an increase in footfall in the town during the Christmas period.

Roads Program



The Roads Restoration Programme, Surface Dressing and Drainage Programmes for 2015 were successfully completed.



Surface Dressing

- Traffic calming measures were carried out at Emyvale and Clontibret to improve road safety.
- Driver speed limit feedback signs were erected on the Cootehill Road at Drumbear.
- Cootehill Road Flood Relief Scheme was completed in 2015.
- Limegrove and Montfort housing estates were taken in charge by Monaghan Municipal District.

Parks and open spaces

Maintenance of St. Peters Lake Park and the Ulster Canal Greenway was carried out in 2015. Grass-cutting, hedge-cutting and weed-killing maintenance works were carried out in Monaghan Town and planters and flower beds were maintained by the Gardener. The Municipal District also administers the booking of Belgium Park Football Grounds.

Community Groups

The Municipal District provided assistance to local residents' groups in relation to events during the year i.e. clean ups during Spring clean month, and to various Tidy Town committees.

Labour Activation Scheme

Monaghan Municipal District employed 19 Gateway staff who participated in community work such as litter-picking, fence repairs, cleaning our town walks and painting bins, seats, street furniture etc , N2 spring clean and many more cleaning projects.

Monaghan Leisure Complex

The Complex serves a catchment community of 98,027, not only in Monaghan, but also Cavan, Fermanagh, Tyrone and Armagh. Situated on the Clones Road, Monaghan it is the largest health & fitness centre in the county and caters for a wide spectrum of user needs from swimming, tennis to fitness classes - 146,388 individual visits were recorded at the complex in 2015.

Coral Leisure Ltd operates the facility under a licence agreement from Monaghan County Council. In 2015 Monaghan Leisure Complex it was awarded the Ireland Active White Flag Awards at Gold Standard for the third year running.

Facilities include a six lane, 25 meter pool, Sauna, Steam room, spa pool, fully equipped gym with a wide range of cardiovascular and resistance equipment, 2 specialist fitness studios, and outdoor tennis courts.

Since opening in 2006 the complex has played an important role in running programs developed by local swimming clubs and Irish Water Safety - 54,653 customers availed of swimming lessons and aqua aerobics in 2015 alone.

The Leisure Complex Committee, which consists of members of Monaghan County Council, continues to monitor operations through quarterly meetings with the management company. This committee is advised by a Consultative User Group consisting of representatives of a wide variety of groups and clubs who use the complex.

The Consultative User Group consists of nominees from the following groups;

- Sliabh Beagh SC
- Monaghan Community Games
- Monaghan Tennis Club
- Monaghan Sports partnership
- Monaghan Sub Aqua Club

The Leisure Complex operators have worked closely with the Monaghan Sports Partnership Office to organise a number of programs aimed at increased participation in sport, exercise and physical activity in County Monaghan. Such programmes are developed to facilitate people with disabilities, minority groups and older people. Such classes and fitness programs are organised at convenient times for these participants.

The facility caters for schools, clubs and special needs groups, both north and south of the border. The Complex continues to hold swimming galas in conjunction with Swim Ulster and the local Sliabh Beagh Swimming Club. Such events attract significant numbers of visitors to the county from throughout the Ulster region and further afield and allow both competitive and non competitive swimmers the chance to participate in competitions.

In 2015 the Council carried out significant capital investment reconfiguring air handling units, upgrading lighting and the BMS through funding provided under the SEAI Better Energy Communities Scheme for which Monaghan County Council received 30% funding of capital costs. The Council also undertook a refurbishment of the tennis courts at a significant cost. All of these improvements should serve to prolong the life of the centre and ensure that it caters to the needs of customers as it enters into its tenth anniversary.

CARRICKMACROSS – CASTLEBLAYNEY MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

	CMX CBY MD	% OF COUNTY
POPULATION	21,413	35.4%
AREA	354 KM2	27.8%
ROAD LENGTH	758KM	30.2%
HOUSING	454 UNITS	33.4%

Carrickmacross-Castleblayney Municipal District undertook the following projects in 2015:

