## Monaghan County Council Newsletter



# Monaghan Matters



Happy Christmas
& Best Wishes for 2019 from

Monaghan County Council

Eamonn O'Sullivan
Chief Executive
Monaghan County Council

Cllr. David Maxwell
Cathaoirleach
Monaghan County Council

Nollaig Shona le, Dea-ghuí i 2019,

ó Comhairle Chontae Mhuineacháin

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## **Corporate Services**

We celebrate award winners & nominees, look back at the successful Project Children Screening, civic receptions & the move to paperless meetings.

#### Housing

In this edition there is a focus on social housing projects already delivered and also those currently underway & in the pipeline from Monaghan County Council.

#### **Roads**

The Roads Section
offers us some 'Winter
Ready Advice', an
update on the
Machinery Yard,
National Roads
Projects and the Local
Improvement Scheme.

## Municipal Districts

After the BallybayClones MD Offices
official opening, there
was a surprise visitor.
There was success in
the National Enterprise
Town Awards &
Monaghan Town
Vouchers surpass €1
million in sales.

## **CORPORATE SERVICES**

#### 2018 Excellence in Local Government Awards

The Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards ceremony took place on Thursday 22nd November 2018 in the Crowne Plaza, Santry. The 15th Annual Awards ceremony was held in association with the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government. The Awards showcased & celebrated the best of Local Government in Ireland. Monaghan County Council were delighted to take home awards under two categories, namely the Disability Services Provision category with our 'Everybody Plays – Inclusive Playground Policy & under the Joint Local Authority Initiative category with www.repairmystuff.ie, Ireland's Leading online Repair Directory.

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr David Maxwell accepted the awards on behalf of Monaghan County Council & acknowledged the commitment & dedication of all staff in the delivery of services for the people.





(Pictured (L-R) Ian Talbot (Chief Executive of Chambers Ireland), Bernie Bradley (MCC), Padraig Slyne (EirGrid), Cllr. David Maxwell, (Cathaoirleach, MCC), Kevin McNally (MCC) and John Paul Phelan TD (Minister of State for Local Government and Electoral Reform).



(Pictured (L-R) Ian Talbot (Chief Executive of Chambers Ireland), Dympna Condra, (MCC), Zurich Insurnce representative, Cllr. David Maxwell, (Cathaoirleach, MCC), and John Paul McEntee (MCC).

#### **Everybody Plays-Inclusive Playground Policy**

To date the design & development of playgrounds in the county incorporated the needs of children with disabilities through the provision of specialised equipment in a dedicated area of a playground. This approach has created further exclusion for children with disabilities & that made it harder for them to join in free play with their families & friends. Following an in-depth public consultation, Monaghan County Council developed an inclusive playground policy that recognises inclusive play as meeting all children's needs in the same place & in a variety of different ways. Inclusive play is essential for the future of playground design in the country to ensure all the children have access to outdoor play opportunities. This has been a hugely successful initiative that will make a significant impact on the lives of children with a disability & their families.

#### www.repairmystuff.ie

Environmental Services were delighted to learn that one of their initiatives, delivered as part of the Connaught Ulster Regional Waste Management Plan, won the award in the Joint Local Authority Initiative at the 2018 Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards.

www.repairmystuff.ie was delivered by Monaghan County Council with funding from the EPA through the Local Authority Waste Prevention Network. The website aims to support & enhance the repair industry in Ireland by providing them with an online search portal.

