



Monaghan County Council

Annual Report 2012



Clár/ Contents

Mayor's Message & Introduction by County Manager

Members of Monaghan County Council

Housing and Building

Roads Transportation and Safety

Motor Taxation

Water Services

Development Incentives and Controls

Planning

Community & Enterprise

Environmental Protection

Environment

Fire Service

Building Control

Civil Defence Service

Recreation and Amenity

Library Service

County Museum

Arts Office

Leisure Complex

Miscellaneous Services

Human Resources Management

Higher Education grants

Twinning

Implementation of Scéim Gaeilge

Finance

Council Committees

Seminars & Conferences attended by Members

General Information

Town Councils

Monaghan Town Council

Carrickmacross Town Council

Castleblayney Town Council

Clones Town Council

Ballybay Town Council

Mayor's message



Ba mhaith liom, mar Mhéara an Chontae, an Tuarascáil seo a chur ar fáil don phobal. Is mór an onóir dom gur toghadh mé mar Mhéara i mbliana. Gabhaim buíochas arís baill an gComhairle.

As a long serving member of the County Council my election as Mayor of County Monaghan for the year 2012/2013 is a great honour for me. I'd like to thank the members of Monaghan County Council who support and assist me in fulfilling this prestigious role. Sadly, during my tenure as Mayor, the Council lost one of its dedicated members, Sheila McKenna RIP, who passed away in June 2012. It is fitting that I pay tribute and express the great sadness felt at the loss of our colleague.

As Mayor, I am ever mindful of the important duty borne by public representatives in promoting and supporting civic responsibility, particularly in these challenging times. Despite the economic difficulties felt across the country and in our local community, Monaghan County Council continued its work in providing a broad range of services to the public.

I commend this Annual Report for 2012 which demonstrates the essential and important work undertaken by Monaghan County Council on behalf of the people of the county. The range of work carried out, services provided and communities supported is phenomenal and as Mayor, I take this opportunity to thank all the Members, the Acting County Manager and his team, for their loyalty and commitment to our county.

I also want to thank the dedicated, hard working staff of all the Monaghan Local Authorities for their diligence, support and teamwork during these uncertain times.

'Ni Neart go Chuir le Cheile' – 'We can achieve a lot more by working together'.

Le gach dea-mhéin,

**Cllr. Hugh McElvaney
Mayor of the County of Monaghan
Méara an Chontae**

Introduction - County Manager



I am very pleased to present the Annual Report for 2012 on behalf of the Monaghan Local Authorities. The report is important in that it provides a wide range of information about the services provided by the Local Authorities, the Councillors, staff and departments. It looks at the achievements of the Local Authorities in 2012, outlining progress despite the challenging circumstances.

Similar to many public sector and private sector organisations, the Monaghan Local Authorities use the Annual Report as a vital tool in performance management, benchmarking against both their own previous standards and external organisations. It is also used as a means of informing the citizens of the county of the various programmes carried out by the Local Authorities as we are accountable to those citizens. It is used by staff and members alike as a practical stock taking exercise of the performance and direction of the organisation.

It must be said that despite the continuing economic difficulties being experienced both nationally and locally it was possible to progress a number of projects throughout 2012. The Clones Erne East Sports Partnership Project commenced construction in 2012 and steady progress is being reported in what promises to be an iconic project in the region. The Council looks forward to the completion of this project and a continuation of the very fruitful co-operation and partnership with all the stakeholders. Progress also continues in the infrastructural projects undertaken in Housing, Water Services and Roads, with a further stage of the N2 Monaghan Emyvale Road under construction.

The Monaghan County Development Plan 2013-2019 incorporating the Town Plans was progressed throughout 2012 involving extensive public consultation and briefing sessions with staff and Councillors.

Despite the difficult financial circumstances the continued delivery of existing services remained as a high priority for Councillors and staff, with an emphasis on maintaining roads and water services, providing quality housing, dealing with planning services and the various Council activities.

I acknowledge and commend the continued dedication and commitment of all our staff both indoor and outdoor. These are challenging times for our citizens and our staff and services continue to be delivered to a high standard.

The transition to Irish Water continued apace throughout 2012 and points to significant change in the service delivery model for the foreseeable future. Monaghan County Council will continue to co-operate with this change process and looks forward to its continuing engagement in the sector albeit in a changed role.

The announcement of “Putting People First” by Minister Hogan in October 2012 heralded the most significant change to local government in Ireland in over a century. This will require major re-organisation at political and corporate level. At political level the Town Councils will be disbanded in mid 2014 and there will be a significant reduction in the number of Councillors. The Council is to be re-organised at Municipal District level with the actual number of Districts yet to be decided. Management and staff began a major Workforce Planning exercise in 2012 in anticipation of organisational change. This exercise is to continue throughout 2013.

In conclusion, I wish to pay tribute to the Mayors and Cathaoirligh who held office in 2012 and the Oireachtas Members for their continued interaction with the Local Authorities.

David Fallon
County Manager



**Padraig
McNally**



**Matt
Carthy**



**Aidan
Murray**



**Noel
Keelan**



PJ O'Hanlon



**Gary
Carville**



**Jackie
Crowe**



**Owen
Bannigan**



**John
O'Brien**



**Ciara
McPhillips**



**Seamus
Coyle**



**Hugh
McElvaney**



**Pat
Treanor**



**Robbie
Gallagher**



**Paudge
Connolly**



**David
Maxwell**



**Brian
McKenna**



**Cathy
McBennett
(Co opted)**



**Séan
Conlon**



**Seamus
Treanor**

Councillor Sheila McKenna RIP



On the 28th June 2012, the news of the passing of Councillor Sheila McKenna was received with great sadness by her fellow Councillors and the management and staff of Monaghan County Council.

Sheila served 15 years on the Council and was an active member of the Sinn Féin party for the past thirty years.

At a special meeting of the Council held the following day, Sheila was described as a very generous lady with a gentle and friendly disposition, a strong and steady personality and as a personal friend. Her contribution to her party and her community were also acknowledged.

These sentiments are agreed with by all who dealt with Sheila in her time served as a member of Monaghan County Council.

Ar Dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.

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 be met as they arise.
- The structural and environmental standards of housing are improved.
- Owner occupation be encouraged to the fullest extent compatible with national economic and social development.

The County Council contributes to these aims by:

- Managing housing provided by the Council and encouraging tenant involvement.
- Providing long term housing for those who need it.
- Providing good quality rented accommodation for people receiving rent supplement through the Rental Accommodation Scheme.
- Helping persons to provide their own housing.
- Provision of private sites where possible.
- Helping to improve existing private housing.
- Provision of housing and residential caravan parking sites for travellers.

Services Provided and Future Plans

Monaghan County Council is actively pursuing Government policy on social, voluntary and affordable housing provision. An outline of the output from 2012 and the proposed 2013 programme is given below. The 2013 programme will be subject to the necessary finance being provided by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

| Location | Completed in 2012 | Under Construction/To commence or be acquired in 2013 |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Bree | 0 | 3 |
| Cloughvalley, Carrickmacross | 22 | 0 |
| Demountable units | 0 | 1 |
| Farm Homes | 0 | 0 |
| Purchases (second hand) | 9 | 1 |
| Totals | 31 | 5 |

| | |
|---|---|
| CASTLEBLAYNEY CARE ASSOCIATION Facilities for Intellectual Disability Castleblayney | <u>TOTAL BUDGET APPROVAL = €2,180,000</u> Budget Expenditure Approval of €800,000 for 2013 – It is envisaged that construction will commence in Summer 2013 with the units ready for occupation in Autumn 2014. |
| RESPOND HA – Group Home – Facility for Physical / Sensory Disabilities Carrickmacross | Awaiting Final Budget approval from Department – anticipated construction start in Autumn 2013. |
| RESPOND HA - Group Home – Facility for Intellectual Disabilities Carrickmacross | CAS Application submitted and awaiting decision/approval from Department. |
| RESPOND HA – Extension to Steadfast House – Facility for Intellectual Disabilities Carrickmacross | Awaiting further information from RESPOND HA to clarify issues raised by Department |
| NEWGROVE HA Facility for Intellectual Disabilities | <u>TOTAL BUDGET APPROVAL = €365,545</u> Awaiting closure of property sale. |

Retrofitting Voids

The Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government provided funding in 2012 of €380,333

Maintenance Programme

Maintenance is a key activity for the councils housing service with **€429,041** spent in the current year in response, cyclical and planned maintenance in respect of the current stock of 761. A further €41,600 was spent on Estate Management Improvement works and services.

Allocations of tenancy

All allocations were made under the Scheme of Letting Priorities. There were eighty offers of tenancy to persons on the housing waiting list, including twelve transfer offers to existing tenants, from within the existing stock. This enabled the Council to combine the best use of stock whilst addressing the needs of tenants. Forty casual vacancies arose in the year.

| Monaghan County Council | Stock of Rented at 31.12.12 | No of Tenant Purchases | Average Rent | Waiting List at 31.12.12 | New Tenancies 2012 |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | 761 | 6 | €45.50 | 497 | 82 |

Rental Accommodation Scheme (R.A.S.)

At 31st December 2012, there were 176 long term recipients of rent supplement in Co. Monaghan. The following is a summary of the Rental Accommodation Scheme activity to 31/12/12 in Co Monaghan.

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Voluntary housing RS recipients to RAS (Total) | 108 |
| RS Recipients housed in Local Authority Housing (2012) | 30 |
| Private transfers | 174 |
| Total | 65 |

Grants

Monaghan County Council provides three Grants to assist people to live independent lives namely, Housing Adaption Grant for People with a Disability (HGD), Housing Aid For Older People (HOP) and Mobility Aids Housing Grant Scheme (MAG). 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.

| Grant | App's Received | Grants approved/paid | Amount approved/paid | App's Pending Assessment | App's Refused |
|--------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| HGD | 75 | 54 | 765,611.71 | 21 | 0 |
| MAG | 82 | 70 | 295,064.75 | 12 | 0 |
| HOP | 118 | 104 | 456,140.96 | 10 | 4 |
| TOTAL | 275 | 228 | 1,516,817.42 | 43 | 4 |

*App's = applications

Tidy Areas Competition

There were **17** entries for the Tidy Areas Competition and the Judges reports showed that many Residents Associations continue to be actively involved in improving their estates. The principal prize winners in 2012 were:

Best Overall Village: Cloughvalley Residents Association



Best Floral display

Ard Bannagher Residents Association



Most Improved Village

Boyher Residents Association



Litter Control: O' Duffy Terrace Residents Association



Finance

A capital allocation of € 1,856,561 was made to Monaghan County Council from the Department of the Environment and Local Government in 2012 for the direct provision of social housing and single instance housing for travellers.

Service Indicators See Appendix 1

Roads Transportation and Safety

Monaghan County Council is responsible for the upkeep and improvement of the road network within the county, which consists of 110 kilometres of national roads, 288 kilometres of regional roads and 2011 kilometres of local roads.

An initial allocation of **€9,508,388 for National Roads** was notified from the National Roads Authority in 2012 which included **€8.994m** for Improvements and the remainder for National Primary and National Secondary Maintenance.

The total 2012 funding from the NRA is broken down as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Major Schemes – 3 By-passes | €870,000 |
| N.P. Safety Improvement Schemes..... | €194,000 |
| N.P. Pavement & Minor works | €7,100,000 |
| N.S. Safety..... | €130,000 |
| N.S. Pavement & Minor Works..... | €700,000 |
| NP & NS Maintenance..... | €514,388 |

N2 Clontibret to N.I. Border Scheme expenditure of €70,000 was catered for by a transfer from the Major Scheme allocation of €870,000.

Improvement of N2 Monaghan to Emyvale Phase 2 & 4 Coolkill East to Corracrin.

The Contract to carry out the improvement works was awarded to P.T. Mc Williams Mc Laughlin & Harvey Joint Venture on 16 October 2012.

All lands necessary for the Scheme were acquired by agreement with the affected landowners.



Phase 3 of the N2 Monaghan to Emyvale – Gortmoney to Emyvale.

The part 8 planning public consultation process completed with approval at the June 2012 meeting of the Council for the remaining 2.5km section of the N2 National Primary route.

Non-National Roads

The total budget for non national roads for 2012 amounted to €11,800,547 - grants of €9,336,555 from the Department of Transport through the

NRA and €2,463,992 from Monaghan County Council's own resources. The Roads own resource funding was reduced by the D.O.T. by a levy of €60,000 to cover part of the shortfall in the collection of the household charge in Co. Monaghan.

The Department of Transport funding included the following:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Specific Improvement Schemes | €1,000,000 (4 Projects) |
| Low Cost Accident Schemes | €190,000 (11 Projects) |
| Local Discretionary Improvement | €4,241,375 (44 Projects) |
| Regional Improvement | €748,479 (9 Projects) |
| Discretionary Maintenance | €1,471,710 |
| Restoration Maintenance..... | €1,600,000 |
| Training..... | €36,000 |

Flooding

A Draft flooding plan was presented to the Roads SPC at its November Meeting. It is hoped to have it finalised and presented to a full Council Meeting for approval mid 2013.

Areas affected by flooding were funded by the Office of Public Works and from the Council's own resources to the tune of €202,413. This catered for remedial works in Seveagh in the North Monaghan area and for works at Duncinaire and to carry out a report on flooding at Lisnagunnion.

Winter Maintenance

A total of €482,514 was spent on Winter Maintenance.

(This included a sum of €60,381 which was spent on flooding and agreed by Dept. to be taken from Winter Maintenance budget).

Machinery Yard

The relocation of the Co. Council Machinery yard to the Town Council location at Tirkeenan took place in 2012.

Motor Taxation

Eisíonn Comhairle Chontae Mhuíneacháin Ceadúnais Tiomána is Feithiclí don Rialtas Iárnach. Seoltar an t-airgead go léir go dtí an Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Áitiúil le creidiúint don gCiste Rialtais Áitiúil.

The Motor Taxation/Driver Licensing Section deals with transactions relating mainly to ownership of vehicles, taxation of vehicles and the issue of driving Licences. The total number of licensed vehicles is steadily on the increase which has an escalating effect on the volume of transactions processed in Motor Tax.

The National Vehicle and Driver File (NVDF) is a national computerised database which is centrally controlled. The purpose of this database file is:

- To facilitate the Penalty Points System
- Provide greater on-line facilities in the Motor Tax Office
- 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 the Environment, Heritage and Local Government eGovernment strategy. Renewing Online minimises the impact of geographical constraints on the delivery of services.

Transaction Levels

| Description | Total No of transactions | Total Income |
|---|--------------------------|--------------|
| Motor Vehicles/Trade Plates/ C.R.W./VR.C. | 52272 | €10,632,059 |
| Driving Licences | 8355 | 149,400 |
| Total | 60627 | €10,781,459 |

Service Indicators 2012

Motor Tax applications dealt with:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Same Day | 91% |
| Third day or Less | 8% |
| 5 th Day or Less | 1% |
| Over 5 days | 0% |

Driving Licence applications dealt with

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Same Day | 34% |
| Third day or Less | 65% |
| 5 th Day or Less | 1% |
| Over 5 days | 0 |

Service Indicators see Appendix 1

Water Services

Monaghan County Council's role and responsibilities in the provision of sustainable water services were redefined under the Water Services Act 2007. The Act incorporates a comprehensive review, update and consolidation of all existing water services legislation, and facilitates the establishment of a comprehensive supervisory regime to ensure compliance with specified performance standards. Under section 39 of the Water Services Act 2007 Monaghan County Council became the Water Services Authority in County Monaghan responsible for the provision and operation of Water Services (Water and Waste Water) throughout the county serving domestic, agricultural, industrial and commercial customers.

In addition to our management of public water and waste water schemes - the council administers the Rural Water Programme. The water services section holds a monitoring role, overseeing the workings of 12 Group Water Schemes within the county. This role is performed in partnership with the Group Water Schemes and other rural organisations under the ambit of the Local Water Monitoring Committee.

Monaghan County Council also implements relevant European Environmental legislation, in particular the EU (Drinking Water) Regulations 2007, the Urban Waste Water Treatment Regulations 2004 and the Urban Wastewater (Authorisation) Regulations 2007. The Environmental Protection Agency has now been assigned specific new powers in relation to the supervision of local authorities and their role in the provision of drinking water supplies under SI Nos 278 of 2007. The Council performs a similar role in relation to the supervision of group water and private water supplies.

Water Service Investment Programme 2010 – 2013

The Water Services Investment Programme 2010 – 2013 is a yearly rolling funding plan for the provision of major water supply and wastewater infrastructure. Together with the Rural Water Programme, it plays a key role in giving effect to the Government's commitment to:

- preserving and protecting our water resources as a key element of environmental policy,
- achieving good status in water by 2015 and ensuring that water quality does not decline in any waters, in line with the Water Framework Directive,
- meeting National and EU standards for drinking water and wastewater treatment,
- putting critical infrastructure in place that will ensure ongoing support for industrial, commercial and other development, and
- Prioritising investment in water conservation measures including remedying leaks and demand reduction measures.

Strategic environmental and economic objectives provide the rationale for investment in water services infrastructure. With the changed economic climate and the implementation of required actions under the River Basin Management Plans by local authorities there is a greater need than ever to focus on key environmental and economic priorities.

The Programme for 2010-2013 prioritises projects that target public health and environmental compliance issues, rehabilitation of existing water supply networks and projects which support economic and employment growth (WSIP 2010).

County Monaghan Water Services Investment Programme 2010-2013

| Scheme | Contract Name | W/S | Estimated Cost € |
|--|---|-----|-------------------|
| Contracts at Construction | | | |
| | | | |
| Carrickmacross Sewerage Scheme | (Network) | S | 15,140,000 |
| Water Conservation Stages 1 & 2 works | Water Conservation Stages 1 & 2 works | W | 3,992,000 |
| | | | 19,132,000 |
| Contracts to start | | | |
| Carrickmacross Sewerage Scheme | (Treatment Plant Upgrade and Outfall) | S | 5,500,000 |
| Carrickmacross Water Supply System | Water Treatment Plant - DBO | W | 5,500,000 |
| Castleblayney Sewerage Scheme Phase 1 | Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade | S | 3,927,000 |
| Lough Egish Regional Water Supply Scheme | (Water Treatment Plant Upgrade) | W | 1,300,000 |
| Monaghan Town Sewerage scheme (H) | (Network) | S | 3,910,000 |
| | | | 20,137,000 |
| | | | |
| Water Conservation Stage 3 Works | Watermains Rehabilitation, including lead replacement of public mains | W | 2,500,000 |
| | | | 2,500,000 |
| | Contracts Total | | 41,769,000 |
| Schemes at Planning Stage | | | |
| Water Conservation Stage 3 Works | | W | |

Carrickmacross Sewerage Scheme – Contract 2 - Network was completed in 2012 as was The Water Conservation Stage 2 contract.

Water Conservation Stage 3 Works

Stage 3 of the National Water Conservation Programme involves the rehabilitation and replacement of defective supply networks where Active Leakage Control and repair has proven to be uneconomic due to the age and/or condition of the pipes, based on the results of work carried out under Stage 2.

Network Rehabilitation will commence in 2013 and build on the Water Conservation Team's Stage 2 achievements. The county's watermain rehabilitation requirements have been prioritised into three distinct work packages. The project is funded under the Water Services Investment Programme 2010-2013. The estimated cost of the first work package under the programme is €2,571,172.

Monaghan County Council appointed Ryan Hanley Consulting Engineers, Galway to provide engineering consultancy services on the 'Stage 3 – Rehabilitation Project'.

Funding of Stage 3 costs is limited to 90% of the actual expenditure incurred, subject to the application of a Water Pricing Policy where relevant. Works Package 1 will focus on mains replacement / rehabilitation in the following DMA's (District Meter Areas):

- Monaghan Town – MN Town Centre DMA
- Monaghan Town – MN Hospital / Milltown Road DMA
- Monaghan Town - MN Derry Road DMA
- Monaghan Town – MN Clones- Scotstown Road DMA

Carrickmacross Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade and Outfall

Carrickmacross Sewerage Scheme – Contract 3 (Treatment Plant Upgrade and Outfall) provides for the construction of the following infrastructure at the existing wastewater treatment plant:

- Inlet Pumping Station
- Stormwater Holding Facility
- Inlet Works
- Final Effluent Pumping Station
- 400mm diameter final effluent outfall

This project is now at an advanced stage of design and it is expected that the project will go to tender in 2013, subject to the Departmental sanction.

Carrickmacross Water Supply Scheme – Water Treatment Plant DBO

The scheme comprises the proposed addition of new groundwater sources, the construction of a water treatment plant and reservoir at Nafarty at a Design Build contract cost of € 3.5million.

The Design, Build Operate contract includes for the design, construction and operation for a period of up to 20 years of facilities to abstract water from a number of production wells, pump the water to the headworks, treat the water and store it for distribution the existing network. Accordingly, the design and build element of the works will include:

- Construction of new pumping stations (incorporating existing production wells) together with all associated site works including landscaping, fencing, access roads etc. at Spring Lake, Nafarty, Donaghmoynes and Monanny.
- Installation of new pumps in production wells
- Construction of new rising mains
- Construction of a new water treatment plant to satisfy an initial design demand of 3,200 m³/ day and an ultimate demand of 4,800m³/day.
- Construction of a new 5000m³ Clearwater storage reservoirs adjacent to the new water treatment plant together with all associated site works including landscaping, fencing, access roads, etc...

- Construction of reservoir scour pipeline at Nafarty
- Refurbishment of existing pump house at Nafarty
- The operate element of the contract comprises the operation and maintenance of the designed and constructed facility (including the wells, rising mains and other existing infrastructure incorporated in the facility) for a period of up to 20 years including replacement of all worn and damaged parts as necessary to keep it in perfect working order.

The contract will be awarded in March/April 2013.