- Construction of new (i) Multi Use Games Area and (ii) Skate park in Cloughvalley
- Assistance to Fire Brigade at cleanup of waste from illegal fuel plants
- Organised and ran the St. Patrick’s Day Parade 2015
- Facilitated Tidy Towns with ground works for new Polytunnel
- Peace Forest Planting on new recreational grounds
- Spring Clean Crew on N2
- Provided new toilet facilities at Lough Muckno
- Allocation of Community Grants
- Held function for Christina McMahon Boxer homecoming
- Sand replacement at Lough Muckno Play park
- ‘Here am I’ exhibition at Market Square – social inclusion week
- Advertised for contractor to carry out refurbishment for the Hope Castle No 1 Gate Lodge Restoration project - €40k grant received from the Department – contract valued at €250k – contracts signed 18th November
- Graphics completed and panels ordered for Biodiversity Trail Bath Avenue/Lough na Glack
- Hosted Civic Reception for visiting MEP’s to Carrickmacross on the 28th September, 2015.
- Drafted an online Municipal District Promotional Brochure
- Advertised for consultants for a Walking & Cycling strategy for Carrickmacross.
- Short term lease agreement between Monaghan Co. Council and Lough Muckno Partnership Committee in relation to ‘Men’s sheds’ Castleblayney signed.
- Short term lease agreement between Monaghan Co. Council and Carrickmacross Camera Club signed.
- Memorial gardens for Carrickmacross and Castleblayney commenced. Carrickmacross garden is situated alongside the Convent Avenue to the rear of Civic Offices. Memorial garden in Castleblayney is situated in the area of Barney’s Green.
- Commissioned a report from tree arborist in relation to a request for the preservation of tree at Chestnut Grove, Parnell Street, Carrickmacross.
- Shop Local Banners were erected in Castleblayney in conjunction with a new shopping voucher promotion
- The Council welcomed a delegation of local government officials from Bosnia-Herzegovina who travel to Monaghan on 28th October



- Books of Condolences for Victims of Paris atrocities were opened in the Civic Offices, Carrickmacross and the Enterprise Centre, Castleblayney for one week. The books were then delivered to the French Ambassador
- Presentation of certificates to Inver College students for St. Patricks Day window art project
- 'Include Us' art project which was completed under the social inclusion programme by Steadfast House was exhibited in the Civic Offices
- €75,000 was allocated for Rural Economic Development Zones (REDZ) pilot initiative for the Castleblayney/Ballybay area. Letter of acknowledgement issued to Department and match funding from MD of Carrickmacross-Castleblayney - €80,000 and Ballybay-Clones - €8,000.
- Commenced construction on 50 number car parking spaces at Lough Muckno on the 4th of November
- Training courses ongoing in relation to sales, marketing and visual merchandising for retailers
- Potential properties identified for upgrading in relation to the 'beautiful street initiatives'
- Commence work on iconic entrance feature to town at Tullyvin roundabout, Castleblayney
- Engage consultant to explore options for delivering efficient broadband service to Lough Egish

GENERAL INFORMATION

Administrative Headquarters

Monaghan County Council
County Offices
The Glen
Monaghan

Telephone: 047-30500

Fax: 047-82739 **Email:** info@monaghancoco.ie

Office Hours – Monday to Friday, 9.15 a.m. - 1p.m. and 1.30 p.m. – 5.15 p.m.
Offices closed on Bank Holidays

Section	Tel. Number
Main Telephone Number	047-30500
Chief Executive's Office	047-30546
Director of Services	047-30551 / 30523
Human Resources	047-30586
Register of Electors	047 - 30551
Accounts	047-30589
Water Services	047-30504/ 30571
Planning	047-30595/30532
Housing	047-30529
Housing Loans & Grants	047-30527
Housing Construction	047-30587
Roads	047-30597
Fire & Building Control	047-30521
Economic & Community Services	047-73719
Monaghan MD	047-73777
Local Enterprise Office	047 71818

Address	Tel. Number	Office Hours (Monday to Friday)
Motor Tax Office Market Street, Monaghan	047 – 81175	9.30 a.m. – 3.00 p.m. (open to public) 9.30 a.m. – 4.45 p.m. (office hours) Office closed on Bank Holidays
Monaghan County Library '98 Avenue Clones, Monaghan	047 – 74700	Individual office hours for each branch can be obtained from the County Library
Monaghan Arts Office, Market House, Monaghan	047 – 38162/38158 047 - 71113 (Fax)	9.15 a.m.– 5.15 p.m.
County Museum, Hill St. Monaghan	047 82928	9.15 a.m.– 5.15 p.m.
Carrickmacross- Castleblayney MD Civic Offices Riverside Road Carrickmacross, Monaghan	042-9661236	9.15 a.m.– 5.15 p.m.
Environment Section Carrickmacross Civic Offices Civic Offices Riverside Road Carrickmacross, Monaghan	042-9661240	9.15 a.m.– 5.15 p.m.
Ballybay-Clones MD Monaghan County Council Monaghan Street, Clones, Co. Monaghan	047-51018	9.15 a.m.– 5.15 p.m.