In the Autumn, Chambers Ireland unveiled the shortlist for the 2018 Excellence in Local Government Awards, which featured a total of 21 local authorities shortlisted over 16 categories. Monaghan Co. Co. were delighted to be shortlisted in 10 Award categories in total, the other nominated projects were;

- -Know ME not the Stereotype (Supporting Active Communities)
- -Monaghan Comhairle na nÓg (Health & Wellbeing)
- -Refurbishment of the Carrickmacross Market House Building (Supporting Tourism)
- -Monaghan Town Voucher (Promoting Economic Development)
- -Community Property Marking Scheme (Local Authority Innovation)
- -The Derryvalley Catchment Project (Sustainable Environment)
- -DRUM Portrait of a Village (Sustaining the Arts)
- -Redevelopment of Ballybay Town Park (Outstanding initiative through the Municipal Districts)





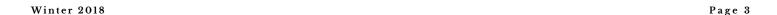




KNOW ME







## CORPORATE SERVICES

Peace Link Among 9 Irish Projects Shortlisted for European Innovation in Politics Awards

Over 600 projects from all over Europe were nominated in eight categories. The European Jury selected 10 finalists in each category. Peace Link – Building Relations through Sport was shortlisted in the 'Quality of Life' Category.

The Peace Link Project was developed by the Clones Erne East Sports Partnership which was a consortium of community, sporting & statutory organisations based along the Fermanagh & Monaghan border region. This initiative was built on previous work carried out by Clones Community Forum under EU PEACE I & PEACE II in bringing community & sporting organisations together to work strategically & collaboratively to build peace through the mechanism of sport. The project aimed to provide a sporting hub from which activities & events could be delivered that would positively impact meaningful relationships & peace building across the Clones & Erne East areas in counties Monaghan & Fermanagh respectively. The sporting hub is located within walking distance of Clones town centre & is approximately 500m from the border between Northern Ireland & the Republic of Ireland. Monaghan County Council assumed the role as lead partner for a €7.8-million application to the EU PEACE III Shared Spaces Programme. The project received cross-party support in both jurisdictions. Opened in 2014, the project surpasses all expectations in terms of building community relations through sport & is a hub for building a healthy, vibrant community for all ages & backgrounds.





#### Project Children

The award-winning film "How to Defuse A Bomb: the Project Children Story", written & directed by Des Henderson & narrated by Liam Neeson, received four premier screenings in Monaghan Town's Garage Theatre on 14th & 15th November 2018. The screenings, hosted by Monaghan County Council, were attended by second level school children from north & south of the Border, invited guests & members of the general public.

The film tells the story of how an idea by an Irish-born New York cop to give some of the children growing up in the traumatising atmosphere of the Northern Ireland Troubles in the 1970s "a summer of peace" expanded into a vision that helped inspire the Peace Process itself.



















#### Civic Receptions

Monaghan County Council hosted two Civic Receptions in November in recognition of outstanding achievements by the Glaslough Tidy Towns Committee & by Handball World Champions; Eoghan McGinnity, Sean Callan & Kyle Jordan.

Pictured below are Handball World Champions Eoghan McGinnity, Sean Callan & Kyle Jordan, who were honoured by the members of Monaghan County Council on the 5th of November 2018. The young men were celebrated for their triumphs at the 2018 World Handball Championships in Minnesota at a civic reception hosted in the County Council's Chamber.



Pictured (bottom right) are members of the Glaslough Tidy Towns Committee being honoured by the members of Monaghan County

Council at the civic reception on the 9th of November 2018 in the Oakland Centre, Glaslough on the achievement of being awarded Ireland's Tidiest Village 2018 & on finishing second overall in the National Tidy Towns Awards.

Winter 2018



## Monaghan County Council to go paperless at saving of over €5,000 per year

Monaghan County Council meetings have now gone paperless, with the online circulation of agendas taking place. It's estimated the move to the Minutepad Programme will save the local authority €5,000 a year in creating hard copy documents. Minutepad was piloted by the five members of the Council's Corporate Policy Group on a six month trial.

It was then recommended the system be rolled out to councillors. The programme was introduced to the local representatives at a cost of around €18,000 over two years. As part of the introduction of the programme, councillors were supplied with an iPad, which will be returned the Council should a member resign or not be re-elected to the chamber.