Castleblayney Sewerage Scheme

The Castleblayney Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade works seek to improve the current plant condition and reduce the overflow of untreated effluent during storm conditions. The proposed upgrade to 14,000 p.e. does not represent a significant increase in the capacity of the existing plant, currently 12,960 p.e. The estimated cost of Contract 1 is €3.927M. In September 2011, An Bord Pleanála approved the EIS for the scheme.

Monaghan Town Collection Network – Advance Works – Contract 2

The Advance Works Contract No. 2 provides for the construction of a new pumping station and upgrading of part of the sewer network at Monaghan Town and includes the following works:

- a) Construction of a wastewater pumping station and associated control building as well as the provision of odour control plant and ancillary site works at the Old Cross pumping station site.
- b) Construction of a number of sections of replacement sewers

The estimated cost of Advanced Works Contract No. 2 is € 3.91M.

Group Water Scheme Programme

It is Monaghan County Council's objective to pursue a planned approach to investment in this programme, in partnership with the group water scheme sector and other rural organisations. The Local Water Monitoring Committee Members, consisting of Cllrs. Brian McKenna, Owen Brannigan, PJ O'Hanlon and Paudge Connolly, Mr. John Morris, (Macra Na Feirme), Ms. Kathleen Ward, (Irish Farmers Association), Mr. Hugh O'Reilly and Mr. Paddy Ward (County Federation of Group Water Schemes), Mr. David Fallon Director of Service and Mr. Gearoid McCarthy as Rural Water Liaison Officer, manage and monitor investment in this area.

The DoEHLG allocated €25,000 under the Rural Water Program to the Group Scheme sector in 2012. This funding was used to clear an outstanding balance from 2011. Therefore, Private Group Water Schemes received no funding. A number of schemes continued to progress water conservation work from their own funds.

Planning

Development Management

Monaghan County Council received a total of 397 planning applications in 2012 and issued 350 decisions. The Planning Office also processed a total of 54 planning applications received by the four Town Councils.

A total of 20 applications were refused during the year, representing a refusal rate of approximately 6%.

There were 18 decisions appealed to An Bord Pleanala from 1st January 2012 – 31st December 2012. Of these, 2 decisions were overturned, 7 were upheld, 2 were withdrawn and 7 were undecided.

The comprehensive review of unfinished housing developments (UHD) and performance bonds in respect of housing developments was progressed in 2012. Although four unfinished housing developments were resolved in 2012,

- Drummond Radharc, Carrickmacross
- Corr an Tobair, Carrickmacross
- Thorndale, Castleblayney
- Coolshannagh View, Monaghan

An additional 3 developments were added to the UHD register ('The Alders', Ballybay; 'Mullanamoy', Clones; and 'Church Heath', Castleblayney) resulting in a working list of 38 in the County:

| Monaghan Town | Carrickmacross |
|---|--|
| 'Mullach Glas', Mullaghmonaghan, Monaghan | 'Ascail Rois', Magheraboy Road, Carrickmacross |
| 'Latlorcan', Dublin Road, Monaghan | 'Lough na Glack', Oriel Road, Carrickmacross |
| 'Drumbear Wood', Monaghan | 'Ros Cluain', Lurgans, Carrickmacross |
| Knockroe', Clones Road, Monaghan | Alderwood Heights', Carrickmacross |
| Forest Walk', Cortolvin Road, Monaghan | 'Drummond Ross', Ardee Road, Carrickmacross |
| 'Tyleadon Heights', Monaghan | |

| Castleblayney | Clones |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| ‘Coill Darach’, Bree, Castleblayney | ‘Tower Court’, Cara Street, Clones |
| ‘Church Heath’, Annahale & Onomy, Dundalk Road, Castleblayney | ‘Mullanamoy’, Clones |
| Killycard Manor’ & ‘05/606’, Bree, Castleblayney | ‘Lois a Ghortin’, Liseggerton, Clones |
| | ‘Eanaigh’, Liseggerton, Clones |
| Ballybay | |
| Ardveagh’, Ballybay | |
| Hall Street’, Clones Road, Ballybay (linked to ‘The Alders’ UHD) | |
| ‘Corr na Ghlass’, Main Street, Ballybay | |
| ‘Wylies Hill’, Ballybay | |
| The Alders’, Clones Road, Ballybay | |

| Villages | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| ‘Oakland Grove’, Scotshouse | Chapel Court’, Carrickroe |
| ‘Rock River View’, Rockcorry | ‘Knockcarrick’, Annyalla |
| ‘Carrabarra Island’, Smithboro | ‘Candlefort’, Inniskeen |
| ‘The Meadows’, Smithboro | ‘Sruth an Iuir’, Oram |
| ‘Maple Grove’, Smithboro | ‘The Ferns’, Scotstown |
| ‘The Connons’, Drumsloe, Connons | ‘Bothar na Mullan’, Smithboro Road, Scotstown |
| Mullan Village’, Mullan, Emyvale | ‘Cnoc na Greine’, Tedavnet |

Site resolution discussions/actions involving developers, lenders, and where applicable, administrators/receivers continued throughout 2012. Monaghan Local Authorities carried out interim works (works to waste water systems, erection of fencing, surfacing spot-repair, and installation/repair of public lights) on six unfinished developments. Derelict Sites Notices were served on nine unfinished developments. Cash bonds held for three unfinished developments and insurance bonds for a further two unfinished developments have been claimed to progress ‘finishing works’ in the respective housing developments. A further nine insurance bond claims were pursued in 2012.

All quarry sites within the county were inspected and assessed in accordance with the provisions of Section 261A of the Planning and Development Act 2010. A register of active quarry developments was compiled. Determinations in respect of their impact upon the environment and designated European sites of wildlife importance were issued in respect of each quarry.

Enforcement

Generally when a breach of permission or an unauthorised development is detected by the Council, discussions with the offender(s) are sufficient to ensure that breaches of planning permission are regularised. However, where issues are not addressed by the offender(s) then formal enforcement action is taken. This is detailed in the statistics shown below.

2012 Enforcement Statistics

| | |
|--|----|
| No. of cases subject to complaints..... | 88 |
| Warning Letters under Section 152..... | 74 |
| Enforcement notices under Section 154..... | 21 |
| No. of cases dismissed..... | 16 |
| No. of cases resolved through negotiation..... | 49 |
| Prosecutions..... | 1 |

Forward Planning

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

The Monaghan County Development Plan 2007 – 2013, incorporating the plans for the towns of Monaghan, Carrickmacross, Castleblayney, Clones and Ballybay, is the principle policy document used to manage physical development in the county. It translates national and regional planning policies to a local level and provides a vision for the future development of the county up to and beyond 2013. To fulfil the obligations of the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2010, a Core Strategy was incorporated into the development plan by way of variation in February 2012.

In 2012 the statutory review of the development plan and the formulation of a new County Development Plan for the period 2013-2019 advanced with preparation and publication of the Draft Plan, and associated Environmental Report and Natura Impact Report. An eight week

consultation period was held from May to August seeking submissions on the contents of the Draft Plan and the associated Environmental Report. Following the consultation period, amendments to the draft development plan and an addendum to the associated Environmental Reports were formulated for publication in January 2013.

A review of the Development Contribution Scheme for County Monaghan 2008-2013 was carried out in September 2012 in accordance with the Draft Development Contribution Guidelines for Planning Authorities in advance of the preparation of a Development Contribution Scheme for the period 2013-2019.

Service Improvement

The Planning Authority's commitment to improving services to the public was indicated by the commissioning of a computerised self-service planning system. This service allows users to identify their proposed development site and access details in respect of Council and government policies which may impact on it. <http://www.monaghan.ie/en/services/planning/>

All planning application documentation from 2008 until the present day has been scanned and a new viewing feature added to the existing online public planning search facilities. Planning applications from 1964 to 1996 previously available on microfiche have been converted into a digital format and are available to view on the internal planning system by all council staff and visitors to the planning office.

Planning Staff continued to be available for weekly pre-planning meetings and telephone enquiries throughout the year. While this requires a significant commitment in terms of resources from the Planning Section, it is considered that the time invested in pre-planning discussions results in the speedier processing of planning applications and represents value for money for all parties. www.Myplan.ie

Development Contribution Scheme

The revised Development Contribution Scheme, which was adopted in 2008, in accordance with Section 48 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, provides funding to improve infrastructure throughout the county.

The total amount of contributions that will accrue, when or if development commences, on planning applications granted in 2012 was **€1,138,948**. The total amount of financial contributions received in 2012 was as follows:

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Water | € 64,948.00 |
| Waste water | € 54,197.00 |
| Footpaths & Lighting | € 25,684.00 |
| Development Levy | € 607,595.00 |
| Total | €752,424.00 |

Community & Enterprise

County Development Board

A core function of the Community & Enterprise Directorate is to support the County Development Board (CDB) and its associated structures. Monaghan County Development Board was established in 2000 and was one of 34 CDB's set up in each City and County Council across the Country. The Board comprises representation from all the key players in the county including elected representatives, state agencies, social partners and the community & voluntary sector

The CDB process has established a framework whereby all the relevant stakeholders have the opportunity to work in unison to tackle the challenges and opportunities facing the County.

The Board and its various Sub Committees provide the opportunity for key staff from the various organisations and agencies to meet and network, to understand each others roles, functions and plans and most importantly to work together where and when the opportunity arises.

Over the past ten years, the role and remit of Monaghan CDB has been substantially developed and expanded. The role and impact has been well recognised in the developing of many initiatives from the Congolese Resettlement Project, and Peace III Programme to the development of various Business Leaders Fora to partake and lead Economic Development in the County.

These initiatives could not have been delivered without the active collective involvement of all the relevant agencies.

We continue to operate in a difficult environment and the resources available to all will continue to be reduced. In light of recent changes within the new programme for government and public sector reform, the CDB and all its member agencies have placed even greater emphasis on working together to maximise resources at local level and to ensure continued social and economic development in the county.

‘Ni Neart go Chuir le Cheile’ – ‘We can achieve a lot more by working together’.

In support of the successful undertaking of its role and in delivering on the agreed strategic actions, the board has established three working groups covering the areas of economic, social and cultural development.

In October, 2012 The Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government published an Action Programme for Effective Local Government “Putting People First” This report states that “Involvement of local government in enterprise support and the local and community development programmes, gives local authorities a much stronger direct co-ordination capacity. The County Development Boards, which were established primarily to provide a linkage between local government, the Local Development sector and economic

development agencies, will, therefore, be phased out consistent with the reduction in public service structures generally. The Report recommended that a Socio-Economic Committee be established in each County Council for planning and oversight of local and community development programmes.

Social Inclusion Measures group

Social inclusion measures group brings together the key social inclusion agencies and organisations in the county to have a collective approach to addressing social inclusion issues. The SIM group has three key functions

1. To oversee the implementation of actions within the CDB strategy. These actions focus on promoting and addressing Social Inclusion in the County.
2. To oversee the implementation of key national social inclusion programmes at local level.
3. To endorse local development plans on behalf of the County Development Board.

Update on the Work of the Social Inclusion Measures (SIM) Group (2012)

The full SIM Committee met on five occasions in 2012 (22nd March, 8th May, 10th July, 18 Sept and the 20th November).

The March meeting focused on the assessment and approval of plans of Monaghan Integrated Development (MID), the Blayney Blades and Dochas for Women under the Local Community Development Programme.

The May meeting focused on reviewing the work and role of the SIM group and identifying how it can be reinvigorated to maximise its impact going forward. Key recommendations arising from the meeting including the agreement of meeting dates for the remainder of the year, the development of a work programme, the development of a protocol for circulation of the chairperson role and an agreement to fill gaps in the membership of the SIM (e.g Council Representative, VEC, An Garda Siochana).

Representatives from the Reception and Integration Agency (RIA) attended the July meeting and provided an input on their work as well as an overview of St. Patrick's Accommodation Centre. The question raised at this meeting and subsequently being progressed by a small group of SIM members relates to 'how the SIM could support RIA and the residents of St Patrick's Accommodation centre'.

The July, September and November meetings largely focused on the updating of the CDB Social Inclusion Priority Actions (in the areas of Rural Transport, Mental Health, Information and participation in education) as well as the development of new actions.

Elections were held for a new Chairperson at the November meeting and Breda McKenna, (Monaghan County Childcare) was appointed to the position for a two year period with Padraic Smith (Monaghan Rural Transport (Balti Bus) elected vice-chair. The November meeting also involved discussion of the implications of the issues arising from the recently published Putting People First and Final Report of the Local Government/ Local Development Alignment Steering Group reports.

The SIM established a number of working/sub groups who met independently of the SIM and involved both SIM and non SIM members to develop and identify the priority actions for SIM for the period 2013-2014.

- Mental Health–21st August 2012, 13th September & a preparatory meeting for mental health week
- Access to Information–21st August 2012 & the 13th September
- Rural Transport – Wednesday 22nd August
- Lifelong Learning–20th November
- St Patrick’s Working Group –various

The agreed priority actions that have emerged from the relevant working groups were as follows:

- Addressing rural isolation through transport provision (led by Baltibus)
- Supporting Positive Mental Health in the County, especially among our young people (led by Youth Work Ireland – Monaghan)

The possible additional priority actions areas that are currently under discussion are:

- Access to opportunities for individuals who are unemployed (possible joint led by MID and Monaghan VEC)
- Organisation of an annual county wide Social Inclusion Week (possibly led by MID)

The SIM Action Plan (2013-2014) will be finalised as soon as the emerging actions have been agreed in early 2013.

Enhancing the Policy and Advocacy Role of SIM

SIM members have agreed to flag important policy issues they think need discussion so that these can be included for discussion at future SIM and indeed other relevant meetings. They have also agreed to prepare policy position papers where relevant (arising from these discussions) for the County Development Board and its successor as well as relevant Strategic Policy Committees. The first paper prepared by a small SIM working group for the CDB will be on the role and importance of local development in Co. Monaghan (a direct response to the recommendations arising from the recently published Alignment Report).

SIM members have agreed to circulate relevant information/publications at future SIM meetings.

Making the SIM more visible

A SIM Member has volunteered to draft up a Press Release after each SIM meeting (to be agreed with the relevant Director of Service) for inclusion in the local newspaper to raise the profile of the SIM.

Census Data

SIM members were provided with regular inputs arising from the ongoing publication by the CSO of 2011 Census data. This information has also been available more widely on the Monaghan County Development Board and Monaghan County Council websites.

Promoting Positive Mental Health in particular among young people

In 2012 a number of SAFETALK training sessions took place throughout the county, SAFETALK training is a suicide awareness training programme, this training helps people identify the signs of someone who may be at risk from suicide and to direct them to where they can get help. In late 2012 a positive mental health conference took place, to promote the services and supports available to people experiencing mental health difficulties and to attempt to remove some of the stigma associated with mental health issues. Comhairle na nOg are working on mapping all services and supports for mental health in the county.

Traveller Interagency Plan

The SIM oversees the implementation of the Integrated Traveller plan, this plan aims to improve service delivery to Travellers in the county.

Monaghan A County of Sanctuary

Arising from the consultation process with migrants in March 2011, Monaghan County Council decided to pursue the establishment of a County of Sanctuary. A county of sanctuary is an international movement, it brings together all the key players in the community from the local authority to community groups to promote the county as a place of sanctuary, a place where people who arrive from other countries are made to feel welcome and are supported to integrate into community life. However, in 2012 Monaghan County Council decided to temporarily postpone this project due to limited resources, but it is hoped to set up the Working group in 2013 in order to progress the project.

Refugee Resettlement Programme

The Office of the Minister for Integration informed Monaghan County Council of its decision to resettle in County Monaghan an additional 2 refugee families (20 persons – 10 in each family) formerly from the Democratic Republic of Congo. They will be accommodated in the Mosney Refugee Centre before being resettled in Co. Monaghan.

Monaghan County Council through the Office of the Director of Community & Enterprise will again co-ordinate this resettlement programme at local level. Again it is envisaged the resettlement programme will be delivered by means of an integrated response from the various local agencies and organisations each providing the services and support relevant to their function remit as in the original resettlement.

Monaghan Age Friendly County Initiative

Monaghan County Council launched its Age Friendly Strategy in September 2011, The Age-Friendly County initiative seeks to engage older people and their communities in making their neighbourhoods better, healthier and safer places for older people to live and thrive. People of all

ages benefit when communities are designed to be age friendly and when older people live healthy, active and fulfilled lives. The strategy focuses on eight themes: Outdoor Spaces and Public Buildings, Transportation, Housing, Respect & Social Inclusion, Social participation, Communication & Information, Civic participation & Employment and Community Support & Health services. Monaghan Age Friendly Alliance has been established from representatives of the key statutory bodies that work with older people, along with a newly established Older People's network. The Older Peoples Network is a sub structure of Monaghan Community Forum and it aims to bring the voice of the older persons in Monaghan to the Age Friendly Alliance table. Several projects are now under way, including making Castleblayney the first Age Friendly town in Monaghan, training of Crime Prevention Ambassadors and the mapping of HSE services.



Implementing the Disability Act

Making Monaghan Accessible continued to work on implementing the obligations under the Disability Act 2005. A number of key projects, that continue to improve accessibility for people with a disability in the county, were finalised in 2012.

Cultural Development Sub Group

2012 marked the first year in which Co Monaghan became involved in Culture Night. On Friday 21st September, Monaghan County Museum and The Patrick Kavanagh Centre in Inniskeen, threw their doors open to the public and organised free events to encourage people to 'give culture a go'.

Culture night is a night of entertainment, discovery and adventure in Dublin and across 34 towns, cities and counties in Ireland. Arts and cultural organisations open their doors until late with hundreds of free events, tours, talks and performances for you, your family and friends to enjoy. The Museum hosted '**The Beats of Africa**' - an interactive workshop providing an opportunity to learn traditional African dancing and also learn rhythms on African drums. In Inniskeen, an **evening of Music, Song, Poetry & Storytelling** in the Patrick Kavanagh Centre, Inniskeen began at 8.30pm and went on late into the night.

Monaghan County Council's Community & Enterprise section underwrote the promotional costs of the events.

Community Development Fund

The Community Development Fund aims to promote, enhance and develop community development and social inclusion work throughout the county, through supporting the work of community and voluntary groups and organisations. It is open to any community and voluntary group in the county. The Community Development Fund is strategic in its focus to support local community development activity particularly since alternative sources for funding for communities are no longer available.

The annual Community Development fund was rolled out in early summer of 2012.

88 applications were received from a variety of community groups throughout the county. This represented 37 groups who had not previously been supported under the fund. A total of **€244,626** was requested through applications.

The fund was allocated across 3 distinct measures:

Measure 1: **Community Infrastructural supports:** Support small scale capital projects up to a maximum of €5,000

Measure 2: **Community Development Supports:** Support to community development projects & events up to a maximum of €1,000

Measure 3: **Community Capital supports:** Support to larger scale capital projects up to a maximum of €10,000

The largest financial demand continues to be within Measure 1: Community Infrastructural supports. This measure supports groups who are carrying out small scale capital projects within their communities. The average grant allocated to groups is approx €1,800.

Measure 2: Community Development supports are very popular and support local and community initiatives to a maximum of €1,000.

In total €75,000 was allocated to different community groups in approximately thirteen various geographical communities in the county. In 2012 applications were also assessed in conjunction with LEADER supporting projects to secure larger grant aid for projects, using the Community Development Fund as match funding.

National Bike Week

Despite mixed weather, National Bike Week was a big success once again in Co. Monaghan, with community groups throughout the county doing themselves proud in their efforts to get people out and about on their bikes.

Monaghan County Council would like to thank all the groups and volunteers who got involved in 2012. Our photo gallery captures some of the action from around the county, including:

- Clones Cycling Club's Family Fun Cycle on Wednesday 20th June
- Garda cycling workshops at national schools in Castleblayney and Ballybay all week
- Carrickmacross Solstice Cycle on Tuesday 19th June
- Wetlands Duathlon on Friday 21st June
- Cycle to Work organised by the staff of Tanagh Outdoor Education Centre all week
- COW day organised by St Tiarnach's NS Clones on Wednesday 20th
- Family cycle around Oram on Saturday 23rd
- 'Snake around the Lake' in Castleblayney on Sunday 24th

Monaghan County Council supported the events by organising joint promotion, providing road signs, handling the tendering requirements, reporting to funders etc, and organising deliveries of equipment and refreshments to each event. Funding of €5000 was allocated to the Council by the Dept of Transport, Tourism & Sport to support Bike Week in 2012.

Active Travel Towns

During 2012, the County Council, along with the Town Councils of Monaghan and Castleblayney, made application for funding to support the development of walking & cycling strategies in the two towns. This is the first step to the towns becoming 'Active Travel Towns', an initiative being supported by the Dept of Transport, Tourism & Sport. The strategies were completed in November 2012, and work during 2013 will focus on implementing the actions identified in the documents.

National Cycle Network

In summer 2012, funding of €471,000 was awarded by the Dept of Transport, Tourism & Sport to Monaghan County Council to create a walk/ cycle path along the disused tow path of the abandoned Ulster Canal. The project will be 4.5km in length, and will run from the Clones Road entrance to Monaghan town, into the town centre, and out to the Armagh Road/ N2 junction. The route will provide a safe route to school for students, particularly those attending the new campus on the Armagh road, as well as providing an attractive walk for the people of Monaghan. URS have been appointed as the engineers to oversee the design & construction of the route, which is expected to be complete by the end of 2013.

Community Smoke Alarm Scheme

The Office of Community & Enterprise also facilitated the delivery of the Dept of Environment, Community & Local Govt's annual Community Smoke Alarm Scheme. 500 alarms were received, and distributed around the county via the Community Alert groups, the Community Gardai and the Community Forum. The alarms were targeted at 'vulnerable' households, which included older people, people living alone and people living in private rented accommodation.