APPENDIX 1

Payments to Monaghan County Council Members in 2015											
	Travel &						Chair of		Foreign Travel		
Name of	Subsistence	Annual	Mobile	SPC Chair	Cathaoirleach	Leas	Municipal	Retirement	Twinning etc	TOTAL	Representational
Councillor	(Meetings,	Allowance	Phone	Allowance	Allowance	Chathaoirleach	District	Gratuity	Cost of	ALLOWANCES	Payment (salary)
	Conferences		Allowance		(Subject to	Allowance	Allowance	(Subject to	Flights &	& EXPENSES	Gross subject
	& Training)				PAYE)	(Subject to	(subject to	PAYE)	Expenses	ETC	to PAYE
						PAYE)	PAYE)				
P. McNally	€ 4,708.40	€ 5,580.16	€ 294.95		€ 11,111.14					€ 21,694.65	€ 16,565.00
N. Keelan	€ 2,394.67	€ 5,580.16	€ 194.51		€ 9,992.30				€ 2,214.49	€ 20,376.13	€ 16,565.00
C. Carthy	€ 0.00	€ 5,485.60	€ 95.69							€ 5,581.29	€ 16,565.00
P.J.O'Hanlon	€ 3,027.35	€ 5,580.16	€ 169.53				€ 2,033.32			€ 10,810.36	€ 16,565.00
J. Crowe	€ 3,935.17	€ 4,776.76	€ 149.60			€ 2,099.98	€ 3,077.81			€ 14,039.32	€ 16,565.00
H. McElvaney	€ 5,270.91	€ 4,351.48	€ 239.54				€ 710.00			€ 10,571.93	€ 16,565.00
B. McKenna	€ 2,653.81	€ 4,658.68	€ 0.00	€ 6,000.00						€ 13,312.49	€ 16,565.00
S. Coyle	€ 4,480.20	€ 5,202.16	€ 0.00			€ 1,766.65				€ 11,449.01	€ 16,565.00
S. Conlon	€ 4,415.67	€ 4,351.48	€ 356.75				€ 2,933.33		€ 1,367.62	€ 13,424.85	€ 16,565.00
P. Treanor	€ 1,624.97	€ 4,682.32	€ 0.00	€ 6,000.00						€ 12,307.29	€ 16,565.00
D. Maxwell	€ 6,177.66	€ 4,351.48	€ 392.96						€ 1,664.67	€ 12,586.77	€ 16,565.00
R. Gallagher	€ 1,163.24	€ 4,351.48	€ 408.92	€ 6,000.00			€ 2,750.00			€ 14,673.64	€ 16,565.00
S. Treanor	€ 0.00	€ 4,353.41	€ 0.00							€ 4,353.41	€ 16,565.00
P. Connolly	€ 6,016.29	€ 4,351.48	€ 416.91						€ 284.15	€ 11,068.83	€ 16,565.00
C. McPhillips	€ 2,152.78	€ 4,351.48	€ 0.00	€ 6,000.00			€ 2,933.33		€ 349.79	€ 15,787.38	€ 16,565.00
C. Bennett	€ 2,450.16	€ 4,351.48	€ 130.03						€ 655.31	€ 7,586.98	€ 16,565.00
E. Bannigan	€ 421.48	€ 4,195.40	€ 416.44				€ 1,750.00			€ 6,783.32	€ 12,423.78
A. Campbell	€ 2,043.99	€ 4,730.56	€ 0.00							€ 6,774.55	€ 16,565.00
S. Gilliland*	€ 0.00									€ 0.00	
Totals	€ 52,936.75	€ 85,285.73	€ 3,265.83	€ 24,000.00	€ 21,103.44	€ 3,866.63	€ 16,187.79	€ 0.00	€ 6,536.03	€ 213,182.20	€ 294,028.78