Members were trained to use the programme at a cost of over €1425. In addition to the Council documents, councillors are also able to access emails & other systems via the tablet computers. The Council says as well as the direct cost savings of printing & postage, the new system saves time spent creating & distributing meeting packs, as well as creating minutes & handling queries. It will allow staff to focus on other duties & projects.

A number of councillors have said how this new system saves the need for keeping documents, & carrying multiple folders to meetings, a council spokesperson says feedback has been positive.



## CORPORATE ASSETS AND ENERGY

#### Maintenance Logging Form

Corporate Assets is a relatively new section within Monaghan County Council & as such is constantly changing & evolving to its new role. The main roles within the remit of Corporate Assets are the monitoring of maintenance for Council owned buildings & the recording of the Council's property portfolio.

In order to better record & monitor maintenance within Glen HQ, a new form has been devised for staff to record any maintenance issues (available on the Intranet or at the link here:

http://monaghan-mossl/Maintenance/Forms/AllItems.aspx).

Once you have your maintenance issue recorded, just email the form directly to maintenance@monaghancoco.ie & the issue is recorded, prioritised & dealt with. This not only helps us record any ongoing issues but helps us plan ahead for future maintenance.

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EMAIL	DIRECTLY TO n	naintena	nce@moni	whancoco.ie	
Name of Complainant					
Department					
Nature and area of Comp	plaint				
Date Reported  Office Use Only Priority High I	3 Medium	п	tow D	Complaint No.	

#### Property Interest Register (PIR)

Corporate Assets has recently installed a new Property Interest Register (PIR) under the format of M.App Enterprise. This register will record all of Monaghan County Council's property & land assets, giving one overall database available to staff. We held a demonstration of this PIR to appointed staff in each section on 12th December 2018. Once all final modifications & tweaks have been made to suit our requirements, it is hoped to roll out this system in Ql 2019.

This will be the first time Monaghan County Council's property will be registered in one system & it is hoped that this will be an invaluable asset to Monaghan County Council as a whole.



#### **Better Energy Community Grants**

The Corporate Assets Energy Section availed of the Better Energy Community Grants again in 2018. These works will help us reach our energy reduction target of 33% by 2020, & this grant has been offered to various sections throughout the Council over the last three years. Works under this scheme included LED lighting upgrade to Monaghan & Clones Fire Stations, Clones & Monaghan Library & Gortakeegan Halting Site, new windows & boiler for Monaghan Library, new boilers for both Glen HQ & Monaghan Museum & the installation of PV panels in the Landfill & Monaghan Fire Station, among other works. Thanks to all those departments who have taken the opportunity to reduce their energy usage & help us on our way to reaching our target.



# Refurbishment of Monaghan Town Hall Monaghan County Council are pleased to announce the signing of a contract with Demac Construction Ltd. on the 20th of November 2018, for the reposition &

November 2018, for the renovation & refurbishment of Monaghan Town Hall (former Monaghan Town Council Offices) on Dublin Street, Monaghan.

The contract value is just over €1.1m, construction works started mid-November 2018 & the anticipated completion of the works is scheduled for October 2019.

The refurbished building will be occupied by Monaghan County Council's Planning Department upon completion & will provide meeting rooms & office space for in excess of 20 staff members.



#### Office Accommodation Committee During 2018 our department also put together an Office Accommodation

together an Office Accommodation Committee to discuss the possibility of building a new council headquarters.

It comprises of members of staff from Corporate Assets, Corporate Services, IT, Finance, Water, Environment, Planning and eight Councillors, & currently is tasked with looking at suitable sites for new offices.

Many factors need to be taken into consideration, but it is hoped that if approval can be sought, & once a suitable

site is agreed upon, we can then proceed to tender for a Design Tean to draw up suitable plans.



#### Monaghan Peace Campus Funding Application Successful

Monaghan County Council is delighted to announce that it has been successful in its application for Peace IV funding from the Special EU Programmes Body to deliver the ambitious Peace Campus project.