In a pilot initiative, the Dept made a further 1000 alarms available to Monaghan County Council, to be distributed through the 32 branches of the Irish Farmers Association throughout the county. It is hoped to reach every vulnerable rural household in the county with this approach, and the Council are very grateful to the IFA for their assistance.

Cross Border Partnerships

Monaghan County Council is committed to maintaining strong working relationships with our neighbouring Councils in Northern Ireland.

Through the Blackwater Regional Partnership, we are linked to Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council and Armagh City & District Council. Along with Clones Town Council, we are linked with Fermanagh District Council in the Clones Erne East Partnership.

Monaghan County Council also participates in the East Border Region and ICBAN regional clusters of local authorities, and is an active participant in a number of regional projects which are being developed.

Projects which have emerged through these partnerships include:

- The employment of a Biodiversity Officer for a three year period
- The development of an adventure playground in Lough Muckno's grounds
- The development of a park & upgrading of the Canal Stores in Clones

Pride of Place

Pride of Place is an all Ireland competition organised by Co-Operation Ireland, and is open to Local Authorities north and south. Being nominated by the Council is recognition of their hard work, and says thank you to them for their commitment to making their communities better places to live.

The Gala awards night was held this year in Limerick on November 5th, in the conference facilities of historic Thomond Park. To mark the 10th year of this prestigious, all-island competition, a special category for Previous Prize Winners was fought out between the heavyweights who have been honoured over the past ten years. Losing out narrowly to Westport, Carrickmacross were awarded 2nd place, in recognition of the sustained level of community development over the ten years since they won the inaugural title of Pride of Place in 2002.

Co. Monaghan was also represented by the community of Tydavnet, half of whom (or so it seemed!) travelled to Limerick to attend the awards. Theirs was the most hotly contested category, with the highest number of entries, and although they came away without a trophy, it was agreed by those who travelled that their real reward had already been enjoyed back in August, on the day of the judges' visit when the whole community turned out to show Tydavnet off to its best advantage. With a little help from the Council, the community had completely refurbished Cornagilta National School in preparation for the judges' visit. The Co Library housed their 'Hidden Heritage' exhibition in the school for the summer months, with local volunteers opening the building every Sunday over the summer.

Tidy Towns

Monaghan County Council provides many supports to Tidy Towns groups and Residents Associations. Some, such as the Environmental & Recreational Improvement Fund, offer direct funding to groups; others are indirect, such as offering free spring bulbs to groups in the autumn and free trees during National Tree Week in March each year.

The Community & Enterprise section established a Network for Tidy Towns groups and Residents Associations in 2001, and it is now amongst the most successful and active networks in the county. There are 117 distinct groups registered with the Network, including 18 Tidy Towns groups and 46 Residents Associations. 35 local development groups are also members, covering in the main, areas which don't have a dedicated Tidy Towns committee.

Each year a meeting is held in March to plan National Spring Clean month, and discuss what supports the groups wish the Council to provide. In October, a de-briefing meeting enables groups to discuss the marks they received in the National Tidy Towns competition and plan for training and other supports to assist them to improve their marks.

During 2012, the Network focused on improving their marks in the National competition. Monaghan County Council funded national judge, Ann O Leary, to do a 'walkabout' with six groups over two days, then to give a workshop to the Network on how to complete the entry form. Marks for all contestants rose again this year, with Carrickmacross achieving a Gold Medal for the first time and Glaslough achieving their first Silver Medal. Monaghan town gained a massive 21 marks on their 2011 score, earning them the Endeavour award. The county title was won by Glaslough.

Monaghan County Council would like to congratulate all the winners, and to thank all the committees for their continued hard work, which contributes to making Co Monaghan an attractive place to visit.

Joint Policing Committees

There are six JPC's in the county – one in each local authority. The aim of the JPC's is to provide a platform through which the local authority, the community and the Gardai can discuss issues which affect the safety of the community.

The JPC's successful 'Don't Pour your Dreams Away' campaign was mainstreamed in 2012, with Monaghan Integrated Development assuming responsibility for its delivery as part of a Safe Socialising programme.

Once again, the effectiveness of this approach was shown in an exceptionally low level of anti social activity on the night of the Junior Cert results.

The JPC's again collaborated with Comhairle na nÓg in 2012, this time on the issue of dangerous driving. With funding from the Driving Change Programme, the Comhairle produced a thought-provoking DVD, which was shown widely throughout the county.

Comhairle na nÓg

Comhairlí na nÓg are local 'youth councils' which are designed to give children and young people the '*right to have his or her voice heard*' by being involved in the development of local services and policies. There is a Comhairle na nÓg in each of the 34 County/City Development Board areas. The Department of Children and Youth Affairs oversees Comhairle na nÓg, the delivery of which is the responsibility of each Local Authority. In Monaghan we have 20 Junior Councillors who represent all parts of the County. The current Councillors are in office since November 2011. Elections take place every two years, so a new committee will be elected in October 2013 at their AGM.

In 2012 their key pieces of action and work for the year which they officially launched at their Annual Consultation Day in October were;

- An online directory listing which contains information on clubs, groups and facilities that young people can join or participate in around the County. This information can be found on their website www.monaghanyouth.ie
- A road safety awareness DVD "It could happen to you" which contains interviews with members of the emergency services, a female seriously injured by a road traffic accident and a male interviewee who lost a family member through a road traffic incident.

The Comhairle committee were approached by the Driving Change project, an INTERREG funded project which promotes road safety amongst teenagers. The aim is to reduce the numbers of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic collisions. By getting involved in this project the group participated in road safety workshops, researched the subject, identified interviewees and filmed, edited and produced a very powerful 5 minute DVD. This DVD was then;

- Presented at their Annual Consultation Day to 80 young people and 20 youth leaders from around the County
- Distributed to all secondary schools in the County
- Uploaded to their Facebook and YouTube pages, with over 1,100 views on utube
- Presented at Community Forum AGM
- Nominated in the Road Safety Authority (RSA) ‘Leading Lights’ competition

At their Annual Consultation Day their work plan for 2013 was agreed. The Comhairle committee will work on Mapping the Mental Health Services available in County Monaghan. They will be working closely with the SIM Mental Health working group on this action.

Journey of Equals Intergenerational PEACE III project

Monaghan County Council secured €150,000 from the European Union’s European Regional Development fund through the Peace III Programme funded through Monaghan Peace III Partnership to run an Intergenerational Peace III project. The “Journey of Equals” is a programme which has been designed to reach out to the five main towns in the county and engage older and young people in a series of five interconnected peace building projects. It will address issues of sectarianism, racism and prejudice through a range of different media including arts, sport, theatre, storytelling, genealogy, and traditional skills to name but some. Groups participating in the programme will include young and old from the minority faith and ethnic minority communities; people displaced from Northern Ireland as well as those with an interest in building lasting peace in their communities.

The aim of the programme is to make peace building relevant to a young and diverse population, many of whom do not see the legacy of the Conflict and how it has and continues to affect them. The programme commenced in January 2012 and will conclude in October 2013. The programme is managed and administrated by the Youth Development Officer of Monaghan County Council.



Community Fora

Central to the role of the Community & Enterprise Section has been enabling and supporting the involvement of the Community and Voluntary sector in the decision-making structures of the county. The work of building Community Capacity will continue through supporting the work of the Community Forum and its 10 associated networks. Every opportunity will be sought to involve and work with the Forum in the delivery of various programmes and initiatives.

Monaghan Community Forum

Monaghan Community Forum was set up under the Local Government Act 2001 to facilitate the community sector to participate in decision-making within the county and on a regional basis. There are 379 groups presently registered with Monaghan Community Forum. Most of these groups are affiliated to 11 thematic networks which have representation on 30 statutory boards within the county and region. In 2012 Monaghan Community Forum held a number of meetings particularly for Community Representatives. The Forum is dedicated to keeping the flow of community information moving to all its members. A number of new networks were established and revitalised as a result of a very dynamic AGM in November.

Active Citizenship

In May and June 2012 a number of training and capacity building events were provided by the Forum to Community Groups. These events centred on motivation and leadership within the community including the development of our Youth Network and opportunities for Cultural and Economic development within the County. The aim of these events was to showcase the excellent work being carried out by our networks and to promote volunteerism.

Forum Communications Plan

The Monaghan Community Forum website, which was originally launched at the AGM in November 2010 has been revamped to include more interactive usage by community groups. The Forum also send out a weekly e-bulletin with information on community events, training and funding. This is sent out to all of our membership organisations every Friday. This bulletin is also available for download from our website - www.monaghancommunityforum.ie In 2011, through the Peace III project Hands Together the Forum installed digital information screens in each of the counties 5 libraries and weekly updates are posted on these with community notices. Groups can also forward community DVDs to be edited and placed on the screens. The Forum



Facebook page is also updated with community news on a weekly basis. A TÚS worker is currently working with the Forum and is keeping these systems regularly updated.

Peace III 'Hands Together 2' – Major Peace Project

In 2011 Monaghan Community Forum was successful in receiving an

allocation of €300,000 under Monaghan Peace III Partnership. The 'Hands Together 2' Peace III Project has been running since January 2012. This project has already brought over 2000 individuals together to take part in peace activities and events under the themes of Arts and Heritage. Individuals from a range of backgrounds, ages and creeds have attended over 80 heritage and arts peace building workshops and 23 peace building events. A strong cross border link has also been established under the project with two writer's groups from Craigavon and Cookstown and the Monaghan Poets and Song Writer's Group. Two significant Peace gardens were also created under the project. The project will run till October 2013.

Monaghan Sports Partnership

Monaghan Local Sports Partnership (LSP) was established in September 2006 as a sub-structure of the County Development Board, to support, enhance and increase participation in sport and physical activity for all in the county. The work of the LSP is directed by the Irish Sports Council and governed on a day-to-day basis by a Board of members, made up from the Statutory, Community and Sporting sector. It meets approximately 6 to 8 times per year.

Functions of the Local Sport Partnerships

The three main functions of the LSPs are: - Information, Education and Implementation:

In 2012 Monaghan LSP accessed the FAS Graduate Placement Programme which has directly led to the employment of an individual on the Sports Inclusion aspect of its work.

The LSP concentrates its efforts on the increased participation of people (from hard to reach target groups) in sport and physical activity.

Key Achievements in 2012

Activity Programmes

Women In Sport – over 500 women and teenage girls accessing activity programmes

On Your Bike – safe cycling training for primary school children

Link 2b Active - coaching / training for unemployed people

Walking Festival – community groups and schools involved in a weekend –long range of walking activities

Sports Club Development

1. Grant Scheme of €15,000 administered to 44 clubs
2. Coach / Education programme
 - Child Protection training delivered to 92 members of 25 sports clubs
 - First Aid / Active Leadership and Speed, Agility, Quickness courses

New Club Development

Since 2009, Monaghan LSP has directly supported the establishment of 9 sports clubs in County Monaghan resulting in the regular participation of over 300 people. Two of these clubs were supported in 2012, namely, Pieces Snorkelling Club and Clones Cycling Club.

Sports Inclusion Programme (for people with a disability)

The Sports Inclusion Development Officer (SIDO) works towards increasing participation by people with a disability and older adults in sport and active recreation through working in partnership with all stakeholders.

The disability areas addressed includes physical, intellectual/learning, sensory and mental health illnesses. The programme is delivered across Counties Monaghan and Cavan as a joint initiative. The programme was originally funded through Pobal and the dormant accounts fund, which expired in 2010. Both Sports Partnerships secured further funding from the Irish Sports Council for the continuation of activities.

The programme has had a significant impact on people's lives and their integration into mainstream activities. The following are examples of initiatives rolled out in County Monaghan during 2012. New activities were provided for people with learning / intellectual disability, physical disability, sensory disability and mental health illness in: Soccer Skills, Line Dancing, Outdoor Activities and GAA skills. Disability Awareness Training was also provided to Transition Year students with over 400 students participating. A significant outcome of this programme is the increase by those attending day services in Monaghan in participation in physical activity as part of their weekly routine.

Heritage

The Heritage Office has one staff member, the Heritage Officer, who has a wide remit including the implementation of the County Heritage Plan and Biodiversity Plan, maintaining the record of protected structures as well as advising on planning applications and other matters which have implications for heritage conservation. The Heritage Council supports the position of Heritage Officer in the county with financial support and technical advice.

Heritage is a wide concept, closely related to the notion of "inheritance". It not only encompasses anthropogenic creations, but also those resources formed long before the evolution of humans. In 1995, heritage was defined by Irish statute as "landscape, wildlife habitats, flora and fauna, inland waterways, monuments, archaeological objects, heritage objects and archives, architectural heritage, geology, heritage gardens and parks". In reality however, it is bursting out of this definition to also encompass cultural heritage, placenames, folklore, music and language.

County Monaghan Heritage Plan

The second County Monaghan Heritage Plan was developed and submissions sought in 2011, with final approved achieved in 2012. The new plan will cover the years 2012-2017 and its' vision for the future of heritage in County Monaghan centres around three main themes:

- Collecting information on Heritage: Survey and Inventories
- Conservation and management of Heritage Assets
- Building capacity: Education, Awareness and Training

A total of 31 objectives have been laid out in the Plan and it is hoped to complete these by the end of the term of the Plan in 2017.

By conserving our heritage and creating new heritage assets, through creative and quality architectural design, retaining and enhancing our wildlife habitats and conserving our cultural heritage, County Monaghan will continue to be a place where people will want to live and work. It will be a place that we can be proud of because we can see and appreciate its character and uniqueness. Monaghan will continue to inspire art and creativity. We will be rooted and secure as a community and understand and work within environmental limits.

A number of projects were undertaken in 2012:

- Wetland surveys of sixty wetland sites including eight turloughs (finally completed).
- Stone symposium in Clones
- Castleblayney Historic Landscape Character Plan
- Heritage Bus Tour of the Clontibret & Castleblayney area
- Forged Iron gate field and photographic survey

Action for Biodiversity

Funding was secured in 2010 for a three year biodiversity project, Action for Biodiversity under INTERREG IVA. This 100% funded project is a joint initiative between ten local authorities and EBR Ltd. Monaghan is one of the leads in the project and the Heritage Officer is the joint chair of the steering group. A project officer was employed by Monaghan County Council in 2011 and the project formally commenced.

Heritage Week 2012

Events were held around the county to celebrate Heritage Week at the end of August. It was a vibrant week and many hundred people attended events around Monaghan.

County Monaghan Biodiversity Action Plan

A five year Biodiversity Action Plan for the county was adopted by Monaghan County Council in November 2009. Unfortunately, the Biodiversity Fund which came from the DEHLG was dropped in 2010 and no funding toward the LBAP was forthcoming in 2011. However, the Heritage Office has maintained a watching brief over the plan and other funding avenues.

County Monaghan Heritage Forum

The Forum met twice in 2012. This multi-stakeholder body supports and advises on the implementation of the Monaghan Heritage Plan. Four locally elected representatives sit on the County Monaghan Heritage Forum. These are: Cllr. Seamus Coyle, Cllr. Jackie Crowe, Cllr. Paudge Connolly and Cllr. Ciara McPhillips. The forum were centrally involved in the development of the new heritage plan.

Conservation of Protected Structures

There are 648 structures on the Record of Protected Structures in County Monaghan. The Grant Scheme for the Conservation of Protected Structures, which was funded by the Department of the Environment and Local Government and administered by the local authority was “paused” in 2011. A new scheme called Structures at Risk was operated in its place. The new scheme has less funding, and final decisions are made by the Department.

Monaghan PEACE III Programme

In September 2011, The Monaghan PEACE III, Phase II Action Plan was awarded funding of €3,687,206 by the Special European Union Programmes for the implementation of the a wide range of Peace and Reconciliation activities throughout Monaghan.

The programme focuses on Four Strategic Priorities:

- Supporting Communities to work together
- Investing in our Children and Young
- Embedding Peace building
- Support for actions that will contribute to peace building work on the ground

The plan is being delivered through a number of ranges of different delivery mechanisms such as partner delivery, small grants, tenders and resource allocation, 21 projects have been funded under the Monaghan PEACE III Action Plan priority to date.

The following table outlines the projects who have received funding, currently all projects are well underway.

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Monaghan Community Forum | Hands Together 2 |
| Monaghan County Council | Intergenerational Peace Project |
| Monaghan Community Forum | Youth Encouraging Living Peacefully |
| Monaghan Community Forum | Youth Understanding Their History |
| Monaghan Community Forum | Communications Training Programme |
| Monaghan County Council | Embedding Peace |
| Culture Wise Ireland | Diversity Awareness, Anti Sectarianism and Anti Racism Training for Parents |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Cooperation Ireland | Cross Border Networking |
| Cooperation Ireland | Minority Community Capacity Building |
| County Monaghan Community Network | Community Empowerment Project |
| County Monaghan Community Network | Communities Engaging Project |
| VEC | Using Technology to Reach Out into Communities |
| VEC | Towards Active Citizenship |
| VEC | Bonding Beyond Boundaries to Promote Inclusiveness |
| VEC | Building Capacity in Youth Settings |
| Monaghan Integrated Development | Supporting the Integration of New Communities |
| Blayney Blades Ltd | Women Journeying towards Reconciliation |
| Castleblayney Community Enterprise | One Community Different Cultures |
| VEC | Men's Hub PITS |
| Youth Work Ireland | Peace by Piece |
| Monaghan County Council | Resource Allocation Model |

Monaghan County Council is responsible for the delivery of The **Resource Allocation Model**. This programme will support community groups to contribute to peace-building work on the ground through grants of between €2,000 and €15,000. To facilitate the roll-out a series of short information sessions were scheduled throughout the county and a series of one -to-one Support

Workshops was also made for groups wishing to submit an application. The programme will complete the call in January and it is anticipated activity will commence in early March.

On the 1st November 2012 The PEACE III Secretariat held an event where 70 people registered



to have their say on how future investment funding should be spent at a special event at the Four Seasons Hotel, Monaghan. The “**Have Your Say on the Future of Peace Funding**”

conference was part of the Embedding Peace Building Project and gave people an opportunity to share their opinions on how European Territorial Cooperation Funding (ETC) 2014-2020 could be used to improve the region. The views and opinions collected during this exercise were used to help shape two new potential sources of EU funding for the region, under PEACE IV

and INTERREG V, for the period 2014-2020. 2 further conferences are planned for 2013.

The Embedding Peace Building Project as part of the **New Perspectives Programme** has completed an intensive training course based on the Monaghan Peace-Building Toolkit and was delivered by Carol Follis, Groundwork NI and Sean McGearty, Consensus Research. 12 people were involved and are taking part in the project and will also undertake an International Trip to Cyprus in 2013.

During 2013, the Embedding Peace Building Project will also provide a range of mentoring and training opportunities for project implementers, and Partnership Board members as well as a Networking Programme in support of those projects funded under small grants, partner delivery and resource allocation model programmes.

The Monaghan PEACE III Secretariat is also currently funding researchers to work with **Cadolemo** to create a small exhibition on the local impact of the signing of the **Ulster Covenant**. Cadolemo is a protestant community group covering the southern border counties of Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim and Monaghan focused on optimising community access to Orange Order halls, offering a location for community development, social, economic and cultural welfare.

A framework has also been agreed for the funding of a series of events to be organised and hosted by the **Monaghan County Museum**. The approximate budget available for this activity is €4,000-€5,000 to be complete by end 2013 and would include speaker fees, accommodation and travel costs.

The PEACE III Secretariat’s website www.monaghanpeace.ie was officially launched in 2012, this website is proving to be an invaluable resource for our own Partnership and other

Partnerships and clusters across the region. October 2012 saw 1,354 unique visitors to the site making 2,739 visits in total.

Listed below are a small sample of some of activities and supports to date that have been successfully carried out as part of the Monaghan PEACE III programme:

- Networking events that have brought all Peace III grant beneficiaries in Monaghan together to share their experiences both the positive and the areas that need more development.
- A series of networking events delivered on a cross community and cross border basis.
- Leadership Training Programme
- Conflict Management Training
- Committee Skills Programme
- Drop in sessions for young people
- Establishment of Minority Community Capacity Building Programme
- International Youth Trip.
- Networking and Presentations with other PEACE III Partnership's across the programme.
- Establishment of Parent Diversity Training Programme
- Youth Residential
- Women's Training for Transformation
- Peer Education Sessions
- A range of diversity awareness, anti-sectarianism/anti-racism training and materials for educators.
- In-depth peace building training programme for youth leaders and volunteers.



Economic Development

The Economic Development Sub-Committee held 3 meetings in 2012. The main focus of the committee in 2012 was to oversee the implementation of the Economic Strategy for the county which was developed in 2010, and is currently being delivered by five (5) Business Leaders Fora (BLF).

Business Leaders Fora

Key thematic areas critical to the economic development of the county were identified as Industry, Food, IT, Training & Education and Tourism & Amenities. A Business Leaders Forum was set up under each of these headings with each comprising of personnel from the relevant State Agency and individuals from the business sector with specific knowledge and expertise. Each BLF held regular meetings throughout the year and regular progress reports were provided to the wider Economic Development Sub-Committee. Monaghan County Council facilitates two (2) of the BLFs – Tourism & Amenities and IT.

Successes to date include the following:

Tourism Trade Networking Session

Failte Ireland held an Industry Information Evening on 21st June 2012 in Monaghan Town. Sixty of Monaghan's tourism providers attended the event and presentations took place on the Lakelands Region and on The Gathering initiative.

Food Seminar

A Food Seminar entitled '**Simplifying Distribution Challenges**' was held on April 12 in Lough Egish Food Park and this was followed by a tour of Castlecool. A Food audit was conducted by Monaghan County Enterprise Board with face to face interviews with food producers. This will serve as a guide to shape future plans and actions.