*Co-opted on 7/12/15 - no payments received

APPENDIX 2

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2015		
Housing (H1 to H6)		
H1: Social Housing Stock	2015	2014
A. The overall total number of dwellings provided by the local authority in the period 1/1/2015 to 31/12/2015; comprising:	202	25
B. The number of dwellings directly provided, i.e. constructed (B1) , by the LA in 2015	9	0
or purchased (B2)	13	5
C. The number of units provided under the Rental Accommodation Scheme in 2015	1	5
D. The number of units provided under the Housing Assistance Payment Scheme in 2015 if operated (or else indicate if the scheme is not yet being operated in the LA)	175	15
E. The number of units provided under the Social Housing Leasing Initiative (SHLI) (including unsold Affordable Scheme units and NAMA sourced properties and the Mortgage to Rent Scheme) in 2015	4	0
F. The overall total number of social housing dwellings in the LA at 31/12/2015; comprising:	1863	1713
G. The total number of dwellings directly provided (constructed or purchased) by the LA	1413	1410
H. The total number of units provided under the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)	256	288
I. The total number of units provided under the Housing Assistance Payment Scheme (HAP) if operated (or else indicate if scheme not yet being operated in the LA)	190	15
J. The total number of units provided under the SHLI (including unsold Affordable Scheme units and NAMA sourced properties and the Mortgage to Rent Scheme)	4	0
H2: Housing Vacancies		
A. The percentage of the total number of dwellings at H1G that were vacant on 31/12/2015.	10	7
H3: Average Re-letting Time and Cost		
A. The time taken from the date of vacation of dwelling to the date in 2015 when a new tenancy had commenced in the dwelling, averaged across all units re-let during 2015	18.3	19.45
B. The cost expended on getting the units re-tenanted in 2015 ready for re-letting, averaged across all units re-let in 2015	9560.69	2912.05

- The number of units that were re-tenanted on any date in 2015 (but excluding all those that had been vacant due to an estate-wide refurbishment scheme).	65	53
- The number of weeks from when the previous tenant vacated the dwelling (i.e. keys returned or tenant moved out) up to the date of the new tenant's first rent debit, with any partial week decimalised to two decimal places, totalled for all units included above.	1189.5	1031
- Total expenditure on repairs necessary to enable re-letting of the units included above.	621444.77	232964.16
H4: Housing Maintenance Cost		
A. Expenditure during 2015 on the repair and maintenance of housing bought or built by the LA compiled on a continuous basis from 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2015, divided by the no. of directly provided units in the LA stock at 31/12/2015, i.e. data at indicator H1G.		0
In order to compile this information, local authorities should submit the following data to the LGMA:		
- Expenditure on repair and maintenance of LA stock compiled on a continuous basis from 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2015, including planned maintenance expenditure but excluding expenditure under approved major refurbishment schemes (i.e. approved Regeneration Scheme or residual expenditure under the Remedial Works Scheme).	1029123	1179832
H5: Private rented sector inspections		
A. Total number of registered tenancies in the LA area		
B. Number of inspections carried out	324	221
H6: Long-term Homeless Adults		
A. Number of adult individuals in emergency accommodation that are long-term (i.e. 6 months or more within the previous year) homeless as a % of the total number of homeless adult individuals in emergency accommodation at the end of 2015.	1	1
The number of adult individuals classified as homeless in the Pathway Accommodation & Support systems (Pass) as at 31/12/2015	2	0
Roads (R1 to R3)		
R1: Ratings in Pavement Surface Condition Index (PSCI)		
- % of total Regional road kilometres that have ever received at PSCI condition rating		
- % of total Local Primary road kilometres that have ever received at PSCI condition rating		
- % of total Local Secondary road kilometres that have ever received at PSCI condition rating		

- % of total Local Tertiary road kilometres that have ever received at PSCI condition rating		
- % of total Regional road kilometres that received at PSCI condition rating between 1/1/2015 and 31/12/2015		
- At 31/12/2015 the number of Regional road kilometres having a PSCI rating of (a) 1-4, (b) 5-6, (c) 7-8 and (d) 9-10 expressed as a % of total Regional road kilometres in the local authority area		
- At 31/12/2015 the number of Local Primary road kilometres having a PSCI rating of (a) 1-4, (b) 5-6, (c) 7-8 and (d) 9-10 expressed as a % of total Local Primary road kilometres in the local authority area		
- At 31/12/2015 the number of Local Secondary road kilometres having a PSCI rating of (a) 1-4, (b) 5-6, (c) 7-8 and (d) 9-10 expressed as a % of total Local Secondary road kilometres in the local authority area		
- At 31/12/2015 the number of Local Tertiary road kilometres having a PSCI rating of (a) 1-4, (b) 5-6, (c) 7-8 and (d) 9-10 expressed as a % of total Local Tertiary road kilometres in the local authority area		
R2: Regional road grants works		
A. Kilometres of regional road strengthened during 2015 using Road Improvement (RI) grants and the RI grant amount and	9344m	N/A
B. Kilometres of regional road resealed during 2015 using Road Maintenance (RM) grants and the RM grant amount.	6445m	N/A
R3: % of motor tax transactions conducted online		
A. The percentage of motor tax transactions which are dealt with online (i.e. transaction is processed and the tax disc is issued).		
Water (W1)		
W1: % Drinking water in private schemes in compliance with statutory requirements		
Data to be submitted by the EPA		
Waste/Environment (E1 to E5)		
E1: No./% of Households with access to a 3 bin service - Data to be supplied via NWCPO		
The following indicators will be presented in the performance indicators report:		
A. The number of households, based on the 2011 Census, who are situated in an area covered by a licensed operator providing a 3 bin service at 31/12/2015		
B. The % of households within the LA area (also as per the 2011 Census) that the number at A represents.		