This €14.3 million project will provide, under one roof, a youth facility delivering recreational, social support and training opportunities for young people, community space for services for the whole community, a cultural heritage centre promoting shared history, and a new town library providing space and opportunities for engagement, interaction and learning.

For full information see: https://monaghan.ie/monaghan-peace-campusfunding-application-successful/



## **PLANNING**

#### Monaghan County Council's Dublin Street Regeneration Plan picks up Prestigious National Award

Over 1,000 of Ireland's leading property professionals turned out at the Convention Centre, Dublin on Thursday 8th November last for the KPMG Irish Independent Property Industry Excellence Awards.

Monaghan County Council beat off strong competition from the other shortlisted nominees of Cork County Council, Cosgrave Developments, Cairn Plc & JNP Architects to win the Excellence in Planning Award.

The awards are endorsed by all relevant professional institutes, representative bodies & State agencies, namely Engineers Ireland, the Irish Planning Institute, Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland, Society of Chartered Surveyors, Construction Industry Federation, Institute of Professional Auctioneers & Valuers, Industrial Development Authority, Dublin Institute of Technology, Office of Public Works & Enterprise Ireland.



#### **Built Heritage**

Monaghan County Council's Planning Section administer two annual heritage grant schemes – Structures at Risk Fund (SRF) & the Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS).









**Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS)** 

The BHIS encourages the investment of private capital in a number of small scale, labour intensive projects to repair & conserve historic structures.

In 2018 five projects received funding under the BHIS, including:

- St. Peter's Tin Church, Laragh (Pictured Top left)
- Christs Church, Aughnamullen (Pictured Bottom left)
- Glaslough Railway Station (Pictured Top Right)
- Creighton Hotel, Clones
- Catholic Church, St. Davnet's, Monaghan

Structures at Risk Fund (SRF)

The SRF is intended to assist with works to safeguard protected structures into the future where, an urgent need has been demonstrated.

This year two projects were successful in obtaining funding under the SRF, including:

- Hilton Park, Clones
- St. Patrick's Church of Ireland, Ardragh (Pictured Bottom Right)

## **HOUSING**

#### Social Housing projects delivered by Monaghan County Council under Rebuilding Ireland

12 New Social Houses have been completed at Drumbear Wood, Monaghan. This project was delivered to Monaghan County Council by the developers Deancastle.



22 New Social Houses constructed at Knockroe Glen, Monaghan. This project was delivered to Monaghan County Council by developers Wonderglade.



38 Unfinished houses completed at Lock Na Glack, Carrickmacross. These houses are being delivered to Monaghan County Council through North & East Housing Association.



5 Long Term Vacant Social Houses completed at Castleblayney by Monaghan County Council's Framework Contractor Solar Direct.





Social Housing projects currently underway by Monaghan County Council under Rebuilding Ireland

8 New Houses at Bree, Castleblayney. The works contractor Doohamlet Construction are currently on site and are programmed to deliver these new houses to Monaghan County Council in Quarter 2 of 2019.



16 unfinished Houses being completed at Latlorcan, Monaghan. These houses will be delivered to Monaghan County Council by Q1 2019 by the works contractor PJ Treacy & Sons Ltd.



50 New Houses @ Kingswood, Kingscourt Road, Carrickmacross. These houses are being delivered to Monaghan County Council through Respond Housing Association.



Pictured to the right is one of 6 houses that are being brought into use in an Unfinished Housing Development at Liseggerton.

There is another project proposed for the same site at Liseggerton that will have 16 additional single storey social houses to be provided in partnership with Oaklee Housing for older people & people with disabilities.



## **HOUSING**

#### Social Housing projects in the pipeline by Monaghan County Council under Rebuilding Ireland

Monaghan County Council are committed to dealing with dereliction in the towns & villages of the county.

10 properties, that have been derelict for up to 15 years have been acquired initially to address this problem. Funding has been provided by the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government under the Rebuilding Ireland Initiative.