Training Analysis Survey

The Education & Training group conducted an on-line survey among employers to ascertain the skills and training needs of Co. Monaghan employers. A report on the findings was launched in February. On foot of the findings of the survey, the group has recommended:

- The establishment of a focus group comprising representatives of businesses and the training sector
- The establishment of a website to summarise and promote available training courses.

A **Meet the Entrepreneur** day was held in Castleblayney on 3rd October. There was a large turnout of Transition year and 5th year students from all the schools in the county.

Exporting Seminar

A Seminar entitled 'The Smart Route to Export Success' was held on 18 May in Combilift. Approximately 50 people attended the seminar and Minister Richard Bruton was also in attendance.

In addition to this, the Industry Group encouraged and supported the **Border BizCamp** event which was a 'non-conference' for businesses, organised by businesses. This took place on June 16 and was very well attended.

IT Seminar

A major IT Seminar was held on 9 May and this attracted approximately 60 attendees with Minister of State, Fergus O'Dowd T.D also in attendance.

The IT forum also assisted in the establishment of a Coderdojo in Monaghan and organised meetings with local businesses in Carrickmacross and Castleblayney so as to raise awareness of the lighting up of the MANS.

Tourism

The main focus of the Tourism Section in 2012 continued to be the implementation of three major INTERREG IVA tourism infrastructural development projects in Co Monaghan. These were as follows:

(1) Development of Lough Muckno

Substantial funding was secured in 2010 under INTERREG IVA to develop Lough Muckno as a tourism destination. In 2012, the angling improvement works element of the project was completed and officially launched by Minister of State, Fergus O'Dowd TD in December. The works have been very successful and were instrumental in securing the European Police Angling Championships which were held on Lough Muckno in October. The Playground element of the project is due to be undertaken in June 2013.



(2) Development of Clones as tourism hub

In May 2011, substantial funding to the value of €1.6m was awarded to Monaghan County Council and Fermanagh District Council to undertake enhanced amenity infrastructure in the Clones Erne East area.

The Clones elements of the project have progressed under the guidance of a Design Team and infrastructural works will commence in 2013.

(3) East Border Region Tourism Project

Monaghan County Council secured funding of €250,000 through East Border Region in 2011 to complete a number of smaller tourism related projects as follows:

- Enhancement works at Barry McGuigan Park, Clones
- Development of walking trails at Dartrey Forest
- Angling Improvement works at Creevy Lake, Carrickmacross

- Visitor Servicing works at Errigal Truagh and Ballybay

In 2012 these projects were progressed through the Public Procurement process in line with the funding requirements.

The Gathering

The Monaghan Steering Committee for The Gathering was established in July and 5 meetings were held in 2012. A major Gathering Community Meeting was held on 25 July in Castleblayney and approximately 140 people attended. An official launch of The Gathering initiative in Co Monaghan was held on 17 October and a specially commissioned Christmas card to support the county initiative was produced and distributed. By December, over 90 Monaghan Gatherings had been pledged on the National Gathering website.

Tourist Office Provision

As a result of Failte Ireland's decision to cease operating the seasonal Tourist Office in Monaghan Town, Monaghan County Council undertook to provide this service. The Tourist Office was located in The Market House and operated from mid June to end September. A record of all visitors to the office was kept and by the end of September this showed a total of just under 1,000 visitors with the majority of enquiries relating to directions, information on things to do and places to stay. The County Library at Clones and Carrickmacross Library had designated stands for tourist literature and the library staffs were available to respond to any visitor queries.

Environmental Protection

Environmental Protection is a topic that continues to hold a place centre-stage in the international arena. However, it is primarily by protecting the Environment at local level that we can hope to safeguard it for future generations.

The staff of 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

Waste Management in the county is carried out in accordance with the North East Regional Waste Management Plan 2005-2010. During 2012 an evaluation of the Regional Waste Plan was carried out to assess progress in terms of waste management practices and infrastructural developments and to take into consideration recent legislative and policy objectives and targets. The evaluation concluded that a "Replacement" Waste Plan be progressed to take into account the following key considerations and developments:

- Proposals to restructure waste management planning boundaries nationally.
- The requirement to consider the Waste Hierarchy as a priority order in accordance with the Waste Framework Directive.
- The requirement to take into account more ambitious recycling targets as specified in the Waste Framework Directive.
- The requirement for Local Authorities to take appropriate measures to establish an integrated and adequate network of waste disposal and recovery installations to enable communities become more self-sufficient in waste recovery and disposal.



- As part of the Litter Management Plan 2010-2012 Monaghan Local Authorities initiated a "dog poo" awareness campaign. This involved erecting signage and distributing dog poo bags free of charge through local shops.

Landfill facility

Monaghan County Council operates one landfill facility at Letterbane, Scotch Corner. This facility operates under waste licence W0020-02 granted by the Environmental Protection Agency. The “polluter-pays” principle is applied to the operation of the Landfill facility. The total volume of waste landfilled at the facility in 2012 was 28,075 tonnes which was slightly higher than the total for 2011 which was 27,361 tonnes. However, almost 50% of the waste landfilled at Scotch Corner in 2012 was repatriated waste from illegal sites in Northern Ireland which Monaghan County Council secured following a competitive nationwide tender. In 2012 it proved difficult to attract additional volumes of waste into Scotch Corner and this scenario is likely to continue. This can be attributed to external factors outside the control of Monaghan County Council including the economic downturn, increased environmental awareness, increasingly stringent license conditions, the opening of the Indaver thermal treatment plant outside Drogheda, higher landfill levies and of course the need to move away from the practice of landfilling as per government policy.

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. 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. Both facilities are operated by McElvaney Waste and Recycling. The facility is operated under waste licence W0020-02 granted by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Bring Sites

During 2012 a total of 1,034 tonnes of glass and 50 tonnes of aluminium cans were collected at the bring site network in the County. In addition, 32 tonnes of textiles were collected at the network. (Note: 1 tonne of glass equates to approx 3,500 bottles. 1 tonne of aluminium cans equates to approx 50,000 aluminium cans.)

In 2012 there were 28 council operated bring sites in the county.



Waste Facility Permits and Registrations

Any facility that accepts waste is required to hold a Waste Facility Permit (WPF) or Certificate of Registration (CoR) under the Waste Management (Facility Permit and Registration) Regulations 2007.

Waste Facility Permits and Certificates of Registration are normally granted for a period of 5 years and are monitored and audited annually. In 2012 a total of three new waste facility permits and Certificates of registration were issued.

There are six authorised treatment facilities for the recovery and dismantling of End of Life Vehicles (ELV) within County Monaghan. A full list of authorised treatment facilities is available on Monaghan County Councils website.

There is one compost facility within the county that composts brown bin wastes and organics waste to produce fertilizer. Shabra Recycling Limited recycles plastic bottles to produce plastic packaging. ADN materials recycle plastic items using an extrusion process. There are currently ten authorised sites located across the county which accept soil and stone waste for the purposes of agricultural improvement and land development. Authorised sites are subject to annual inspections by the council and must submit an Annual Environmental Report each year.

Waste Collection Permits

In 2012 the administration of Waste Collection Permits changed from regional nominated authorities to Offaly County Council. The National Waste Collection Permit Office in Tullamore now processes new applications and applications for the review of existing waste collection permits in the Republic of Ireland. Further information is available at www.nwcpo.ie.

Scrap Metal Fundraising Events Policy

In 2012 the council adopted the Scrap Metal Fundraising events policy. This policy has been put in place for community organisations who wish to run a scrap metal fundraising event. A simple application form must be filled out before the event takes place and certain rules and conditions apply. The purpose of this policy is to ensure community groups carry out scrap metal fundraising events in an environmental friendly manner.

LAPN (Local Authority Prevention Network)

The Environment Section continued to participate in the EPA-funded Local Authority Prevention Network (LAPN) programme in 2012. Projects completed during 2012 include:

- Participation in Taste of Monaghan Festival focusing on home composting and the promotion of the stopfoodwaste.ie national campaign.
- Billboard advertising on food waste prevention
- Waste Prevention Summer Camps for children aged 7-12 in 3 locations.

Litter Pollution

A total of 119 on the spot Litter Fines were issued in 2012. The majority of the fines involved fly-tipping of household refuse and littering at Bottle Banks throughout the county. Monaghan Local Authorities are currently reviewing the Litter Management Plan 2010 – 2012. This plan sets out the objectives to prevent and control litter as well as measures to raise public awareness.

Water Quality

The quality of Co Monaghan's rivers and lakes had deteriorated significantly since the 1970's, and while some improvements are evident substantial work is needed to meet the requirements of the EU Water Framework Directive. (Further information is available on www.wfdireland.ie).

Monaghan County Council has continued its programme of water quality monitoring, development control, catchment surveys, licensing and the investigation of water pollution complaints. Both farmyards and business premises have been surveyed in recent years with a focus of survey work on water supply catchments and other sensitive water bodies.

The Environment Section commenced a system of stream monitoring in 2008 called Small Stream Risk Score (SSRS). SSRS is a relatively new monitoring system based on biological indicators and will be used to identify "hot spots" and to track water pollution sources. Council staff is also working towards raising general awareness on water pollution prevention among all sectors. Information leaflets and other useful water quality and water pollution information are now available on the environment section of the new council website. www.monaghan.ie

Monaghan Co Council was involved in the development of the Northwest and the Neagh-Bann River Basin Management Plans – for further information and the latest status of both plans see www.wfdireland.ie.

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 2012, 539 complaints were investigated. The Council may serve a range of statutory and legal notices on landowners etc requiring them to carry out certain works etc and our investigations may result in cases being referred for prosecution. In 2012, 25 such notices were issued. However, in the majority of cases, individuals respond positively when advised that their activities are likely to cause environmental pollution. Air and Noise Complaints are dealt with by the Council's Environmental Health Officers

Diesel Wash Dumping.

2012 saw a dramatic increase in the incidents of the illegal dumping of diesel wash with 97 separate incidents dealt with by Monaghan County Council during the course of the year. 2012 was easily the most problematic year to date and significant costs were incurred in dealing with this major environmental problem. Previously the most intense periods of diesel wash dumping were in 2004 and 2011 - 37 incidents were dealt with in each of these years. During 2012 the costs of carrying out site cleanups and subsequently disposing of this material was in excess of €400,000 and the total cost of dealing with this problem since 2004 is approaching €2m.

Environmental Awareness

In an effort to foster a spirit of co-operation between the Council and the community at large, the Council engages in a range of environmental awareness raising activities.

Some of the highlights in 2012 were:

- Participation in Spring and Autumn Clean

- €43,000 was provided to local voluntary organisations under the “Environmental Fund” for improving local communities. Grants were available for maintenance of open spaces, tree/shrub/hedge & flower planting, litter management, painting etc.
- The Green Schools Programme continues to grow. At the end of 2012 80% of primary and 75% of post primary schools was registered with the programme,
- The environment section ran an advertising campaign on illegal dumping and litter in the local media during spring clean
- €20,000 was distributed in funding through the Local Agenda Environmental Partnership Fund
- Environmental Officer continued to develop linkages with the community and voluntary sector such as Tidy Town and Sporting organisations
- Grant from Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government of €22,000 was spent on litter awareness measures



Food Safety

Monaghan County Council has a five year contract until 31st December 2015, 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 domestic 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 examinations on all livestock slaughtered in the four local abattoirs. 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 2012, 1,206 cattle and 3,035 sheep were slaughtered in local abattoirs in Monaghan.

Dog Control Service

The council employs one full-time Dog Warden for the county. 5,132 dogs were licensed in the county in 2012 while 29 general dog licences were issued. The general dog licence entitles the holder to keep any number of dogs at a specific location.

Two lifelong licenses were also purchased in 2012. 639 dogs passed through the dog pound in 2012 – with 48 having to be euthanised. 62 dogs were reclaimed by their owners and 454 were re-homed, with the much-appreciated assistance of the Carrickmacross Dog Shelter and the Monaghan Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

In 2012, 199 on-the-spot fines were issued to people for keeping a dog without a licence, 15 fines for not keeping a dog under control, and 12 fines for not ensuring that the dog wears a collar and/or tag with the owner's name and address on it. Nine dog owners were successfully prosecuted in court for not having a licence.

Fire Service

Number of Calls

Monaghan Fire Authority dealt with 364 first callouts in the last year, with 56 (15%) requiring assistance. Chimney fires accounted for 74 (20%) of these. The other main locations of calls were dwellings 71 (19 %), motor vehicles 21 (6%), road traffic accidents 17 (5%) and false alarms 32 (9 %). The high % of callouts (50%) for ‘Other’ relates to the high rate of laundered diesel residue predominantly in the Castleblayney and Carrickmacross areas. There were two fatalities involving a house fire and gas explosion within County Monaghan in 2012.

The number of calls dealt with at the individual fire stations together with a breakdown of the major sources of these calls was as follows:

| Station | Calls | Chimney | <i>Domestic Buildings</i> | Vehicle Fires | RTA | False Alarms | Other |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|---------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|--------|
| Ballybay | 50(7) | 6(1) | 16(1) | 0 | 6(1) | 3 | 19(5) |
| <i>Carrickmacross</i> | 90(1) | 8 | 13 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 51(1) |
| Castleblayney | 120(37) | 8 | 22 | 4 | 9(1) | 8 | 69(34) |
| Clones | 21(1) | 8 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 6(1) |
| Monaghan | 139(10) | 44 | 18 | 10 | 17 | 14 | 36 |
| Total | 364 | 74 | 71 | 21 | 40 | 32 | 181 |

Figures in brackets represent assisting calls

#

Callout Statistics (Fire calls only)

| Quarter | Average Time in Mins to Mobilise | % of calls in Attendance less than 10 mins | % of calls in Attendance > 10 mins & < 20 mins | % of calls in Attendance > 20 mins |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|------------------------------------|
| Jan - March | 7m 18 secs | 26 % | 65 % | 9% |
| <i>Apr - June</i> | 6m 40 secs | 19% | 71 % | 11% |
| July - Sept | 6m 38 secs | 10% | 68% | 22% |
| Oct – Dec | 7m 07 secs | 21% | 68 % | 11 % |
| Average 2012 | 6m 56 secs | 19% | 68% | 13 % |

#

Recruitment

Following the retirement of Peter Gollolly (Station Officer in Carrickmacross), Cathal O’Brien (Station Officer in Ballybay), Edward Tackney (Station Officer in Clones), John Rutledge (Sub-Station Officer in Ballybay) and Robert Reed (Fire-fighter in Ballybay), there were five new

recruits to the Fire Service in 2012 two in Ballybay and one each in Clones, Carrickmacross and in the Clones.

Long Service Awards

The following received awards:

- Brendan Buckley and Dominic Meehan Station Officer and Sub Station Officer in Monaghan - 30 years,
- Paul McGinn and Leslie Hannon Station Officer and Sub Station Officer in Castleblayney - 20 years
- Edward Tackney retired Station Officer Clones- 20 years.

The awards were presented by Mr. Fergus O'Dowd Minister of State, Department of

Environment, Community & Local Government, at a function held in the Red Cow Hotel,

Dublin.

Fire Equipment

The new equipment purchased during the year included the following:

- 2 No. sets of extrication equipment used for RTA incidents for both Clones & Ballybay Fire Stations
- 2 No. Thermal Imaging Camera for both Monaghan and Carrickmacross Fire Station
- PPE:
 - 6 No. First responder Wet Suits
 - 25 Tunics and Leggings,
- BA equipment
 - 6 x 7000 series Drager Bodyguard sets
 - 20 No. BA cylinders
- Radio equipment
 - 10 Alerters and 3 Hand Portable.

Health and Safety

The National Directorate of Fire and Emergency Management continued the issuance of training material for the roll out of Standard Operating Standards (SOG's) for the Fire Service. A total of 35No SOG's have been adopted and delivered to all fire fighters in Co. Monaghan. SOGs have become a significant part of the "operational doctrine" for fire service operation.

Training



In December a joint training exercise in conjunction with Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS) was held involving fire crews from Castleblayney, Monaghan, Carrickmacross and Ballybay along with fire crews from Keady, Armagh, Newtonhamilton and Crossmaglen. The exercise offered an opportunity to test the robust nature of our incident command systems and to ensure an effective use of resources.

In addition to the annual training programme carried out at each drill night the following training was undertaken by fire personnel in 2012:

- 4 No. fire-fighters successfully completed the Initial Recruits Fire--Fighters Course
- 1 No. fire-fighter successfully completed a Fire Service Station Officer Course
- 1 No. fire-fighter successfully completed a Fire Service Sub-Station Officer Course
- 1 No. fire-fighter successfully completed a Hazard Materials Course
- 1 No. fire-fighter successfully completed an Instructor Course
- 48 No. fire-fighters completed Water Awareness training
- 10 No. fire-fighters completed Swift-water & Flood First Responder training
- 48 No. fire-fighters completed a refresher in Critical Incident Stress Management.
- 12 No. fire-fighters completed a Road Traffic Incident Course in conjunction with Driving Change.
- 6 No. fire-fighters completed Emergency First Responder training
- 23 No. firefighters completing a 2 day Breathing Apparatus Refresher Course in Dundalk;
- 3 No. Firefighters completed an Emergency Advanced Driving Course.

New Fire Stations

The New Monaghan Headquarters Fire Station has been fully operational in 2012, the facility has ensured the provision of a safe and effective training centre for all fire personnel in Monaghan. At present there is no capital funding available to advance the proposed construction of fire stations in Castleblayney and Ballybay.

Fire Prevention

The activity in Fire Prevention included dealing with all licence applications for pubs, clubs, restaurants, dance halls, gaming and lottery establishments, and dangerous substances. The emphasis on promoting Fire Prevention continued in 2012 through the targeting of crèches, elderly groups, primary and secondary schools and housing estates.

Further progress was made in 2012 with regard to premises built or in use without Fire Safety Certificates. This resulted in an increase in retrospective applications. The revenue in 2012 from 104 (24 with fee exemption) fire certificate applications was €95,426. Three applications were exempt from fees. Approx. 78% of Certificates were processed within 2 months in-line with the national average.

Major Incidents

There were no major incidents during the year



Building Control

Commencement Notices

Monaghan Building Control Authority received a total of 122 Commencement Notices representing 130 notifications of building works as is required under the Building Control Regulations 1997 to 2009. The notified works included 64 new domestic residential units. The income received by the Building Control Authority by way of Commencement Notice fees amounted to €3,840.00.

Disability Access Certificates:

The total number of DAC applications received in 2012 was 32. The income received by the Building Control Authority by way of Disability Access Certificate Fees amounted to €18,400.

Building Energy Rating (BER)

The Building Control Authority received one BER certificate in 2012. All new domestic units must furnish the relevant Building Control Authority with a BER Certificate before the unit is occupied.

Inspections

The Building Control Authority carried out inspections on approximately 16% of all works of which it was notified.

Staffing

The retirement of Paul Clarke as Building Control Officer has necessitated the temporary absorption of functions associated with Building Control by Fire Service personnel.

Regulations

In 2012 the following Technical Guidance Documents (TGD) have been amendment:

- TGD Part G (Hygiene)
- TGD Part A (Structure)**2011 – Dwellings:**

East Border Region (EBR)

As part of the EBR energy efficiency and micro-generation project it was announced in June 2012 that Monaghan County Council Offices, The Glen, Monaghan has been selected as one of the nine exemplars for the region. The project will involve the retrofitting of windows to improve the energy efficiency and decreasing emissions of the building, and is intended for completion by the end of 2013.

Civil Defence Service

Civil Defence Mission. To support the emergency services and to provide community support by promoting, developing and maintaining Civil Defence as an effective volunteer based organisation”.

Monaghan Civil Defence currently provides community support to some 70 + community events annually, as well as acting as a multi-skilled 2nd line service to the main emergency services of the Fire Service, Local Authority, An Garda Síochana, HSE.

Currently Monaghan.Civil Defence is pro-active in the following area of community & emergency support;

- First Aid / Casualty
- Search and Rescue
- Auxiliary Fire Fighting
- Boating Techniques
- Radiation Monitoring
- Radio Communications
- Welfare Provision
- Blizzard Conditions
- Gorse Fires
- Flooding
- Traffic Control
- Crowd Control Stewarding

Major Emergency Planning training within the county on a shared basis with other relevant sectors of the Local Authority, Fire Service, An Garda Síochana, North Eastern Health Board, and other relevant voluntary agencies.



New Training Centre.

Civil Defence in Monaghan Town re-located to the Old Fire Station at Plantation Monaghan. Support from the Civil Defence College and Monaghan Local Authority funding was provided to carry out much needed repairs to the buildings. Much of the work was carried out on a voluntary basis by Civil Defence volunteers.

Civil Defence Training:

- Cardiac First Responder Instructor Courses.
- Emergency Medical Technician up skilling.
- Rope Rescue Level 2 Course.
- Instructional Teaching Methods Course.
- Search Management Course.
- Field Skills Course.
- Driving Instructor Course.

Training.

Occupational First Aid courses were conducted in Monaghan, Carrickmacross, & Clones Centres for Civil Defence members & Local Authority staff.

Cardiac First Response Courses in the use of defibrillators were organised during the year for Civil Defence members, Fire Service Personnel, local community groups and delivered by Civil Defence Instructors.

Training for Technical Rescue took place at Regional & County centres. Weekly training takes place at the Civil Defence centre in Clones each Saturday morning.

Weekly Training Classes

Training continues each Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday evenings.

Boat training is on Wednesday & Sunday mornings.

All new members attend CFR / OFA courses.

Civil Defence classes are now being held in the Carrickmacross Civic Offices.

Civil Defence visited a number of primary & secondary schools to help promote the organisation and to make the public aware of Civil Defence's work in the community.

Introduction to first aid classes were held in a number of primary schools in Monaghan during the year.