E2: % of environmental pollution complaints closed		
A. The total no. of pollution cases in respect of which a complaint was made during 2015, the number of pollution cases closed from 1/12/2015 to 31/12/2015 and the total no. of cases on hands at 31/12/2015.	448	
Total number of pollution cases of all types on which either a decision was taken that no investigation was warranted or an investigation was finalised (weather through prosecution or otherwise) during 2015 regardless of when the case commenced	424	
Total number of pollution cases of all types not finalised at 31/12/2015	24	
E3: % of LA area within the 5 levels of litter pollution		
A. The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2014 was 1) unpolluted or litter free, 2) slightly polluted, 3) moderately polluted, 4) significantly polluted, or 5) grossly polluted.		
Planning (P1 to P4)		
P1: New Buildings Inspected		
A. Buildings Inspected as a percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority	22.86	19.28%
Total number of new buildings notified to the local authority i.e. buildings where a valid commencement notice was served in the period 1/1/2015 to 31/12/2015 by a builder or developer on the local authority	175	166
Number of new buildings notified to the local authority in 2015 that were the subject of at least one inspection undertaken by the local authority under section 11 of the Building Control Act 1990.	40	32
P2: No./% of Planning decisions confirmed by <i>An Bord Pleanála</i>		
A. Number of LA planning decisions which were the subject of an appeal to <i>An Bord Pleanála</i> that were determined by the Board on any date in 2015	8	8
B. % of the determinations at A which confirmed (either with or without variation) the decision made by the LA	10	75%
P3: % of Planning Enforcement cases closed as resolved		
A. Total number of planning cases referred to or initiated by the local authority in the period 1/1/2015 to 31/12/2015 that were investigated	109	135

B. Total number of cases that were closed during 2015	69	69
C. % of the cases at B that were dismissed under section 152(2), Planning and Development Act 2000 or were closed because statute barred or an exempted development	16	38%
D. % of the cases at B that were resolved to the LA's satisfaction through negotiations	3	9%
E. % of the cases at B that were closed due to enforcement proceedings (i.e. remedied in response to a warning letter issued under section 152 of the Act or to an enforcement notice issued under section 154 of the Act or where a prosecution was brought under section 157 or an injunction was sought under section 160 of the Act)	81	53%
F. Total number of planning cases being investigated as at 31/12/2015.	251	211
P4: Cost per Capita of the Planning Service		
A. The Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme D data divided by the population of the LA area per the 2011 Census.	€	€
- AFS Programme D data consisting of D01 - Forward Planning, D02 - Development Management,	377,109	359256
D03 - Enforcement (inclusive of the relevant Programme D proportion of the central management charge)	996,663	1084366
If the Programme D figures that the LA provides for this indicator do not relate to 2015, an explanation is to be provided.	119,077	139074
	1,492,849	1582696
Fire Service (F1 to F3)		
F1: Cost per Capita of the Fire Service		
A. The Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme E expenditure data divided by the population of the LA area per the 2011 Census figures for the population served by the fire authority as per the Risk Based Approach Phase One reports.	2,587,323	2501870
	€3,000.00	41.58
F2: Service Mobilisation		
A. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of fire		
B. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of fire	6.4	6.27
C. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of all other (non-fire) emergency incidents		

D. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of all other (non-fire) emergency incidents	7.11	6
F3: Percentage Attendance Times at Scenes		
Total Number of call outs in respect of fire from 1/1/2015 to 31/12/2015	168	187
A. % of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at the scene is within 10 minutes	53 (31.55%)	63 (33.69%)
B. % of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	99 (58.93%)	107 (57.22%)
C. % of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	16 (9.52%)	17 (9.09%)
Total Number of call outs in respect of all other emergency incidents from 1/1/2015 to 31/12/2015	148	125
D.% of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance at the scene is within 10 minutes	21 (14.19%)	19 (15.2%)
E. % of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	94 (63.51%)	90 (72%)
F.% of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	33 (22.30%)	16 (12.8%)
Library/Recreation Services (L1 and L2)		
L1: Library Visits and Issues		
A. Number of visits to libraries per head of population for the LA area per the 2011 Census.	266597	292088
B. Number of items issued to library borrowers in the year.	331638	N/A
L2: Cost of operating a Library Service		
A. The Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme F data divided by the population of the LA area per the 2011 Census.	2279486	2093664
Youth/Community (Y1 to Y4)		
Y1: Participation in <i>Comhairle na nÓg</i> scheme		
The following indicator will be presented in the performance indicators report:	2015	2014
A. Percentage of local schools involved in the local Youth Council/ <i>Comhairle na nÓg</i> scheme	100	76.19
- Total number of second level schools in the LA area at 31/12/2015	12	21

- Number of second level schools in the LA area from which representatives attended the local <i>Comhairle na nÓg</i> AGM held in 2015.	12	16
Y2: Groups associated with the Public Participation Network (PPN)		
A. The number of organisations included in the County Register at 31/12/2015 and the proportion of those organisations that opted to be part of the Social Inclusion College within the PPN		
- Total number of organisations included in the County Register (maintained in accordance with section 128 of the Local Government Act 2001) for the local authority area as at 31/12/2015	290	N/A
- Total number of registered organisations that opted to join the Social Inclusion Electoral College when registering for the PPN in 2015.	50	N/A
Corporate (C1 to C4)		
C1: Total Number of WTEs		
A. The wholetime equivalent staffing number as at 31 December 2015	364.25	362.74
C2: Working Days lost to Sickness		
A. Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through medically certified leave	3.43	3.53
B. Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through self-certified leave	0.14	0.15%
Number of working days lost to sickness absence through medically certified leave	2834.5	2977.5
Number of working days lost to sickness absence through self-certified leave	119.5	121.5
Number of <u>unpaid</u> working days lost to sickness absence included within the total of medically certified sick leave days	40	70
Number of <u>unpaid</u> working days lost to sickness absence included within the total of self-certified sick leave days	0	0
C3: LA website and social media usage		
A. Total page views of the local authority's website in 2015.	455510	398227
B. Total number of followers at end 2015 of the LA's social media accounts (if any).	4358 (Facebook 2777, Twitter 1581)	N/A
C4: Overall cost of ICT provision per WTE		

A. All ICT expenditure in the period from 1/1/2015 to 31/12/2015, divided by the WTE no. supplied under the C1 indicator.	1279917.1	3771.66
Finance (M1 and M2)		
M1: 5 Year summary of Revenue Account balance		
A. The cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2011 in the Revenue Account from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the Annual Financial Statement (AFS)	-€943,259	
B. The cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2012	-€1,485,128	
C. The cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2013	-€3,309,389	
D. The cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2014*	-€2,879,914	
E. The cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2015**		
F. The cumulative surplus or deficit at 31/12/2015 as a percentage of Total Income in 2015 from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS**		
Debit Balance		
Credit Balance		
M2: 5 Year summary of % collection levels for major revenue sources	Rates	Rents and Annuities
A. The individual % figures for each of (a) Rates, (b) Rent & Annuities and (c) Housing Loans in the final column of Appendix 7 of the Annual Financial Statement (AFS) for 2011	68%	95%
B. The individual % figures for each of (a) Rates, (b) Rent & Annuities and (c) Housing Loans for 2012	64%	95%
C. The individual % figures for each of (a) Rates, (b) Rent & Annuities and (c) Housing Loans for 2013	65%	95%
D. The individual % figures for each of (a) Rates, (b) Rent & Annuities and (c) Housing Loans for 2014*	64%	94%
E. The individual % figures for each of (a) Rates, (b) Rent & Annuities and (c) Housing Loans for 2015**		
Economic Development (J1)		
J1: No. of jobs created		
A. The no. of jobs created with assistance from the Local Enterprise Office during the period 1/1/2015 to 31/12/2015	43.5	28