The redevelopment of these units will provide 19 new apartments & 2 new town houses.

The images below show the current condition of the Old Boyles Sports building, and an architectural rendering of how it will look once work is completed.







#### Bothar Na Mullen: Scotstown

Monaghan County Council have received Stage 1 Funding Approval from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government to prepare proposals for completion of four derelict unfinished houses (pictured below) & construct up to 27 additional new houses on a Derelict Site in Scotstown.





## **TOURISM**

#### Carrickmacross Market House Official Opening – 26th November 2018

The Market House Building in Carrickmacross has been sensitively restored & 2 units have been developed. These are occupied by The Carrickmacross Lace Gallery & by Collective@Market Square – a new craft shop which stocks art & craft works from local crafters.

The overall aim of the project was to establish a craft hub in the centre of

Carrickmacross & to be a visitor attraction for the county which would provide a 'Reason to Visit' & become a key destination under the Ireland's Ancient East brand. The project had a number of objectives, namely:

- Assist a community-run enterprise (the Carrickmacross Lace-Co-op) to expand their activities & to safe-guard the lace-making tradition in Carrickmacross.
- Build on the 'Made in Monaghan' Pop-Up shop initiative & establish a permanent platform for the sale of locally made art and crafts.
- Increase footfall & attract new visitors to the area by providing a range of exciting events, workshops, displays & exhibitions.
- Provide a new lease of life for an historic building in the town centre.

Monaghan Co. Co. has recently been awarded €200,000 funding for a major tourism initiative in Carrickmacross under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2018 & one of the elements is to develop the wings of the Market House building into artisan studios.

The official opening of the Carrickmacross Market House took place on 26 November. The project was shortlisted in the Chambers Ireland - Excellence in Local Government Awards – under best Tourism Initiative category.



Work has commenced on the playpark in Rossmore Forest Park. It is estimated that it will take 21 weeks to complete. The second sculpture in the Giants Trail will be located in the playpark & liaison is on-going with the sculptors who have commenced work (off-site).

A major funding application for further developments was submitted under the Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Fund (Measure 3) & this has been successful with €421,000 funding awarded for these works.

These include the following:

- Upgrading works to the access road & car park
- Interpretation at key heritage sites in the park
- Two new pedestrian footbridges
- Public art features & a new wildflower garden
- Materials for 3 giant sculptures
- Improvements to the Main Entrance to the park





South Lodge Angling Stretch, Lough Muckno Development works at this site are progressing well & it is anticipated that they will be completed soon.

A meeting was held in early November with the European Police Angling Championships Committee who have confirmed that the 2019 Championship will be held on Lough Muckno.



IS

#### Monaghan County Council: improves IT performance

Monaghan Co. Co. had an ageing IT infrastructure which no longer addressed its needs. It had become too expensive & complex to administer or expand, so was unable to meet recovery point (RPO) & recovery time (RTO) objectives. As a result, the council began looking for a more modern infrastructure that was affordable, efficient, reliable & easily manageable. It was crucial for them that the new system would reduce IT costs while enabling IT staff to maintain the high levels of service expected by the council's business users.

#### HPE SimpliVity saves time & money

After a thorough & competitive tender process which evaluated a number of hyperconverged systems, Monaghan Co. Co. converged infrastructure for their next-generation IT implementation. It provided them with the capabilities

they needed to meet their business goals at no additional cost while still, crucially, maintaining the service people expected from them. "The HPE SimpliVity solution costs were significantly less than comparable alternatives, while providing far greater capacity & because it consumes a fraction of the space & power of our legacy platforms, it will be far less expensive to operate over the long run," said Carmel O'Hare, Head of IS.

#### HPE SimpliVity helped Monaghan County Council:

Reduce IT costs innovatively: Monaghan County Council were tasked with cutting IT costs in an innovative way. HPE SimpliVity delivers on those objectives by modernising & streamlining the council's IT solution at a much lower cost than traditional infrastructures.