The Boat Unit continued to provide assistance to Monaghan County Council in the lake monitoring programme, water services, and also at numerous water based events where a rescue boat was required.

Purchase of New Rescue Boat.

Civil Defence took delivery of the new Float Boat Trailer. Induction training was delivered by the suppliers in early October.

Joint North / South Cross Border RTC Exercise 2nd December 2012.

The aim of the exercise was to effectively test the response of Civil Defence to a major incident. Inter Agency working between Northern Ireland Fire Service, Monaghan Fire Authority, Garda Siochana & Civil Defence.

A Regional Response by Civil Defence to the cross border exercise included counties, Monaghan, Cavan, Meath & Louth.

48 Civil Defence volunteers took part in the exercise.

- Civil Defence role was to engage with the fire service to assist with emergency operations.
- The triage, treatment & transport of casualties to designated hospitals.
- Provision of access / transport to / from the site of the emergency.
- Provision of food and welfare facilities as appropriate to personnel involved in the response to the exercise.



Library Service

In 2012 Monaghan County Library has continued to find ways to expand and develop the service, while dealing directly with more members of the public than any other service in the Council.

The Library Service is administered from the library headquarters in Clones. Its services include:

- Five fully automated branches located in the principal towns of Monaghan, Carrickmacross, Castleblayney, Clones and Ballybay. The five branches provide a continually updated collection of popular fiction and non-fiction books, audio books, DVDs, CDs and magazines for lending.
- A Mobile Library Service to pre-schools, playschools, crèches and afterschool services operating from 22 service points around the county on a fortnightly basis.
- A Primary Schools Library Service visiting each of the 64 primary schools a minimum of once a year and visiting rural schools twice yearly.
- In conjunction with the VEC a wide range of computer classes are provided for adults in the Monaghan, Castleblayney, Carrickmacross and Clones branches, either through branch Internet PCs or through the 26 laptops shared by the branches.

Statistics

2012 saw a marked improvement in usage statistics for the Library Service.

- Items borrowed increased by 31% from 206,666 in 2011 to 271,184 in 2012.
- Membership increased by 16% from 9,060 in 2011 to 10,531 in 2012.
- Internet sessions and increased by 6% from 33,848 in 2011 to 35,755 in 2012.

Carrickmacross Library

In 2012 the new Carrickmacross Branch Library was launched as part of the new Civic Centre in the town. The new custom designed library is five times the size of the original branch. Since opening the branch has been a huge success, with membership and borrowing figures increasing by 80% and 86% respectively.



Outreach

In 2012 Monaghan County Library again managed to stage a surprisingly diverse and appealing range of Outreach events despite having no budget from which to fund it.

This was achieved by concentrating on low cost or no cost events, as well as successfully networking with neighbouring Library Authorities when sourcing authors, storytellers etc. Events included;

- Children's Book Festival, Summer Reading Challenge, Bealtaine Festival, Heritage Week Events, Canal Capers Festival, Seachtain na Gaeilge, Clones Film Festival.
- **Classes.** Arts and Crafts, Millinery Workshops, Silver Surfers, Creative Writing, University of the Third Age, Adult Computer, English Language, Irish Language, Literacy, Driver Theory.
- Book Clubs, Sewing Club, Craft Afternoon, Film Club, Lecture Series, Exhibitions, Music Recitals.

- Parent and Toddler Group visits, School Class Visits, Author Talks, Storytelling Sessions, Nursing Home Visits.



Grundtvig Project

Funding of €18,000 was secured for the Lady Café Project under Grundtvig, an EU funding programme.

The project application, facilitated by Léargas, was made in partnership with a number of other European library services for example - Majorca, Italy, Latvia, Bulgaria, Turkey, Romania, and Slovenia.

The first phase of the project will provide workshops, courses and lectures conducted by qualified trainers, covering a diverse range of subjects including computer literacy, drama workshops, nutrition, health and beauty. In the second phase, women over 45 (previous learners) will participate in lectures designed to help them recognize their own skills, so that they can become active trainers in the community.

The main aim is the comprehensive non-professional development of women over 45 (the project's target age group): their improved self-esteem as a person and a woman; and, ultimately, their active participation within their social environment.

The first meeting of the project partners took place in Bulgaria in October, attended by Project co-ordinators Deirdriu McQuaid and Laura Carey.

In June 2013 participants from all seven partner countries will visit County Monaghan as part of the project schedule.

A second European funding application under the Leonardo Programme is due for submission in February 2013.

Local History

In 2012 the following resources were added to the Local History collection;

- County Monaghan 1841/1851 Census Abstracts.
- 1913 – 1921 Death Notices & Obituaries from The Northern Standard
- 2011 Northern Standard on Microfilm
- Boston Passenger List 1820 – 1943 of County Monaghan Natives
- Parish of Aghnamullen Church of Ireland Baptisms & Burials 1888 – 2010
- County Monaghan Men Who fought for Canada in World War One
- Indoor Relief Register 1909 – 1910 for County Monaghan

Wi-Fi Service

The public WIFI service is now established in four branches, Monaghan, Carrickmacross, Castleblayney and Clones. Demand for the service has grown steadily throughout the year with a total of 2,696 sessions booked, an increase of 57.5%.

County Museum

Award for Maintenance of Full Accreditation

Monaghan County Museum reaffirmed its status as a national leader in the field of Irish museums recently when its staff attended a gala event in Dublin's Irish Architectural Archive headquarters to become the first Local Authority Museum in the country to achieve the level of Maintenance of Full Accreditation under the Heritage Council's Museum Standards Programme for Ireland. The programme, which currently has over fifty different museums all of the country vying for the award of full accreditation consists of thirty two exacting professional standards that must be attained before the award is given.



The award was made to Monaghan County Museum Curator, Liam Bradley by the Minister of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Mr. Jimmy Deenihan. The Curator accepted the award on behalf of the entire museum staff, which were present on the day, along with the Chairperson of the Museum Advisory Committee, Maeve Hackett, the County Manager, David Fallon and the Mayor of County Monaghan, Cllr. Hugh McElvaney. Minister Deenihan in congratulating the staff of Monaghan County Museum on this enormous achievement noted how significant it was that the Museum Advisory Committee Chairperson, the County Manager and the County Mayor all took time out of their busy schedules to attend the event. He said that it demonstrated the amount of support that the museum staff enjoys from their parent organisation, Monaghan County Council.

Exhibitions

Soundtracks - Music and life in County Monaghan during the 1960s & 1970s

This exhibition looked at the music that people in County Monaghan were listening to in the sixties and seventies and gives an idea of what might have been happening when these tunes were first out. This story is told using photographs, film and sound. There was something to appeal to all ages. The lifestyle, news and music show a glimpse of what life was like in County Monaghan during these years of great change. Throughout the exhibition there were music themed events, workshops, tours and presentations.

Centenary of the Ulster Covenant

The museum hosted a lecture in the Museum gallery on the night of September 6th 2012 to mark the centenary of the signing of the Ulster Covenant. This talk was delivered by Dr. David Hume of the Loyal Orange Lodge. On the night there was also a display made up of 4 exhibition boards which helped to place the signing of the covenant within the context of the history of the county.

The talk was advertised widely in the county as being open to all members of the public. The talk was organised in collaboration with the Clogher Historical Society. The display was then offered to local community groups in the region for short term loan. The display was put on in Inniskeen, Clones and Carrickmacross for short periods during the year. We are continuing to work to build up closer working relationships with groups such as the Orange Order, The Border Minority Group and Cadelemo. We recorded one hundred and sixty five people on the night of the talk that came from both the Catholic and Protestant traditions. The represented a capacity crowd in the museum gallery.

Donations

Grand Slam comes to Monaghan County Museum

Ireland Rugby International and Monaghan man, Tommy Bowe donated the five jerseys that he wore during Ireland's historic Six Nations Grand Slam campaign of 2009 to Monaghan County Museum. The incredible collection includes the jersey he wore while running over for the winning try against Wales in the Millennium Stadium to clinch the Grand Slam for Ireland. On a sunny late Spring afternoon, Tommy Bowe strolled into Monaghan County Museum with a piece of sporting history under in his arm and made one of the most significant donations in the museum's nearly forty year history. The five jerseys represent not only a hugely significant part of Irish sporting history but more importantly they are a potent symbol of Monaghan's sporting heritage. Tommy Bowe officially handed over the framed jerseys to Monaghan County Museum Curator, Liam



Bradley. The Curator noted that ‘this is a hugely significant donation for the museum. I want to thank Tommy Bowe, his mother Ann and the rest of the Bowe family for agreeing to hand over this unique part of their family history to the people of Monaghan.’

Events

Culture Night

To celebrate culture night Monaghan County Museum hosted “The Beats of Africa”. There was African drumming and dancing, which ensured a fun night for everyone. The dancing was influenced by East and West Africa, Uganda and Congo. The event was choreographed by the women from these countries. This was the first time that the museum got involved in Culture Night but thanks to its success it will now become an annual part of our programme.

Horrible Histories of Monaghan

To celebrate Halloween the museum held a number of workshops which told the story of some of the horrible histories of Monaghan. This was a huge hit with children and adults alike.

Science Week – Marble Arch Caves Rocky Road Show

To celebrate Science Week, Staff members from Marble Arch Caves hosted a series of interactive labs. Pupils got the opportunity to make-a-cave and their own volcano, study meteorite impacts, earthquake stimulation and fossilising footprints.



Arts Office

Monaghan Arts Office

The Feature international event of 2012 was a project entitled “**Mór Chuid Cloch**” which was a 5 Day stone sculptures symposium held in **Clones** from **21-26 May**. A unique project which was curated by a young Monaghan sculpture called Marc Kelly from Emyvale.

It was a joint venture with the Heritage section of Monaghan County Council. The focus of the event was to give the public an insight into the many strands, skills and craft work required to build the unique features of architecturally significant building in towns, such as Clones.

5 of Ireland’s current best young stone sculptors were invited to reside in Clones and create pieces from local cut sandstone. While the Artists spent the week creating their pieces in the “old Butter Market” an Exhibition and a series of talks were held in the “old Library HQ” at The Market house.

R.T.E.’s Nationwide came up and filmed the event which was subsequently broadcast reaching **viewing figures of 220,000**.

One of other key events, that both time and financial resources are invested in, is the international “**Harvest Time Blues Festival**” which is held in September each year. It has become widely recognised now as one of the Stellar Blues Festival in Europe and continues to get great reviews on its quality line-up as one review put it “*this festival is firmly established in the top echelon of European blues festivals*”.

Monaghan County Council through its Arts Office continues to assist Arts projects in the county through The **Arts Partners Grant** scheme. A total of €57,000 was invested in the projects listed below.

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

Separate to the above listed grants The Council awarded both **The Garage Theatre** in Monaghan & the theatre in Castleblayney (Arts well) €25,000 each towards their programming.

Both Monaghan County Council and Monaghan Town council continued their capital grant funding to the development of the New Garage Theatre which is built at the “Old Army Barracks” in the new education campus.

A new **artists studios** has been secured in **The Old Post Office** in **Clones** under the stewardship of an Artists collective which has been set up by 2 professional Monaghan Artists. Through this initiative, we secured some funding from the Arts Council, through Visual Arts Ireland, which

was matched by the council. A 5 years lease on a peppercorn rent has been given by An Post, which has been very helpful. It is hoped that more funding will be secured through other agencies like “Leader” in moving this exciting project along

We continued to **support individual Artists** who received grants from both the Arts Council and Culture Ireland. It ranged from travel assistance to material purchases.

The Market House continued to be programmed with both music and exhibitions in the usual capacity as a dedicated arts venue

Leisure Centre

The Leisure Complex is situated on the Clones Road, Monaghan and is the largest health & fitness centre in the county. The facilities include a six lane, 25 meter pool, fully equipped gym, including a wide range of cardiovascular and resistance equipment as well as an extensive free weights section and 2 outdoor tennis courts. It is operated under a licence agreement by Coral Leisure Ltd.

A Leisure Complex Committee consisting of members of Monaghan County Council and Monaghan Town Council monitor the operation of the facility through meetings with the management company on a quarterly basis. This committee is advised by a Consultative User Group consisting of representatives of a wide variety of groups and clubs who use the complex.

Since the complex opened in 2006 it has become recognised as the training base for many sports clubs within the county including the Irish Water Safety, Sliabh Beagh and Oriel swimming clubs, Monaghan Tennis Club, Monaghan Sub Aqua and Snorkelling Clubs, Monaghan Tang Soo Do and Coral Amateur Boxing Clubs.

The complex is an approved training centre to run Royal Lifesaving Society (RLSS) courses. The club has also received for the sixth year in a row ILAM “White flag” status and the complex was the first sports facility in Monaghan to complete “Disability Awareness Training” and in 2012 the centre received the prestigious ILAM Silver Disability Award.

The facility caters for schools, clubs and special needs groups, both north and south of the border.

Major works to improve accessibility and introduce green energy measures at Monaghan Leisure Complex were facilitated through funding provided by the Dept of Transport, Tourism, and Sport during 2011 and 2012.

Monaghan Leisure Complex was one of the first Leisure Complexes in the British Isles to install a geo thermal heating system. This system extracts energy from bore holes drilled 300 feet into the ground, and boosts it in such a way that the heat pumps can efficiently heat pools, showers and most other areas within the building. Phase 1 one of the project was recently augmented by the installation of air water heat pump system to heat the pool air. These works have resulted in savings in energy costs at the complex of approximately €47,000 pa based on current unit rates and as a result the complex was shortlisted for an SEAI Energy Award for Small to Medium Users.

All of these improvements should serve to prolong the life of the centre and ensure that it caters to the needs of a broad spectrum of users.

Human Resources Management

HR, Payroll and Superannuation System (Core)

Monaghan Local Authorities successfully completed Phase I and Phase II of the roll out of the HPS system in 2011 and 2012.

- Core Personnel
- Core Time
- CSO Departmental Returns
- Core Payroll
- Core Superannuation
- Employee Self Service
- Recruitment
- Core Training

Phase III will consist of PMDS and Health & Safety. These modules are currently being tested in pilot sites by Core International and the National Project Team and should be available for roll out mid to end of 2013. PMDS must be implemented in manual format before the PMDS module can be rolled out.

In 2012, the introduction of the standardisation of pay cycles to fortnightly and the standardisation of annual leave balances was successfully implemented on Core.

Recruitment

At 31st December 2012, Monaghan County Council employed approximately 403 permanent staff, 15 project staff and 51 fulltime firefighters. The multi-functional nature of the organisation is reflected in its workforce which includes clerical/administrative, engineering, technical, craft workers, general operatives, librarians, fire-fighters etc.

The objective of Human Resource Management is to attract the best people into the organisation and to assist them in developing their full potential to enable them contribute fully towards meeting the organisations goals and objectives and to facilitate their career progression.

In 2012

- 13 interview boards were arranged for staff selection
- 4 interview boards were arranged for JobBridge Interns
- 1 member of staff was appointed permanent (contract of Indefinite Duration)
- 4 members of staff was employed on contracts
- 4 Fire Fighters were appointed
- 6 members of staff accepted Site Supervisory Staff contracts
- 3 members of staff were promoted by way of internal competition
- 2 members of staff resigned
- 12 members of staff retired
- 4 retained fire fighters retired

Training & Development

Monaghan County Council recognises that properly targeted training and development is necessary in helping to equip staff at all levels to carry out their work in an efficient and professional manner.

Training needs are identified through our Performance Management and Development System. Emphasis is placed on linking training and development to the corporate objectives and Business Plans of each section.

Monaghan County Council encourages and assists staff members who wish to undertake thirdlevel certificate, diploma and degree courses.

Expenditure on training and development as a percentage of total payroll costs for 2012 was 4.38 %

Work Life Balance Initiatives

Staff availed of a number of work life balance schemes during the year 2012

- 36 members of staff availed of the work sharing scheme
- 8 members of staff availed of the shorter working year scheme
- 34 members of staff availed of parental leave
- 12 members of staff availed of career breaks

Corporate Services

Corporate Affairs provides support to senior management, the Mayor & elected members and organises council and committee meetings and associated activities. It is responsible for the preparation of the Corporate Plan, Annual Report, Customer Care Plan, the administration of the Higher Education Grants Scheme, compilation of the Register of Electors, Freedom of Information, and management of Corporate Property.

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

Higher Education Grants

In accordance with the Local Authority Higher Education Grants Act 1968, 1978 and 1992, Monaghan County Council has provided Higher Education Grants for eligible students attending approved courses at third level colleges. The Council adopts a scheme of grants each year with the approval of the Minister for Education.

From the 2012/2013 academic year Monaghan County Council will deal only with applications for funding from students to renew their grant, in order to progress to the next year of study, within the same course.

A new central online application system for student grants has been setup, known as Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI). The new system accepts all new student grant applications, including applications from existing students to change their courses or progress to new courses (be they add-on courses or otherwise) in the 2012/13 academic year. SUSI will also pay student grants to all new applicants awarded grants in 2012/13 subject to confirmation and verification of attendance.

In 2012/2013 Monaghan County Council had 364 renewal grants, 5 were deemed ineligible and 6 are awaiting additional information.

Register of Electors

The Register of Electors is compiled annually so as 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 is officially twinned with the following areas –

- 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

In May 2012, Cllr Aidan Murray, Deputy Mayor and Cllr Padraig McNally represented the Council on its visit to Prince Edward Island, Canada.



The Council visited Miramichi, in Canada in June 2012. The Council was represented on this occasion by The Mayor, Cllr Hugh McElvaney, Cllr Noel Keelan, Deputy Mayor and Ms Rosemary McManus, SEO.

A council delegation consisting of Cllr Hugh McElvaney, Mayor, Cllr Seamus Treanor, Cllr Pat Treanor, Cllr David Maxwell attended the Eurofeesten in Geel, Belgium in August 2012.

Expenditure on twinning amounted to circa €4,967 in 2012.

Implementation of Scéim Gaeilge

An Scéim Gaeilge

Implementation of the Scéim Gaeilge was monitored on a regular basis during 2012. The Council continued to honour commitments given in the Scéim na Gaeilge 2008 – 2011. The Coiste Gaeilge met on a number of occasions during the year.

Thirty six secondary school students were awarded scholarships to assist them to attend the Gaeltacht during 2012.

Finance

Financial Management

The Local Authority Costing System introduced in 2008 to Monaghan County Council and the four Town Councils aims to build on the financial management systems with a view to delivering enhanced management information, particularly in relation to unit costs. The Annual Financial Statements and Annual Budgets are now presented in the new format. The objective of the Costing System is to implement a costing model for all local authorities that:

- Standardises costing practice across local authorities
- Standardises the basis for apportionment of central management charges
- Identifies the full economic cost of providing defined services
- Identifies output measures for services, where appropriate, allowing comparison over time and between similar sized authorities.
- Implements a system that is manageable and provides relevant costing information.

During 2012 the Project Management Office requested details for a wide range of functions provided by Local Authorities. These requests issued under the Local Government Efficiency Review (LGER) sought details in relation to expenditure, payroll, payments, treasury management, debt management and a wide range of questionnaires regarding Information Technology. Based on the outcome of analysis of the data returned Business Cases have been prepared for the sharing of services across all Local Authorities for Payroll, Accounts Payable, Treasury Management and Transactional Human Resources. It is expected that these Business cases will be progressed during 2013.

Corporate Procurement

Detailed procurement guidelines and procedures were revised and updated in September 2012 to provide staff with detail information on current best procurement practice and regulation. Procurement is a key value adding function in Monaghan Local Authorities and this procedure document is 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.

During 2012 LGER questionnaires were completed for all aspects of procurement and ongoing analysis of procurement is taking place at national level in order to identify further efficiencies in this regard.

Internal Audit

The extensive nature of the Council's financial transactions requires that there be an ongoing review of the operations and records associated with these transactions to assure management that the Council's internal controls, procedures and accounting systems are operating as they should be. This function belongs in the area of Internal Audit. During the course of 2012 the Internal Auditor continued to implement the "Strategic Audit Plan". The Council's Audit Committee continued to operate during 2012 and met on 5 occasions. The Audit Committee

comprises of 2 Members of the Council and 3 external members. It is envisaged that the work of this committee will further enhance the efficient operation of the Council.

Prompt Payment Legislation

Prompt Payment Legislation 1997 as amended by the European Communities (Late Payment in Commercial Transactions) Regulations 2002 provides that penalty interest will become payable if supplier payments for commercial transactions are not met within 30 days. With effect from 1st July 2011 there was a reduction in the payment period to 15 days for valid invoices although penalty interest still only applies to payments not met within 30 days. Monaghan Local Authorities complete a quarterly payment return setting out details of how long it takes to pay suppliers. These quarterly returns are available on the Council's website.

During 2012 Monaghan County Council did not make any payments of prompt payment interest.

Revenue Collection

The Council's Revenue Collectors are the primary means of regular contact with the Council's ratepayers and housing rent and annuity payees and in certain cases house loan payees. Revenue Collection and Debt Management are increasingly important in the current financial climate. Outstanding accounts are increasingly difficult to collect and as a result the revenue collectors are spending a greater portion of their time pursuing accounts that are in arrears.

The collection percentage for commercial rates declined from 73% in 2011 to 68% in 2012. This reflects the current financial difficulties facing many businesses at present.