Maintain high level service:

The new system is centrally managed with existing VMware tools, allowing the council to adapt quickly & seamlessly without sacrificing performance or scalability. This means that end users are provided with the same high level of service as always, with no extra personnel required.

#### Achieve seamless 'data-centre-in-a-box' implementation:

Monaghan County Council was able to schedule the virtual migration on to HPE SimpliVity' while maintaining their existing environment & minimising the impact to the business.

#### Improve application performance:

Monaghan Co. Co. were able to allocate more resources to applications in real time, which resulted in a 70%-80% performance improvement for business users.

#### Game-changing speed & optimisation (Niall O'Donohoe, Managing Director ProC.)

"When the first byte of data gets created, it's already being optimised by using data compression & data de-duplication. For many other products, that's an after-thought." As a result, organisations are seeing tangible business benefits such as:

- \* 90 per cent capacity savings across storage & back-up combined
- \* Under one minute to back up or restore a 1TB VM
- \* 50 per cent plus application performance improvement
- \* 10:1 reduction in physical devices in the data centre.

(Piece above published in Sunday Business Post: Sunday December 2nd 2018)

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## **ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

#### SING Environmental Song Competition 2018

Congratulations to Gaelscoil Ultan who won the SING Environmental Song Competition 2018 organised by Environmental Services.

As part of the prize, Environmental Services organised to record the song and to make a music video, featuring An Coitse Glas. The video was posted on Environmental Services Facebook page & can be viewed below or by visiting: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/MonaghanCoCoEnvironment/videos/195026558065177/">https://www.facebook.com/MonaghanCoCoEnvironment/videos/195026558065177/</a>



#### **Tidy Towns**

This year in the National Tidy Towns Competition, 19 local groups from Co. Monaghan participated out of a national total of 883. Results for Monaghan continue to improve year on year & this year, Glaslough won the title of "Ireland's Tidiest Village" & finished second overall in the National Tidy Towns Awards, one mark behind winners, Listowel, Co. Kerry.

Glaslough also won the regional award for the highest scoring entry in the North-West & West & retained their Gold Medal Award for the 6th year in row. Anne McGhee was highly commended in the Community Heroes section.

Congratulations to the other Monaghan winners; Emyvale who were awarded the Endeavour Award for the most improved town or village in the county, Carrickmacross retained their Gold Medal Award for the 7th year in a row & Monaghan Town retained their Silver Medal Award for the 3rd year in a row. Copy of results can be found at the following link:



https://www.tidytowns.ie/TidyTowns\_Results\_Book\_2018.pdf

#### Have you seen the Clones Murals?

Anyone that has visited Clones recently will have seen some pretty remarkable additions to the town's streetscapes.

The Murals were a result of a project involving Clones Tidy Towns & Monaghan County Council.

The project was captured on video & can be viewed below by pressing the play button or by visiting:

https://www.facebook.com/MonaghanCoCoEnvironment/videos/235739777296717/



#### Christmas Tree Recycling.

As per previous years, real Christmas trees can be dropped off for recycling at either of our Recycling Centres in both Scotch Corner & Carrickmacross. Trees will be accepted up until the end of January 2019. Check out the opening hours of the Recycling Centres on the Monaghan County Council website.



#### Litter Management Plan

The new Litter Management Plan was recently adopted by the elected members and will be available shortly on our website.

The plan covers the entire county & will be in place until 2020.



#### Launch of MyWaste.ie

This new website was launched on 29th November 2018 & it is a definitive online guide to waste management in Ireland. MyWaste.ie includes a searchable map which will help citizens locate waste & recycling facilities such as bring banks, recycling centres and other facilities.



## **ROADS**

## Winter Support for Local Community Groups, Businesses, Schools, Churches & the General Public "Purchase a Salt Bin Scheme"

Monaghan County Council are unable to provide salt directly to the general public. In order to provide help & assistance to Local Community Groups, Schools, Churches & Businesses during the winter period, it operates a "Purchase a Salt Bin Scheme" which allows Local Community Groups & Businesses to prepare themselves for the winter period at a reasonable cost.

It is up to the community group/school/business to source their own salt after the first fill has been used.

Capacity 400Kg. Length 1020mm. Width 610mm Height 1020mm Salt Bins can be purchased under any one of the following options. Option A 1 Bin − Delivery plus one fill of salt €170 (including VAT)

Option B 1 Bin – Delivery only €120 (including VAT)

https://monaghan.ie/roadtransport/salt-bin-scheme/



Monaghan Municipal District received in excess of 63 calls to their offices in relation to request for assistance from the public during Storm Ali.



#### **Get Winter Ready**

Monaghan County Council Roads Section launched their winter maintenance season in October and the designated salting routes can be found online at:

https://monaghan.ie/roadtransport/salting-routes/

The public are advised to:

- Look at the designated Salting Routes & decide best options to ensure access to the main routes for emergency services & essential trips.
- Adapt their driving to the prevailing weather conditions.
- Have a winter service check carried out on their vehicles.
- Consider buying materials, salt &/or winter tyres for winter.
- Consider carpooling or public transport.













#### Winter Driving Advice

#### Plan Ahead

- During cold weather check the Met Éireann weather forecast.
- Register for Monaghan County Council's Map Alerter traffic advisory app.
- Check for the latest Local and National traffic news on NorthernSound and AA Roadwatch
- Visit the TII Website for the latest weather conditions on your route www.tiitrafic.ie/weather & National Road conditions.
- If frost or snow is predicted, plan to leave earlier for your journey or avoid it completely.
- Tyres should have plenty of tread & be correctly inflated. Tyres are a vital component; remember they are the only contact with the road surface.
- If possible, plan a route that avoids steep hills or severe bends.
- In as much as is possible, stick to the Main/treated roads.
- Remember & accept that journey times will be longer during severe cold weather.



#### The Journey

- Make sure your vehicle is "warmed-up" & clear of ice.
- Ensure the wipers & washers are working correctly.
- Keep washer bottle topped up with suitable screen wash. Have de-icers & scraper in your vehicle.
- Remember to drive slowly in a low gear, rather than braking on hills & bends.
- Leave adequate distance between you & the vehicle in front of you.
- Drive with your dipped headlights on. Use fog lights if visibility is severely reduced. But remember to turn them off when visibility improves.

If in doubt, stay at home until conditions improve. Your priority is the safety of you, your passengers and others.





## **ROADS**

#### **Machinery Yard**

The Machinery Yard provides plant hire for all areas of the County Council service areas. In a bid to constantly have good machinery & equipment at the ready the yard has purchased Tipper Trucks, snow ploughs & crewcabs.







#### National Roads Update

#### N2 Monaghan to Emyvale- Phase 2

Work on the realignment of 3.3kms of road between the N2 at Corracrin & Emyvale village is progressing with works at Corracrin school nearing completion. Accommodation works for landowners such as the insertion of a cattle underpass & fencing works have been installed. A road closure on the Glennan road will facilitate the construction of a new junction at this location. Traffic Management will be removed over the Christmas period 22/12/18 to the 6/1/19.

#### **N2** Blackwater Bridge Replacement

Work to replace the existing loading & hydrological capacity of the bridge will commence in January 2019. Construction period will be for duration of 18 months.

#### N2 Ardee to Castleblayney

The project has been listed in Ireland 2040 Planning Framework document to progress planning & design stage for this 32km scheme which stretches from Tullyvin Roundabout in Castleblayney to the N33 Roundabout in Ardee.

#### N2 Clontibret to the Border

The development proposes a new 28km route for the N2 from Clontibret to the border with Northern Ireland at Aughnacloy. Planning & design for the scheme is in progress with the overall construction costs of the project to be in the region of €269 million.