Council Committees

Corporate Policy Group

Cllr Hugh McElvaney, Mayor
Cllr Brian McKenna
Cllr Matt Carthy
Cllr John O'Brien
Cllr Owen Bannigan

Strategic Policy Committees

Housing Policy SPC (10 Members)

Cllr. Matt Carthy, (Chair)
Cllr P.J. O'Hanlon,
Cllr Ciara McPhillips,
Cllr Aidan Murray,
Cllr Seamus Treanor,

Cllr Teresa Carolan (Carrickmacross Town Council)
Kate Mullaney (Environment Sector)
Tom Freeman (Community/Voluntary Sector)
Paul McGinn (Community/Voluntary Sector)
Siobhan McKenna (Community/Voluntary Sector)

Planning and Development SPC (11 Members)

Cllr David Maxwell, (Chair)
Cllr Owen Bannigan
Cllr Seamus Coyle
Cllr Sean Conlon
Cllr Pat Treanor

Cllr Joe Brennan (Castleblayney Town Council)
Christopher McGreal (Business)
Colm McBride (Local Development/Construction)
Heinz Lorenz (Environment Sector)
Eamon McNally (Community/Voluntary Sector)

Environment & Infrastructure SPC (13 Members)

Cllr Brian McKenna (Chair)
Cllr Noel Keelan,
Cllr Pdraig McNally,
Cllr Hugh McElvaney,
Cllr Robbie Gallagher

Cllr Yvonne Newell, (Clones Town Council)
Cllr Gerry Traynor (Ballybay Town Council)

Kathleen Ward (Farming)
Brian McDonald (NFGWS)

Larry McDermott (Community/Voluntary Sector),
Owen Finnegan (Environment Sector)
Seamus Kelly, Dooskey, (Trade Union)

Social Cultural Community & Voluntary (12 Members)

Cllr John O'Brien (Chair)
Cllr Paudge Connolly
Cllr Gary Carville
Cllr Cathy Bennett
Cllr Jackie Crowe

Cllr Pádraigín UíMhurchadha (Monaghan Town Council)
Packie Kelly (Community/Voluntary Sector)
Agnes McGuinness (Community/Voluntary Sector)
Loretta Patlabiene (Community/Voluntary Sector)
Lorna Morgan (Comm. Forum Cultural)
Pat Joe Connolly (Comm Forum Cultural)
Carmel Brennan (Environment Sector)

Seminars & Conferences Attended by Members in 2012

| Title No. | Location | Numbers attended |
|---|--|--|
| ICLRD Annual Conference: The Changing Business Community & Spatial Planning Landscape: <i>Doing More with</i> | Radisson Hotel, Ballincar, Sligo | Jun - 1 |
| AMAI: <i>The Case for Municipal Government</i> | Westlodge Hotel, Bantry Cork Sligo Park Hotel Gleneagle Hotel, Killarney | Jul - 4 Sept - 1 |
| Colmcille Heritage Trust with the co-operation of Co Donegal V.E.C. <i>The Future of the Irish Educational System</i> | Colmcille Heritage Centre, Letterkenny | Feb 3 |
| LAMA Conference: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Councilors Role in Changing Climate</i> • <i>The Role of Tourism in Economic Recovery</i> • <i>Spring Seminar Economic Revival: The Role of Local Government</i> | Sligo Park Hotel, Sligo Clonea Strand Hotel, Dungarvan Fairways Hotel Dundalk, Co Louth | Apr - 8 Sept - 3 |
| William Carleton Summer School: <i>Should Historians Still Read Carleton ?</i> | Corick House Hotel, Clogher | Jul - 4 |
| T.G.R. Seminar: <i>Performance Management for Councillor</i> | Castlecourt Hotel Co Mayo | Jan - 7 Mar - 2 Apr - 6 |
| The 31 st Mac Gill Summer School: <i>Transforming Ireland 2011-2016: The First Hundred Days The Next Five Years</i> | Glenties Co. Donegal | Jul - 7 |
| 17 th Byrne /Perry summer School: <i>Sport in Irish History & Society</i> | Byrne /Perry Summer School Gorey, Wexford | Jun - 8 |
| Smart Marketing : <i>A guide to effective Public Relations</i> | The Falls Hotel Ennistymon, Co Clare. | Jan -6 |
| Ratto Hertiage Society: <i>20th Annual Kerry Environmental Conference & Training Seminar</i> | The Meadowslands Hotel Oakpark, Tralee Co. Kerry | Feb - 6 |
| Clare Tourist Council – Clare County Council: Tourism – <i>The Potential for economic growth</i> | The Falls Hotel Ennistymon, Co Clare. | Jun - 4 |
| 2011 Parnell Summer School: <i>Equality Then & Now</i> | Avondale House & Conference Hall The Woodenbridge Hotel | Jul - 6 |
| TDK Conferences Ltd <i>Local Government Seminar for Councillors</i> | Patrick Punch Hotel Limerick | Jan - 5 |
| TEAGASC <i>Economic Prospects for Agriculture</i> | Lyrath Estate Hotel Kilkenny | Jan - 5 |
| Irish Central Border Area Network <i>Spatial Planning Political & Civic Collaboration</i> 74 <i>Programme Building Networks</i> | The Royal Hotel Cooktown | Jan - 3 |

| | | |
|--|--|----------------------------|
| Mid – West Regional Authority 17 th Annual Conference <i>21st annual Kerry Environmental Conference & Training Seminars for Elected Members</i> | Falls Hotel Ennistymon Co Clare | Feb - 6 |
| Waterford County Council Metal Health Conference <i>Metal Health & Suicide Awareness</i> | The Park Hotel Dungarvan Co Waterford | Feb - 2 |
| Dundalk Chamber in Business for Business Major Conference What it takes to succeed in the tourism sector | Ballymascanlon House Hotel Dundalk Co Louth | Mar - 2 |
| Elected Members Training Seminar <i>Guide to Septic System</i> | The Kingsvalley Hotel Merlin Park Dublin Road Galway City | Mar – 4 |
| European Union European Regional Development Fund <i>Spatial Planning & Civic Collaboration Programme Inspirational Business Leadership</i> | Four Seasons Hotel Monaghan | Apr 8 May 3 2 3 |
| BMW Regional Assembly Annual Conference <i>Renew Energy Revitalising Ireland Regions</i> | TF Royal Hotel Castlebar | Apr 5 |
| A.C.C.C. <i>Annual Conference of ACCC</i> | Newpark Hotel Kilkenny | May - 7 |
| Galway County Council <i>Living Landscape</i> | Clifden Station House Hotel Clifden Co Galway | May- 5 |
| Training Seminar for Councilors The Councilors & the Environment | Hyland Burren Hotel Ballyvaughan Co Clare | Jun – 4 Jul – 6 |
| Magill Summer School Magill Summer School | Highland Hotel Glenties Co Donegal | Jul -7 |
| 2012 National Water Event Facing New challenges | Galway Bay Hotel Salthill Galway | Jun - 7 |

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 am – 1.00pm and 1.30pm – 5.15 pm
Offices closed on Bank Holidays

| Section | Tel. Number |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Main Telephone Number | 047-30500 |
| County Manager's Secretary | 047-30551 |
| Director of Services | 047-30546 / 30523 |
| Personnel | 047-30586/30591 |
| Higher Education Grants | 047-30546 |
| Accounts | 047-30589 |
| Rates/Water | 047-30590 |
| Environment Section | 047-30593 / 30517 |
| Water Services | 047-30504 |
| Planning | 047-30595/30532 |
| Housing | 047-30529 |
| Housing Loans | 047-30526 |
| Housing Construction | 047-30587 |
| Roads | 047-30597 |
| Road Design | 047-30596 |
| Bypasses | 047-30570 |
| Community & Enterprise | 047-73719 |
| | |

| Address | Tel. Number | Office Hours (Monday to Friday) |
|--|---|---|
| Motor Tax Office Market Street, Monaghan | 047 – 81175 | 9.30 am – 3.00 pm (open to public) 9.30am – 4.45 pm (office hours) Office closed on Bank Holidays |
| Monaghan County Library '98 Avenue Clones | 047 – 74704 | Individual office hours for each branch can be obtained from the County Library |
| Monaghan Arts Office, Hill Street, Monaghan Market House | 047 - 71114 047 - 71113 (Fax) 047 – 38158 | 9.15 a.m.– 5.15 p.m. |

Monaghan Town Council



Monaghan Town
Council

COMHAIRLE BAILE MHUINEACHÁIN MONAGHAN TOWN COUNCIL

Administrative Headquarters: Town Hall, 1 Dublin Street, Monaghan
Telephone Number: 047 82600
Fax Number: 047 84549
Email address: clerk@monaghantc.ie
Web Site address: www.monaghantown.ie

Cathaoirleach: Cllr. Seamus Treanor (NP)
Leas Cathaoirleach: Cllr. Mary Carroll (FG)
Members: Cllr. Paul McGeown (SF)
Cllr. David Maxwell (FG)
Cllr. Seán Conlon (SF)
Cllr. Robbie Gallagher (FF)
Cllr. Thomas Hagan (FG)
Cllr. Donal Sherry (SF)
Cllr. Pádraigín Uí Mhurchadha (SF)

Town Manager: David Fallon
Town Clerk: Marie Deighan
Revenue Collector: Eilish Clarke
Staff Officers: Sinead McCann and Mary Hughes
Assistant Staff Officer: Miriam McMahan
Clerical Officers: Aisling Greenan, Edel Fitzsimons, Mary McCoy, Sinead Tibby-Tracey, Donna Toal, Janice Eardley and Katrina Coleman
Town Engineer: Gareth McMahan
Assistant Engineer: Jonathon Condell

Treasurer: Allied Irish Bank, The Diamond, Monaghan
Budget 2012: €6,152,934
Annual Rate on Valuation: 72.00

Monaghan Town Council hold their Monthly Meetings on the 3rd Monday of each month at 5.00p.m. in the Town Council Chamber of Monaghan Town Council, 1 Dublin Street, Monaghan.



Housing and Building

Monaghan Town Council is responsible for the maintenance and letting of all Town Council dwellings. There are 346 rented dwellings and 1 dwelling on tenant purchase. The average weekly rent is €50.

In 2012 Monaghan Town Council purchased one dwelling at Beechgrove Lawns. Extensive works were carried out in 2012 in an effort to avoid freezing pipes in dwellings. This work included the insulating of pipes and tanks within the attics, the provision of frost stats within the attic space and where necessary the relaying of the mains water feed pipe into the houses to a suitable depth. Eight dwellings were sold under the Tenant Purchase Scheme in 2012.

In July 2012 Monaghan Town Council awarded a Contract for the installation, collection and testing of radon detectors in its Dwellings.

Work was completed on the refurbishment of 64 dwellings in Mullaghmatt Housing Estate under Phase 2 of the Remedial Works Scheme.

In June 2012 the Members met with Jan O' Sullivan TD, Minister for Housing and Planning in Teach na nDaoine Family Resource Centre, Monaghan. The Minister announced €1.5m for Phase 3 of the Mullaghmatt Remedial Works Scheme and was taken on a tour of the estate to view the works already completed under the programme.

| Housing | Stock of Rented at 31.12.12 | No of Tenant Purchases | Average Rent | Waiting List at 31.12.12 | New Tenancies 2012 |
|----------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Monaghan TC | 346 | 8 | 50 | 342 | 10 |

Road Transport and Safety

Works were completed in June 2012 on the enhancement of The Diamond/Dublin Street/Old Cross Square areas of the town and the provision of playground facilities in two housing estates in the town. The allocation of funding from the Border Midland and Western Regional Assembly represented 60% of the cost of the works. The environmental works carried out in 2012 to Dublin Street/The Diamond included a new pedestrianised public space facilitated by a reconfiguration of the road layout, relaying of footpaths and road surfaces and undergrounding of overhead cables. The works in Old Cross Square included the construction of a roundabout and the relocation of the Old Cross Square Monument in the area.

The Council continued with its road and footpath improvements in 2012 with the assistance of the Road Grant from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

In 2012 the Town Council took in charge Canal View Housing Estate and an alleyway from Dublin Street to the Diamond Centre Car Park.

A new casual trading bay was located at Church Square (opposite Courthouse).

Water Services

Statutory responsibility for the provision of water and sewerage services transferred to Monaghan County Council with effect from the 1st January 2004. Monaghan Town Council maintains the Automated Public Convenience in the Courthouse Car Park.

Development Management

20 planning applications were received during the course of the year.

In accordance with Section 48(14)(b) of the Planning and Development Act 2001 the following is an analysis of Monaghan Town Council's Capital Contributions for 2011:-

Amount Accrued in 2012

| | |
|---|---|
| Community Recreation and Amenity Infrastructure | - |
| Footpaths and public lighting | - |

Amount Paid in 2012

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Car Parking | 38,503 |
| Community Recreation and Amenity Infrastructure | 5,290 |
| Total | 43,793 |

Environmental Services

Monaghan Town Council continued to provide for street cleaning and the Litter Warden service throughout its area. 20 on-the-spot litter fines were issued in 2012.

Monaghan Town increased its marks in the National Tidy Towns Competition from 248 to 269 and were awarded the Monaghan Endeavour Award 2012. Monaghan Town Council allocated a grant of €15,000 to the Tidy Towns Committee in 2012 in respect of the works they carry out in the town. Monaghan Town Council was presented with an Award in recognition of the town deemed “Clean to European Norms” in the Irish Business Against Litter Anti-Litter League 2012. Monaghan Town Council Offices received an award for the best Public Building in the Monaghan Tidy Towns Annual Awards 2012.

Recreation and Amenity

Local Voluntary groups received a total of €15,000 to encourage and to aid them in the work which they carry out in their areas. Contributions were also made by the Council in 2012 to other local organisations – St. Patricks Day Parade, Taste of Monaghan Festival, Christmas Festival, Harvest Time Blues Festival, Bats Festival, Monaghan Sub Aqua Club, Féile Oriel Festival, Monaghan Immigrant Support Group, Monaghan Neighbourhood Project for the towns Halloween Festivities.

The Members adopted the Monaghan Town Council Parks and Open Spaces Bye- Laws 2012. Monaghan Town Council Members met with representatives from the Monaghan Allotment Society and it was agreed that lands in ownership of the Town Council at Tirkeenan (Killygoan) be leased to the Society for the provision of community allotments.

Miscellaneous Services

61% of the Rate Warrants were collected at the close of the financial year.

The Cathaoirleach and the Members of the Council laid a wreath at the Bombing Memorial in Church Square in May 2012 to commemorate those who died as a result of the Monaghan Bombing in 1974.

Civic Receptions

In October 2012 the Town Council hosted a Civic Reception for the Irish Federation of Pike Angling Clubs who held a 5 day International Pike Fishing event in the County.

In October 2012 a Civic Reception was hosted for the Cavan Monaghan Emerging Talent Team who won the Galway Umbro Cup 2012.

In May 2012 Monaghan Town Council welcomed the Canadian Ambassador to Ireland, Loyola Hearn and his wife Maureen to Monaghan. A Civic Reception was held for them during their visit to the County.

In August 2012 Monaghan Town Council again hosted a reception at Monaghan Leisure Centre for cyclists aged between 12 and 20 years who cycled through Monaghan Town from Belfast as part of a “Peace Cycle”.

Monaghan Town Council Celebrates 175 years.



Monaghan Town Council celebrated 175 years in existence in 2012. The outgoing Cathaoirleach, Cllr. David Maxwell and the incoming Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Seamus Treanor unveiled a plaque listing the holders of the Chair of the Town Council from 1837 when Arthur G. Lewis became Monaghan's first citizen

Seminars and Conference attended by Members in 2012.

| Title | Location | Number |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Association of Municipal Authorities | | |
| Of Ireland Spring Seminar | Cavan | 4 |
| Colmcille Winter School | Letterkenny | 2 |
| Faite Ireland Briefing | Dublin | 1 |
| Association of Municipal Authorities | | |
| Of Ireland Centenary Conference | Ballinasloe | 5 |
| Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurance | Dublin | 1 |
| Canada Day | Dublin | 1 |
| Association of City & County Councils | Kilkenny | 1 |

Expenses paid to Town Council Members in 2012

| | |
|---|-------|
| Total paid to Members in respect of Travelling/Subsistence | €3911 |
| Total paid to Members for attendance at Meetings of Council | 18202 |
| Total paid in respect of Chairpersons Allowance | 7000 |
| Total paid in respect of salary/remuneration | 20905 |

Details of Councillor's Expenses

| Councillor | Travel & Subsistence | Annual Meeting Allowance | Cathaoirleach's Allowance | Total | Representational Allowance |
|---------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Carroll | 0 | €1914 | 0 | €1914 | €4181 |
| Conlon | 1482 | €2036 | 0 | €3518 | €0 |
| Gallagher | 370 | €2036 | 0 | €2406 | |
| Hagan | 506 | €2036 | 0 | €2,542 | €4181 |
| Maxwell | 985 | €2036 | 3,500 | €6521 | 0 |
| McGeown | 0 | €2036 | 0 | €2036 | €4181 |
| Sherry | 169 | €2036 | 0 | €2202 | €4181 |
| Treanor | 0 | €2036 | 3,500 | €5036 | 0 |
| Uí Mhurchadha | 399 | €2036 | 0 | €2435 | €4181 |
| | | | | | |
| Totals | €3,911 | €18202 | €7,000 | €28,610 | €20,905 |

Carrickmacross Town Council



Carrickmacross
Town Council

Carrickmacross Town Council (Comhairle Bhaile Carraig Machaire Rois)

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Administrative Headquarters: | Town Clerk's Office, Carrickmacross Civic Offices, Riverside road, Carrickmacross. |
| Telephone Numbers: | 042 9661236/9661618/9663662 |
| Fax Number: | 042 9662921 |
| Meara a Bhaile: | Cllr. Darcy Lonergan (GP) |
| Members: | Cllr. Teresa Carolan (FG) Cllr. Matt Carthy (SF) Cllr. Padraig McNally (FF) Cllr. Mary Kerr-Conlon (FG) Cllr. Mark Clarke (FG) Cllr. P.J. O'Hanlon (FF) Cllr. Kristina Jankaitiene (GP) Cllr. Noel Keelan (SF) |
| Town Manager: | Mr. Paul Clifford |
| Town Clerk: | Ms. Frances Matthews |
| Staff Officer: | Ms. Amanda Murray |
| Revenue Collector: | Ms. Angela Gallagher |
| Assistant Staff Officer: | Ms. Amanda McCarville |
| Clerical Officers: | Ms. Stephanie McEneaney Ms. Niamh O'Reilly |
| Town Engineer: | Mr. Alan Hall |
| Assistant Engineer: | Mr. Joe Durnin |
| Adopted Budget 2011 | € 2,446,287 |
| Adopted Budget 2012 | € 2,475,707 |

General Annual Rate of Valuation 2012

65.55

Carrickmacross Town Council holds their monthly meetings on the 2nd Monday of each month at 2:30p.m. Meetings are held in the Carrickmacross Civic Offices, Riverside Road, Carrickmacross.



Housing and Building

Carrickmacross Town Council, as a housing authority, provides social housing for 98 households and manages over 340 applications for social and affordable accommodation. No allocation was made for the provision of new Local Authority Housing in 2012.

During 2012 the Council provided in its planned maintenance programme a new kitchen and bathroom in one house and new fascia and soffit in 6 houses. Level access bathroom conversions were also completed in 4 houses. In 2012 the sum of €39,237 was spent under the Building Energy Rating Scheme. This scheme is part funded by the Department. The Council spent this allocation improving the energy ratings of ten dwellings by upgrading central heating systems, installing attic insulation and rewiring. The following houses were upgraded under this programme:-

Nos. 1, 2, 8, 10, 15 & 40, Drummond-Etra; Nos. 12, Emmet Road & 35 Emmet Street;
Nos. 2 & 35 Cloughvalley.

Twenty two units in the new housing scheme in Cloughvalley were allocated in 2012 by Monaghan County Council and Carrickmacross Town Council also made 3 allocations during 2012. There are currently 344 households on the social housing list. One sale under the Tenant Purchase Scheme for Long Standing Tenants 2011 was completed in 2012.

Road Transportation & Safety

Carrickmacross Town Council is responsible for the upkeep and improvement of urban roads in Carrickmacross. The Department of the Environment's allocation for road improvement works in 2012 was €195,000. The road works programme for 2012 included new footpaths and resurfacing on Mullanarry road, resurfacing at Mullanarry Street, Lurgans, Shirley House Lane, Drummond-Etra lower and cul-de-sacs in Cloughvalley. Major works were also completed at lower Chapel Lane adjacent the two national schools. These works included raised pedestrian crossing, footpaths, railings and improved road markings and lights.

Development Incentives & Controls

Carrickmacross Town Council received thirteen planning applications in 2012.

The process for the new Development Plan for the Town commenced in March 2011 with a public meeting to discuss the Issues Paper. A draft Plan was placed on public display in 2012. The Development Plan is a two year process and is due for completion and adoption in early 2013.

In accordance with Section 48(14) (b) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, under the Development Contributions Scheme, €12,692.00 was accrued in 2012, and a total of €15,088 was received by Carrickmacross Town Council in 2012, as follows:-

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Car Parking | €13,481.00 |
| Community, Amenity & Recreation | €837.00 |
| Footpath & Lighting | €770.00 |

Community Grants

Following the May monthly meeting the Council made financial contributions to the various community groups and voluntary organisations throughout the town. The Council made annual contributions to the Chamber of Commerce for the promotion of the town and for Christmas Lighting. In all over €80,000 was allocated by the Council during 2012 and the recipients were as follows:-

Community Groups

Carrickmacross Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Eireann
Carrickmacross Community Allotments
Carrickmacross CPR
3RD Monaghan Scout Group
Carrickmacross Language School
Carrickmacross Active Retirement
Carrickmacross Pioneers
Carrickmacross Community Games
Carrickmacross Variety Club
Carrickmacross Cruisers
Carrickmacross Rockets
Carrickmacross Tidy Towns (Annual contribution)
Carrickmacross Aces AC (3rd year of 5)
Carrickmacross Youth Club
Carrickmacross Snooker Club
Carrickmacross Snooker Club – J Williams
Carrick Rovers
Carrickmacross Social Services
Carrickmacross Cycling Club
Carrickmacross Ladies GAA
St. Vincent De Paul
Carrickmacross Active Retirement
Carrick Emmets
Carrick Lions Club
Evolve Parents & toddler group
Carrickmacross Hurling Club
Renewed Living Family Support network
Lisanisk residents Association
Barry Kavanagh – Gardening Project
Shrine Carrickmacross
Spring Lake Angling Club

Funding Allocated in Budget 2012 for Specific Projects/Groups

Chamber of Commerce & Industry - Christmas Lighting
Chamber of Commerce & Industry - Promotion of Town
Tourism Contribution
St. Patricks Day Parade/Band Performances
Halloween Festival
Music Festival
Carrickmacross Twinning Association
Tidy Towns Projects
Carrickmacross Website

Carrickmacross / Carhaix Town Twinning

In 1993, Carrickmacross set up a twinning committee which resulted in the town twinning with Carhaix, Brittany, France. Over the years the bond has strengthened. In March 2012 fifty-two students from College St. Trémeur in Carhaix along with their teachers were welcomed to the towns by the Carrickmacross/Carhaix Twinning Committee. The students study English and History with a particular emphasis on the Famine in Ireland. The group visited the Old Workhouse and were given a presentation on the history of the Famine in the Carrickmacross area by Yvonne Marron. The group were then brought on a tour of the building by Kevin Gartlan which included a visit to a recently restored dormitory. After lunch the visitors went on a walking tour of the town. They visited the Bully's Acre on the Donaghmoynne Road and St. Joseph's Church where they admired the Harry Clarke windows and the Richard King designed Stations of the Cross. The group headed back towards the Main Street where they heard a short account of the history of the town since the 1600's. The visit ended with a little time for shopping and the market stalls.

Recreation and Amenity

Additional works took place to resurface the area surrounding the outdoor fitness equipment installed adjacent the play-park in Cloughvalley in late 2011. The Council have been successful in receiving additional funding for more pieces outdoor fitness equipment which will be installed in early 2013.

Carrickmacross Town Council's commitment to help service a loan for the balance of works on the current phase of the Convent Lands running track was allocated in the sum of €5,000 to Carrick Aces. 2012 was the third of a five year commitment by the Council towards the construction of the facility.

St. Patrick's Day Parade

The 2012 St. Patrick's Day Parade was yet another success, owing to the numerous bands and organisations which took part. As normal, the day kicked off with the Flag Raising Ceremony at the Courthouse, and was accompanied by the music of the Steadfast Brass Band. At 3 o'clock, a colourful line up of over 50 entrants marched proudly from the Dundalk Road onto Main Street, where they were greeted by a huge crowd of spectators. Taking part were a number of local and non-local bands, a number of community and business floats and marchers, as well as a wide collection of vintage tractors and machinery. Face painting and street entertainment brightened the day along with traditional music provided by the Carrickmacross branch of Comhaltas, prior to the parade. Prizes were awarded on the day to An Lochrann Linn for the "Best Band", followed closely by runner up Steadfast Brass Band. Local primary school Scoil Rois scooped "Best Float" while dressed as

the doomed occupants of the “Titanic” commemorating 100 years since is tragic end, while Cabra Castle walked away with second prize for their “Shrek” themed float. It was a brilliant day, enjoyed by all!

The Council continues to support the local June Bank Holiday festival and Halloween Festival in October. Both festivals were again very successful in 2012.

Miscellaneous

Carrickmacross Town Council acquired the Market Square building during 2012 and proposes to restore and renovate the building. Some essential repairs works on the roof of the building have already taken place. The Council sought submissions from the local community and individuals on their views for the potential use of the Market Square Building and yard to the rear. A feasibility study will be undertaken.

Tidy Towns & Chamber of Commerce Success

In 2012 Carrickmacross received its first gold medal in the Tidy Towns Competition and placed second in the County Awards. The town also won an award in the 2012 All Island IPB Pride of Place Competition. Carrickmacross also received overall sixth in a national Retail Excellence Town & City review in 2012. Carrickmacross Town Council continues to support the Tidy’s Towns Committee and the Chamber of Commerce through a number of various projects.

Other Events

In March, 2012 the Town Council Foreman Mr. Patsy McKenna retired from Carrickmacross Town Council after 33 years service. The Council’s craftsman Mr. Eugene O’Reilly also retired in August, 2012 after 16 years of services with Carrickmacross Town Council.

Mr. Bruce Davis, Australian Ambassador to Ireland visited Carrickmacross on the request of the Meara Bhaile Cllr. Noel Keelan on the 20th of April, 2012. Ambassador Davis signed the visitors book to mark the occasion and a small reception was held in the civic offices.

On the 25th of April, 2012 the Canadian Ambassador made a quick visit to Carrickmacross and also signed the visitors book.

In recognition of community achievements received in the town in 2012 a celebration was held in conjunction with the Tidy Town’s and the Chamber of Commerce in the Civic Offices on the 12th of December, 2012. All local and voluntary groups were invited to attend.

Carrickmacross Joint Policing Committee

The membership of the committee consists of the Town Council members and officials, members of An Garda Siochána, members of the Oireachtas and community & voluntary sector representatives. “The JPCs function is to serve as a forum for consultations, discussions and recommendations on matters affecting the policing of the Carrickmacross Town Council’s administrative area”. The topics discussed in 2012 were as follows:-

26th January 2012.

1. Consideration of Security Report on Convent Avenue – prepared by Sergeant Noel Harraghy, Crime Prevention Officer.
2. Underage Drinking in public places.

19th April, 2012

1. Alcohol abuse in public places and the sale of alcohol to minors.

2. Problems arising from illegal diesel laundering operations in the town.
3. Breaches of Litter Act in respect of dog fouling.

13th September, 2012

1. Presentation by Youth Work, Carrickmacross.
2. Presentation by Customs Office on diesel laundering.

Seminars & Conferences attended by Carrickmacross Councillors in 2012

| <u>Agency</u> | <u>Conference</u> | <u>No. Attended</u> |
|---|---|----------------------------|
| Colmcille Heritage Trust | Winter School Seminar | 1 |
| Dundalk Chamber of Commerce | What it takes to Succeed | 2 |
| LAMA | Spring Seminar | 3 |
| NFLA | Nuclear Development/Sustainable Energy | 1 |
| Tipperary Peace Convention | Tipperary Peace Conference, Tipperary. | 1 |
| Association of County and City Councils | Annual Conference, Newpark Hotel, Kilkenny. | 3 |
| A.M.A.I. | AMAI Conf. in Ballinasloe, Co. Galway | 1 |
| Association of Irish Festival Events | Autumn Seminar | 4 |
| LAMA | LAMA Autumn Seminar | 1 |

Payments to Elected Members - Summary

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Total Paid to members in respect of travelling/subsistence | € 6,841.98 |
| Total paid to members for attendance at meetings of Council | € 18,324.00 |
| Total paid in respect of Chairperson's Allowance | € 3,500.00 |
| Total paid to members in respect of salary/remuneration | € 28,665.98 |

Details of Members Expenses for 2012 are as follows:-

| Councillor | Travel & Subsistence | Annual Meeting Allowance | Cathaoirleach's Allowance | Total | Representational Allowance |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Lonergan | 183.68 | €2,036 | 1,750.00 | €3,969.68 | €4181.00 |
| Carolan | 118.48 | €2036 | 0 | €2154.48 | €4,181.00 |
| Clarke | 1,914.82 | €2036 | 0 | €3,950.82 | €4,181.00 |
| Jankaitiene | 0.00 | €2036 | 0 | €2,036.00 | €4,181.00 |
| Carthy | 0.00 | €2036 | 0 | €2036.00 | - |
| Keelan | 1,329.67 | €2036 | 1,750.00 | €5,115.67 | - |
| McNally | 2,310.54 | €2036 | 0 | €4346.54 | - |
| O'Hanlon | 0 | €2036 | 0 | €2036.00 | - |
| Kerr Conlan | 984.79 | €2036 | 0 | €3020.79 | €4,181.00 |
| | | | | | |
| Totals | €6841.98 | €18,6324 | €3,500 | €28,665.98 | €20,905.00 |

Comhairle an Bhaile, Baile Na Lorgan Castleblayney Town Council



Administrative Headquarters: Town Hall, West Street, Castleblayney

Telephone Number: (042) 9740048/9740058

Fax Number: (042) 9749109

E-mail address clerk@castleblayneyc.ie

Web site Address www.monaghan.ie/castleblayneyc

Mayor 2012/2013: Cllr. Aidan Campbell (FG)

Members: Cllr. Jackie Crowe (SF) Cllr. James Cunningham (SF)
Joe Brennan (Ind) Cllr. Brendan Hughes (FF) Cllr. David Funcheon (FF)
Cllr. Gary Carville (FG) Cllr. Peter Grimes (SF)
Cllr. Sean Mc Cooley (FF)

Town Manager: David Fallon

Town Engineer: Declan Mc Kernan

Town Clerk: Jerome Savage

Staff Officer: Alison Mackle

Assistant Staff Officer: Ann Burke.

Clerical Officers: Mary Ward, Deirdre Power

Revenue Collector: Pamela Burke

Town & Area Foreman: Colm Lynch

Treasurer: A.I.B., Main Street, Castleblayney

Commercial Valuation: € 15,079

Annual Rate in Valuation: 56.00

Monthly meetings of the Town Council have been held in the Castleblayney Enterprise Centre at 7.00 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

Housing and Building:

The Town Council housing stock reduced by one following a sale to a tenant, it now consists of 108 rented dwellings with significant refurbishment works carried out on 1 dwellings in LakeView. Refurbishment works included insulation, kitchen improvements, separation of living room space from kitchen space, low level access showers as well as works to bring properties up to a high BER standard. Seven dwellings remain subject to the Tenant Purchase Scheme.

There was no house purchase funding in 2012.

All Town Council houses were tested for Radon with 5 requiring minor works to reduce the levels. A public meeting following the results brought together the national radon body whose remit it is to advise the government and public bodies on the matter. Private householders were given the opportunity to avail of a testing kit at a special low rate.

Road Transportation and Safety

A total of €138,000 was spent on road improvement and maintenance from the revenue budget. Compensation payments for plots subject to Compulsory Purchase Order for the new Mc Grath road, are waiting agreement. Final interest payments were completed were made to the major landowner affected by the road.

Three new roads to the North East of the town already confirmed as beneficial to the needs of the town's future, known as roads 2a and 2b servicing the Industrial Park and, outside of the town council boundary, the N2 (Old) to R181 link road are also on hold as funding is not currently available.

Water Services

The town council as with all town councils has no direct function in relation water services since 2005 but handles many queries from the general public in this regard on behalf of the Co. Council.

The cost to the Council and payable to Monaghan Co Council in its capacity as a water authority, for water supply and waste water treatment for the towns domestic use, was €138,141 and €100,225 in respect of waste water treatment.

Development Management

There were 15 planning applications lodged in 2012 compared with 4 in 2011. There were 8 further information requests and 1 submission received during the year.

Environmental Protection

Castleblayney Town Council provides the street cleaning service throughout the town.

In 2012 the Council again supported the local Tidy Towns Committee in their efforts to clean up the town during Spring Clean month. The Tidy Towns Committee achieved 256 marks in 2012 (an increase of 11 marks over 2011). The Council provided funding of €7,000 to the Tidy Towns Committee.

8 litter fines were issued in 2012. The Council continues to follow up on illegal dumping.

Recreation & Amenity

The very successful Muckno Mania festival was funded to the tune of €2,750 by the council. The Council provided €10,000 to the chamber of commerce towards the May Day parade,

€4,366 towards the towns Christmas lights, €2,750 to the Iontas centre remaining as it was in 2011 but reduced from 2010.

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Castleblayney Agricultural & Industrial Show Assoc | €50 |
| Declan Connolly Bog Snorkel | €50 |
| Castleblayney Care | €300 |

The IRDFA national championships were welcomed to the town to host the national drug free power lifting championships in 2012 with a donation of €200. Small donations of €100 were provided to other local voluntary bodies.

The town’s parks cost almost €17,000 to maintain. Costs are significantly down given the new more efficient mini tractor but also less frequent attention to maintenance due to reduced staffing.

The Council entered in to an agreement with Blayney Rovers to lease a part of the Drumillard park to the club to support future ground development. This met with the approval of local residents while Rovers agreed to cater for local people in so far as they possibly could to ensure continued public enjoyment.

Miscellaneous Services

- New amenities at Muckno

Monaghan County Council in co-operation with CASA (Castleblayney/South Armagh) Coillte and Concra Wood Golf club completed construction of 114 fishing pegs and 2,267m



of new access roads at Black Island, White Island and Concra Wood Golf Course.

The expenditure of close on **€500,000** on the improvement of tourist-angling facilities at Lough Muckno near Castleblayney, was part of a shared cross-border allocation of €1.3 million. The project was managed by the Special EU Programmes Body, and spearheaded by Monaghan County Council, and was

approved as a Rural Investment Initiative, through an application by CASA—a local authority and cross-community partnership, involving Castleblayney and South Armagh. Funding was sourced under the EU INTERREG IVA Cross-border Programme and managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB) for the upgrade of amenities on both sides of the Monaghan-Armagh Border.

As a direct result, the European Police Freshwater fishing Championships for 2012 was held at Lough Muckno, Castleblaney Co Monaghan over the 5th and 6th October 2012 .



The investment in infrastructure now makes Lough Muckno the major centre of excellence for Coarse Angling in Ireland and the main Irish venue for future international and national Coarse angling competitions.

Twenty two teams of five anglers from Italy, Germany, Holland and Ireland attended the event in October which was a major boost to tourism in the mid Monaghan area. As a result,

other angling events are expected to be hosted in Monaghan in 2013

Playgrounds - Children's & Adventure

Planning has been attained for two new playgrounds in the Muckno Estate and tenders are now being sought. The funding for this project is also Interreg, through CASA in conjunction with Monaghan County Council Tourism.

CCTV system

Castleblaney Town Council in conjunction with the Garda, J.P.C. and the Department of Justice has installed a state of the art CCTV system which has been broadly welcomed.

Other Events in 2012

Following their All Ireland success Our Ladys girls basketball team and management were presented with plaques. The Ulster success of the minor girls comogie team was similarly recognised as was the FAUGHS for achieving club and people of the year awards and the minor football Co championship.

A delegation from Marseillan in Southern France visited Castleblaney in 2012 following a visit by some of Castleblaney's Members to Marseillan in 2011. The delegation was well received to Castleblaney and was treated to a meal and traditional entertainment in the Glencarn Hotel; they visited the Trade Fair and inspected the new state of the art CCTV equipment installed by Castleblaney Town Council.

Staff Movements

Retirements: John Hennessey, Town Foreman.

Recruitments: *Deirdre Power replaced Helen Martin, Clerical Officer.*

Seminars & Conferences Attended by Members in 2012.

| Month | Seminar\Conference | Location | No.Attended |
|-----------|--------------------|----------|-------------|
| February | AMAI | Cavan | 2 |
| June | IPB | Dublin | 1 |
| September | AMAI | Galway | 2 |

Details of Members Expenses for 2012 are as follows:-

| Councillor | Travel & Subsistence | Annual Meeting Allowance | Cathaoirleach's Allowance | Total | Representational Allowance |
|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| Hughes | €391 | €1,846 | €0 | €2,237 | €4,181 |
| Carville | €240 | €1,913 | €0 | €2,154 | €0 |
| Crowe | €556 | €2,036 | €0 | €2,592 | €0 |
| Cunningham | €0 | €1,943 | €860 | €2,803 | €4,181 |
| Brennan | €0 | €1,943 | €0 | €1,943 | €4,181 |
| McCooley | €0 | €1,943 | €0 | €1,943 | €4,181 |
| Campbell | €0 | €1,943 | €860 | €2,803 | €4,181 |
| Grimes | €0 | €1,943 | €0 | €1,943 | €4,181 |
| Funcheon | €0 | €1,414 | €0 | €1,414 | €4,181 |
| Totals | €1,187 | €16,924 | €1,720 | €19,832 | €29,267 |

Clones Town Council



Administrative Headquarters: Monaghan Street, Clones.

Telephone No. 047 51018 / 51814

Fax No. 047 52006

Website www.clonestown.com

E-mail clerk@clonestc.ie

Cathaoirleach: Cllr. Peter McAleer (NP)
Leas Cathaoirleach: Cllr. Aidan Sheerin (SF)

Members:

Cllr. Peter Mulligan (FG)
Cllr. Pat Treanor (SF)
Cllr. Anna Rooney (FF)
Cllr. Niall Quigley (SF)
Cllr. Ross Mealiff (NP)
Cllr. Deirdre Kelly (FF)
Cllr. Yvonne Newell (FG)

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Director of Services | Adge King |
| Town Clerk. | Geraldine Killen |
| Assistant Staff Officer | Carmel Murphy |
| Clerical Officer | Eileen Fitzpatrick |
| Town Engineer | John McKernan |
| Assistant Engineer | Mark Hall |
| Town Foreman | Pat Brady |

Net Effective Valuation €7,492

General Rate on Valuation 59.90

Monthly Council Meetings are held on the last Monday of each Month

Housing and Building Programme

Clones Town Council is responsible for the maintenance and letting of all Town Council dwellings. The Council's housing stock consists of 92 rented houses and 6 houses on tenant purchase. In 2012, refurbishment works were carried out to 4 dwellings to improve energy

efficiency under the BER scheme and major re-construction works were carried out on a vacant house at McCurtain Street. Works were also carried out to 1 dwelling under the Mobility Aids Scheme. Radon Testing was also carried out on all of the local authority housing stock.

| Stock of Rented at 31/12/12 | No of Tenant Purchases | Average Rent | Waiting List at 31/12/12 | New Tenancies 2012 |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 92 | 6 | €47.00 | 94 | 4 |

Road Transportation and Safety

The Council continued its policy in 2012 of upgrading roads, footpaths and public lighting in the town. These improvements were carried out with the assistance of a Block Grant totalling €139,000 from the National Roads Authority and a contribution of €10,000 from the Councils own resources.

Improvement works were carried out at the Fermanagh Street Carpark which included new footpaths and the re-location of bring bank facilities. A charge point for electric vehicles was also provided

Development Incentives and Control

6 Planning application were received in year 2012

In accordance with Section 48(14)(b) of the Planning & Development Act 2000, regarding the Development Contributions Scheme, the following is an analysis of Clones Town Council's Capital Contributions for 2012

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Amount Accrued in 2012 | |
| Footpaths & Public Lighting | Nil |
| Recreation & Amenity | Nil |
| Amount Received in 2012 | |
| Footpaths & Public Lighting | Nil |
| Recreation & Amenity | Nil |
| Car Parking | Nil |
| Amount spent in 2012 | |
| Footpaths & Public Lighting | € 3,960.02 |
| Drainage | €16,521.37 |

Environmental Protection

Clones Town Council continued to provide street cleaning services 7 days a week and a part time Litter Warden service. The Council hire a road sweeper from Monaghan Town Council twice per month to assist with the sweeping in the Housing Estates and approach roads to the Town.

Clones Tidy Towns achieved 251 marks in 2012 (an increase of 10 marks over 2011). The council provided funding of €2,000 to the Tidy Town Committee

Clones Forum & the Tidy Towns Committee with assistance from Clones Town Council held a very successful Litter Pick Tea Party on the 24th April 2012. St Tiarnach's Primary School, Gaelscoil Eois, Largy College and the Cairde Activation Group were all involved. Eamon Owens from "The Butcher Boy" officially launched the Clean Up and refreshments and clean up materials were sponsored by Supervalu and Liptons.

Recreation & Amenity

Contributions to Community Groups

Financial contributions and assistance was given by the Council in 2012 to the following organisations – St. Patricks Day Parade, Canal Capers Festival, Irish Water Safety and Largy College (Gaeltacht Scholarship)

Ulster Canal

Funding has been secured by Monaghan County Council under the Interreg IV programme for the development of an Amenity Park adjacent to the proposed marina in the grounds of the existing town park at Cara Street, Clones, the upgrading of catering facilities at the Canal Stores, street refurbishment works in the vicinity of the park and enhancement of existing heritage sites. The amenity park will consist of a new children's playground, adult keep fit equipment, parking and picnic facilities.

Finance

Clones Town Council complied with the material requirements of the Prompt Payment of Accounts Act 1997.

Seminars and Conferences attended by Members in 2012

| Title | Location | Number of Members |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| AMAI Spring Seminar | Hotel Kilmore, Cavan | 2 |
| AMAI Conference | Carlton Hotel, Galway | 2 |

Details of Members Expenses for 2012 are as follows:-

| Councillor | Travel & Subsistence | Annual Meeting Allowance | Cathaoirleach's Allowance | Total | Representational Allowance |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Mulligan | 611.35 | €1977 | 0 | €2,588.35 | €3832.62 |
| Mealiff | 497.43 | €1977 | 0 | €2474.43 | €3832.62 |
| Kelly | 0.00 | €1977 | 0 | €1977.00 | €3832.62 |
| Newell | 0.00 | €1977 | 2,000 | €3,977.00 | €3832.62 |
| Sheerin | 0.00 | €1977 | 0 | €1977.00 | €3832.62 |
| McAleer | 0.00 | €1977 | 2,000 | €3,977.00 | €3832.62 |
| Treanor Also Co Council | 0.00 | €2036 | 0 | €4346.54 | 0 |
| Rooney | 0.00 | €1289 | 0 | 1289 | €3832.62 |
| Quigley | 0.00 | €1473.09 | 0 | €1473.09 | €383.62 |
| Totals | €1,108.78 | €16,660.09 | €4,000 | €21,768.87 | €30,660.96 |

Ballybay Town Council



Administrative Headquarters: c/o Community & Enterprise Office
Monaghan County Council, Glen Rd, Monaghan.

Telephone Number 047 73720
Fax Number 047 82739
Email: tmcguirk@monaghancoco.ie

Mayor: Cllr Elizabeth Duffy FG
Deputy Mayor: Cllr Gerard Traynor FF

Members:

Carragher, Paul FG
Duffy, Elizabeth FG
Duffy, Gene SF
Gilmour, Michael FG
Hamilton, Therese FF
McGinnity, Mary FG
O’Friel, Cathal FF
Smyth, Michael FF
Traynor, Gerry FF

Town Manager: Mr John Murray
Town Engineer: Mr Declan McKernan
Town Clerk: Mrs Teresa McGuirk

Monthly Town Council meetings were held on the second Monday of each month (except August) in the Town Council Chamber @ 7pm.



Retention of Town Councils

A meeting of the five town Councils in County Monaghan to discuss the proposed closure of Town Councils was hosted in the Wetlands Centre by Ballybay Town Council. The meeting was well attended by councillors from each of the towns. Mr Tom Ryan, Director of the AMAI and Mr Ted Howlin, President of the AMAI also attended.

140th Anniversary of Ballybay Town Council / Commissioners

Ongoing events were held to mark the 140th Anniversary of Ballybay Town Council / Commissioners including a Schools Art Competition with the theme ‘What’s great about my town’. The Town Mayor, E Duffy along with Councillors G Traynor and M Smyth visited the schools and presented prizes to the winners in each school.

To mark the event students of the 2nd year classes in the Community College collectively wrote a poem as follows:

Ballybay.....Our Town (2nd Years-Community College)

*In Irish it’s the “mouth of the ford of the birches”
 Ballybay is overlooked by its beautiful Churches;
 A town with a history of markets and fairs,
 Linen and horses, ponies and mares.
 In eighteen fifty four its train station did roar’
 Sadly such sounds are not heard any more.
 Buses and cars have replaced the great train
 But the town is still thriving and continues to gain;
 It’s known far and wide for the fun and the craic,
 That’s why people who once visit will always come back.*

*Its people are friendly, of that there's no doubt,
 They'll give you a smile whenever you're about.
 It's twinned with a town in far off Germany
 Those people they came to look and to see.
 They liked what they saw and now they're excited
 The towns are together lose and united.
 So come to Ballybay, our quiet wee town;
 Come for a visit, you won't be let down*

Joint Policing Committee

The Joint Policing Committee continued to meet during the year. Meetings were well attended. Sub Committees continued to work under the themes ‘Traffic + Speeding’ ‘Underage Drinking’ ‘Drugs Awareness’ and dealt with all the issues arising under each theme. Other local policing issues were dealt with as they arose.

Presentation to Christy McQuillan

A highly respected and valued member of Monaghan County Council staff, Mr Christy McQuillan retired in May 2012. Mr McQuillan was renowned for his tireless work in keeping the town streets and the Civic Offices clean and tidy. The members of the Council



made a presentation to Mr McQuillan and were high in their praise of the work undertaken and his dedication to the council over the years. The members wished him well in his retirement.

Clones Road Junction works

Work on the improvement of the Clones Road Junction including the demolition of the building on the junction known as McAviney's and the realignment of the roadway were fully completed.

Town Twinning - 10th Anniversary Visit from Osterhofen Gergweis

Members and friends from our twin town of Osterhofen/Gergweis in Germany visited Ballybay in June 2012.

Seminars & Conferences Attended by Members in 2012

AMAI Annual Spring Seminar – Cavan - Cllr M Gilmour and Cllr G Traynor

AMAI Annual Conference - Ballinasloe – Cllr C O’Friel and Cllr M McGinnity

| Councillor | Travel & Subsistence | Annual Meeting Allowance | Cathaoirleach’s Allowance | Total | Representational Allowance |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Traynor | 421.00 | €1018 | | €1,439.00 | €2281 |
| Gilmore | 265.47 | €1018 | | €1283.47 | €2281 |
| McGinnity | 471.86 | €1018 | | €1489.86 | €2281 |
| O’Friel | 511.44 | €1018 | | €1529.44 | €2281 |
| Duffy | 0 | €1018 | | €1018.00 | €2281 |
| Hamilton | 0 | €1018 | | €1018.00 | €2281 |
| Smyth | 0 | €1018 | | €1018.00 | €2281 |
| Carragher | 0 | €1018 | | €1018.00 | €2281 |
| Duffy | 0 | €1018 | 280 | €1,298.00 | €2281 |
| | | | | | |
| Totals | €1,669.77 | €162 | | €1,111.77 | €20,509 |

Financial Statement 2012

Athchomairé ar Caiteachais, Ioncaim agus Fuilligh Summary of Expenditure, Income and Balances

The activities of the Council, on both Capital and Revenue, in 2012 accounted for a turnover of in excess of €75 million.

The Capital Account expenditure of €17,769,140 reflects the investment by the Council in improving the infrastructure in the County. The major areas of activity were Housing Construction, Roads and Water Services.

Capital Account

| Activity by Programme Group | 2012 Expenditure | 2012 Income | 2012 Net cost |
|---|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Housing & Building | 3,774,317 | 3,873,963 | 99,646 |
| Roads Transportation & Safety | 8,317,514 | 8,873,010 | 555,496 |
| Water Services | 2,774,330 | 846,919 | (1,927,411) |
| Development Management | 1,286,024 | 994,266 | (291,758) |
| Environmental Services | 61,225 | 199,800 | 138,575 |
| Recreation & Amenity | 1,263,341 | 1,258,866 | (4,475) |
| Miscellaneous Services | 292,389 | 376,400 | 84,011 |
| Total Expenditure / Income | 17,769,140 | 16,423,224 | (1,345,916) |
| | 2011 | 2012 | |
| Balance (Debit) / Credit January 1 | 694,415 | 2,715,721 | |
| Expenditure | 23,337,303 | 17,769,140 | |
| Income | 24,193,403 | 16,423,224 | |
| Transfers to Revenue | (72,569) | (239,643) | |
| Net Transfers from Revenue Account | 1,237,775 | 570,094 | |
| Balance (Debit) / Credit December 31 | 2,715,721 | 1,700,256 | |

Revenue Account

| Activity by Division | 2012 Expenditure | 2012 Income | 2012 Net cost |
|----------------------|---------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Housing & Building | 6,643,365 | 5,869,426 | (773,939) |

| | | | |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Roads Transportation & Safety | 16,310,494 | 11,663,203 | (4,647,291) |
| Water Services | 10,337,108 | 7,794,951 | (2,542,157) |
| Development Management | 5,189,788 | 2,409,273 | (2,780,515) |
| Environmental Services | 6,492,251 | 3,020,760 | (3,471,491) |
| Recreation & Amenity | 2,925,473 | 221,295 | (2,704,178) |
| Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare | 3,042,636 | 2,987,479 | (55,157) |
| Miscellaneous Services | 7,043,889 | 3,961,361 | (3,082,528) |
| Total Expenditure / Income | 57,985,004 | 37,927,748 | (20,057,256) |

Net Cost of Programmes to be funded from County Rates and Local Government Fund (20,057,256)

€

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Rates | 6,488,793 |
| Local Government Fund | 11,366,792 |
| County Charge | 2,096,565 |
| Pension Related Deduction | 1,056,832 |
| Surplus / (Deficit) for Year | 951,726 |
| Transfer to Reserves | (812,945) |
| Balance (Debit) / Credit @ 1st January | (79,085) |
| Balance (Debit) / Credit @ 31st December | 59,696 |

Revenue Account

Income and Expenditure Account 2012

Income

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|-------|
| State Grants and Subsidies | 22,005,838 | 37.3% |
| Contributions from other Local Auths. | 5,218,144 | 8.9% |
| Goods and Services | 10,703,766 | 18.2% |
| Local Government Fund | 11,366,792 | 19.3% |
| Pension Related Deduction | 1,056,832 | 1.8% |
| Rates | 6,488,793 | 11.0% |
| County Charge | 2,096,565 | 3.6% |

| | | |
|--|-------------------|---------------|
| Total Income | 58,936,730 | 100.0% |
| Expenditure | | |
| Payroll Expenses | 25,144,227 | 43.4% |
| Operational Expenses | 26,738,237 | 46.1% |
| Administration Expenses | 2,089,101 | 3.6% |
| Establishment Expenses | 1,308,523 | 2.3% |
| Financial Expenses | 2,090,824 | 3.6% |
| Miscellaneous | 614,092 | 1.1% |
| Total Expenditure | 57,985,004 | 100.0% |
| Surplus for Year before Transfers | 951,726 | |
| Transfers to Reserves | (812,945) | |
| Overall Deficit for Year | 138,781 | |
| General Reserve at 1st January | (79,085) | |
| General Reserve at 31st December | 59,696 | |

Appendix 1

Monaghan County Council

Service Indicators

H: Housing

H.1 Housing Vacancies

| | |
|--|--------|
| H.1.(a) Total no of dwellings in local authority stock | 1398 |
| H.1.(b) Total number of dwellings excluding those subject to major refurbishment project | 1366 |
| H.1.(c) Overall % of dwellings that are empty (excluding major refurbishment) | 2.16% |
| H.1.(d) % of empty dwellings unavailable for letting | 78.81% |
| H.1.(e) % of empty dwellings available for letting | 21.19% |

H.2 Average time taken to re-let dwellings available for letting 19.51 weeks

H.3 No of repairs completed as a % of the no. of valid repair requests recd 88.45%

H.4 Total number of traveller families accommodated as a % of the targets 57.14%

H.5 Enforcement of Standards in the private rented sector

| | |
|---|--------|
| A. Total number of registered tenancies | 1215 |
| B. Number of dwelling units inspected | 265 |
| C. Number of inspections carried out | 274 |
| D. Number of dwellings inspected as a % of registered tenancies | 21.81% |

H.6 Grants to adapt housing for the needs of people with a disability

| | |
|---|---------|
| A. Average time in weeks to process applications under the Mobility Aids Grant Scheme | 4 weeks |
| B Average time in weeks to process applications under the Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability | 4 weeks |

H7 Pre tenancy Familiarisation courses

| | |
|--|--------|
| A. Total number of new local authority tenants | 104 |
| B. percentage of new local authority tenants who have been offered pre-Tenancy familiarisation courses | 97.12% |

Rev.1 House Rent

(a) Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due 93.36%

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| (i) up to 4 weeks old | 13.86% |
| (ii) 4 – 6 weeks old | 7.78% |
| (iii) 6 - 12 weeks old | 10.14% |
| (iv) more than 12 weeks old | 68.22% |

Rev.2 Housing Loans

(a) Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due 79.50%

(b) Percentage of arrears:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| (i) that are up to one month old | 17.87% |
| (ii) that are 1 - 2 months old | 3.97% |
| (iii) that are 2 – 3 months old | 2.72% |
| (iv) that are more than 3 months old | 75.44% |

Rev.3 Commercial Rates

(a) Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due 63.46%

Rev.4 Refuse Charges

(a) % of houses which are in arrears with refuse charges n/a

Rev.5 Non-Domestic Water Charges 66.23%

R : Roads

R.1: Local + Regional roads surface improved and maintained 149 (kms)

Local and Regional roads constructed under specific improvements grants scheme 3 (kms)

M: Motor Taxation

M.1 Number of Motor Tax Transactions

| | |
|--|-------|
| A. Number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with over the counter | 44227 |
| B. Number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with by post | 7826 |
| C. Number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with in other ways(e.g. online, by telephone) | 18777 |
| D. Percentage of motor tax transactions which are dealt with over the counter | 62.44 |
| E. Percentage of motor tax transactions which are dealt with by post | 11.05 |
| F. Percentage of motor tax transactions which are dealt with in other ways (e.g. online, by telephone) | 26.51 |

M.2 Time Taken to Process Motor Tax Postal Applications

| | |
|---|-------|
| A. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the same day as receipt of the application | 7164 |
| B. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the second or third day from receipt of the application | 600 |
| C. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application | 9 |
| D. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) in over five days from receipt of the application | 53 |
| E. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the same day as receipt of the application | 91.54 |
| F. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the second or third day from receipt of the application | 7.67 |
| G. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application | 0.12 |
| H. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) in over five days from receipt of the application | 0.68 |

M.3 Time Taken to Process Driving Licence Applications

| | |
|---|-------|
| A. Number of Driving Licence applications which are dealt with on the same day as receipt of the application | 2852 |
| B. Number of Driving Licence applications which are dealt with on the second or third day from receipt of the application | 5479 |
| C. Number of Driving Licence applications which are dealt with on the Fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application | 25 |
| D. Number of Driving Licence applications which are dealt with in over five days from receipt of the application | 48 |
| E. Percentage of overall driving Licence applications which are dealt with on the same day as receipt of the application | 33.94 |
| F. Percentage of overall driving Licence applications which are dealt with on the second or third day from receipt of the application | 65.2 |
| G. Percentage of overall driving Licence applications which are dealt with on the fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application | 0.3 |
| H. Percentage of overall driving Licence applications which are dealt with in over five days from receipt of the application | 0.57 |

M.4 Public opening hours

Average number of opening hours per week 26

E: Environmental Services

| | |
|--|--------|
| E1: Unaccounted for water (UFW) as % of total volume of water supplied | 34.89% |
| E.2 Drinking water analysis | 0 |
| E.2 (a) With regard to Public Schemes | 0 |
| E.2 (b) With regard to Private Schemes (where appropriate) | 0 |

E.3 Waste Segregation

| | |
|--|---|
| A. Percentage of households who receive a waste collection service and are provided with segregated waste collection for dry recyclables | 0 |
| B. Percentage of households who receive a waste collection service and are provided with segregated waste collection for organics | 0 |

E4: Housing Waste Sent for Recycling

| | |
|---|---------|
| A. Percentage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling | |
| B. Tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling | |
| C. Tonnage of household waste recycled, which arises from waste collected from recycling facilities (i.e. bring banks, civic amenity centres, transfer stations and other recycling facilities) | 9362.77 |

E5: Household Waste Sent for Landfill

| | |
|--|---|
| A. The percentage of household waste collected which is sent to landfill | 0 |
| B. The tonnage of household waste collected which is sent to landfill | 0 |

E6: Recycling Facilities

| | |
|--|------|
| Glass | |
| A. The number of Bring Sites for recycling | 28 |
| B. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling | 2 |
| C. The total number of facilities for recycling | 30 |
| D. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population | 2.48 |

Cans

| | |
|--|------|
| E. The number of Bring Sites for recycling | 28 |
| F. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling | 2 |
| G. The total number of facilities for recycling | 30 |
| H. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population | 2.48 |

Textiles

| | |
|--|------|
| I. The number of Bring Sites for recycling | 25 |
| J. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling | 2 |
| K. The total number of facilities for recycling | 27 |
| L. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population | 2.23 |

Batteries

| | |
|--|------|
| M. The number of Bring Sites for recycling | 0 |
| N. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling | 2 |
| O. The total number of facilities for recycling | 2 |
| P. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population | 0.17 |

Oils

| | |
|--|------|
| Q. The number of Bring Sites for recycling | 0 |
| R. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling | 2 |
| S. The total number of facilities for recycling | 2 |
| T. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population | 0.17 |

Other materials

| | |
|--|------|
| U. The number of Bring Sites for recycling | 0 |
| V. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling | 2 |
| W. The total number of facilities for recycling | 2 |
| X. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population | 0.17 |

E: 7 Litter

| | |
|---|-----|
| No. of Full-time Litter wardens | 1 |
| No. of Part-time Litter wardens | 8 |
| No. of Litter wardens(both full+part-time) per 5000 population | 9 |
| No. of on-the spot fines issued | 138 |
| No. of on the spot fines paid | 57 |
| No. of prosecutions taken due to non-payment of on-the spot fines | 4 |
| No. of prosecutions secured | 6 |

| | |
|--|---|
| % of areas in county that are litter free | 0 |
| % of areas in county that are slightly polluted with litter | 0 |
| % of areas in county that are moderately polluted with litter | 0 |
| % of areas in county that are significantly polluted with litter | 0 |
| % of areas in county that are grossly polluted with litter | 0 |
| *Note figures entered at national level | |

E.8 Environmental Complaints and Enforcement

| | |
|---|-----|
| No. of cases subject to complaints concerning environmental pollution | 539 |
| No. of complaints investigated | 539 |
| No. of complaints resolved where no further action necessary | 529 |
| No. of enforcement procedures taken | 0 |

E.9 Percentage of schools participating in environmental campaigns

| | |
|---|--------|
| % of Primary schools in area participating in environmental campaigns | 78.79% |
| % of Secondary schools in area participating in environmental campaigns | 83.33% |

F. Fire Service

F.1 Mobilisation of Brigade

Average time taken in minutes to mobilise fire brigades in

| | |
|---|--|
| (i) Full time stations (fire incidents) | |
|---|--|

| | | |
|------|--|-----------|
| (ii) | Part time stations (fire incidents) | 6.93 min |
| (i) | Full time stations (other emergency incidents) | |
| (ii) | Part time stations (other emergency incidents) | 7.04 mins |

F.2 Percentage of attendances at fire scenes where

| | | |
|-----|--|--------|
| (a) | First attendance is at fire scene within 10 minutes | 21.97% |
| (b) | First attendance is at fire scene after 10 but within 20 minutes | 66.82% |
| (c) | First attendance is at fire scene after 20 minutes | 11.21% |
| (d) | First attendance is at scene (other incidents) within 10 mins | 16.68% |
| (e) | First attendance is at scene (other incidents) after 10 mins but within 20 minutes | 66.67% |
| (f) | First attendance is at scene (other incidents) after 20 mins | 16.67% |

F.3 Fire Prevention

| | | |
|---------|---|-----|
| E.5 (a) | Total no. of fire safety certificate applications received | 104 |
| E.5 (b) | Total no. of fire safety certificate applications processed | 83 |

P. Planning & Building Control

P.1 - Planning applications - see separate sheet

P.2 Planning Enforcement

| | | |
|---|--|----|
| P.2 (a) | | |
| (i) | No. of cases subject to complaints | 96 |
| (ii) | No. of cases dismissed | 17 |
| (iii) | Total no. of cases subject of complaints that were resolved through negotiations | 49 |
| P.2 No of enforcement procedures | | |
| (b) | Taken via warning letters | 80 |
| (c) | Taken via enforcement notices | 23 |
| (d) | No. of prosecutions | 1 |

P.3 Public Opening Hours

Average. no. opening hours per week 35

| | | |
|--|--|--------|
| P.4 Pre-planning consultation | | |
| Number of preplanning consultation meetings held | | 490 |
| Average. Length of time from request to actual formal meeting with planner | | 2 days |

P.5 Bldgs inspected as a % of new buildings notified 16.15%

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|----|
| P.6 Taking Estates in Charge | | |
| A. | No. of Residential Estates where p.p. is required& request on hand | 17 |
| B. | Number of estates taken in Charge in 2011 | 5 |

| | |
|---|------|
| C. Number of dwellings in respect of B above | 87 |
| D. % of estates in Col (A) not completed in line with planning permission | 100% |
| E. No. of estates in Col (D) where enforcement action taken or bond called in | 1 |
| F. No. of estates in Col (D) where works undertaken by LA to bring estate to standard | 0 |

C: Corporate Affairs

| | |
|--|-------|
| C.1 % of working days lost to sickness absence through | |
| C.1 (a) % Certified leave | 6.35% |
| C.1 (b) % Uncertified leave | 0.30% |

C.2 Expenditure on Training + Development as a % of total payroll costs 4.38%

L: Library Services

| | |
|--|-----|
| L.1 Public Opening Hours | |
| A. Average number of opening hours per week for full-time libraries | 36 |
| B. Average number of opening hours per week for part-time libraries (where applicable) | 20 |
| C. Percentage of full time libraries that have lunchtime openings | 100 |
| D. Percentage of full time libraries that have evening opening | 100 |
| E. Percentage of full time libraries that have Saturday openings | 50 |

L.2 No. of visits to libraries per 1,000 population 169950

| | |
|---|---------|
| L.3 No. of items issued per head of population (county / city wide) for: | |
| (a) Annual expenditure on stock | €67,500 |
| (b) Books | 230,161 |
| (c) Other items | 41,023 |

L.4 Number of Internet sessions provided per 1,000 population 33,059

R: Recreational Services

| | |
|---|----|
| Rec 1: No. of children's playgrounds per 1,000 of population | |
| (a) Directly provided by the local authority | 31 |
| (b) Facilitated by the local authority | 3 |

Rec 2: No of visitors 64,894

Community Participation & Co-operation - Your Local Authority

| | |
|---|--------|
| CP 1: % of local schools involved in the Local Youth Council/Comhairle na n-Og scheme | 68.42% |
| CP:2 No. Groups registered with Community & Voluntary forum | 374 |

Planning and Building Control

P.1: Planning Applications- Decision Making – 2012

| Category | Column A No. Of Applications decided | Column B No. of decisions in Col. A which were decided within 8 weeks | Column C No of decisions in Col. A which required the submission of further information | Column D No of decisions in Col. A where ext. of time was agreed to by applicant under S. 34(9) P & D act 2000 | Column E Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an appl. where where further info. was sought | Column F % of grants | Column G % of refusals | Column H % of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala | Column I % of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala |
|-------------------------|---|---|--|--|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---|
| Individual Houses | 121 | 51 | 69 | 1 | 49 | 95.04% | 4.96 | 50% | 50% |
| Housing Devel. | 5 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 79 | 80% | 20% | 0% | 0% |
| <i>Other:</i> | | | | | | | | | |
| Not requiring EIA | 255 | 154 | 76 | 4 | 88 | 92.55% | 5.49% | 100% | 0% |
| <i>Other:</i> | | | | | | | | | |
| Requiring EIA | 11 | 5 | 6 | 0 | 88 | 90.90% | 9.09% | 100% | 0% |