#### N54 Tullybryan-Realignment Scheme

The Part VIII planning application for this road safety scheme was lodged in November. Plans for this scheme comprise of 3.1km of carriageway on the Clones Road, just 0.5 km west of Monaghan town.













#### Local Improvement Scheme (LIS)

Monaghan County Council have opened the LIS (Local Improvement Scheme) to applications from members of the public. The scheme provides funding of up to 90% to support the improvement of eligible non-public roads, with the remaining contribution payable by the residents. The roads can provide access to home & farms, as well as amenities such as lakes & rivers. To qualify, the road must provide access to parcels of land, of which at least two are owned or occupied by different persons engaged in separate agricultural activities or must provide access for harvesting purposes (including turf) for two or more persons. There must be a minimum of one occupied dwelling on the road.

The scheme will remain open for applications until the 31st December 2018. New applicants will be placed on a waiting list & funded as resources allow. Due to the popularity of the scheme, demand is expected to be heavy & applicants should note that it may take some years before all applications made under this call are funded.

Further information & application forms are available on Monaghan County Council's website www.monaghan.ie/roadtransport & in the Municipal District Offices in Carrickmacrosss, Clones & Monaghan. During 2018, 13 lanes were upgraded with the assistance of the first tranche of funding & a subsequent allocation of funding will allow an additional 14 to be completed by the end of 2018.





Irish Road Safety Week took place from 1st to 7th October 2018. Coordinated by the Road Safety Officer in County Monaghan it included; National Tyre Safety Day, National "Beep Beep "day for pre-schools and the official launch of the Co. Monaghan Junior Road Safety Officer Programme with School visits throughout the County.



#### National Slow Down Day

National 'Slow Down' Speed Enforcement Day supported by Monaghan County Council & Monaghan Fire & Civil Protection took place from 19th-20th October. Gardaí targeted speeding in County Monaghan with a focus on the N2.



## **ROAD SAFETY**

The RSA Check it Fits Child Car Seat Testing Service visited Castleblayney on 5th September. In Ireland as many as 4 out of 5 child car seats are incorrectly fitted, which can lead to serious injury or even death in a collision!

Experts in child car seat safety will offer advice on the different types of seats available, how to fix any problem, demonstrate how to fit the restraint correctly & answer any queries participants might have.



#### Junior Road Safety Warden

The County Monaghan Junior School Warden programme initiative has been completed and is now ready for a trial roll out to national schools.



Leading Lights in Road Safety Awards Nominations are open for the Road Safety Authority's 2018 'Leading Lights in Road Safety Awards'. The Road Safety Officer will submit applications on behalf of those individuals, schools, businesses or organisations who are committed to improving road safety in Monaghan. It is hoped build on the success of 2017 when two winners came from the county.



National Tyre Safety Day: 3rd October 2018 When did you last check your tyres for air pressure or wear & tear? If caught with damaged or worn tyres you can be fined up to €2,500 or receive a 3 month prison sentence

or both, as well as 5 penalty points on conviction.



## **COMMUNITY AND ENTERPRISE**

#### Social Inclusion Week 2018 (September 22nd-29th 2018)

Over forty events took place across the county during the week supported by the Community Development department. Almost 2,000 people participated in the wide variety of activities that took place.

Social Inclusion Week asks everyone to celebrate our diversity & our uniqueness because we are all different & we are all part of the community of Monaghan.

The programme of events included:

- A Colour Run for Equality in Rossmore Park
- A Taste of Syria food tasting from the new Syrian families
- Intercultural soccer with the Community Garda
- Information roadshows on the services of MIDL & the local employment service
- A Hats off to Equality event in the County Museum
- Training for Special Needs Assistants
- Odd socks day in the preschool services
- Open days in all the Men's Sheds in the county
- Solas drop in centre open day
- Family fun day with Lithuanian food, craft & music.
- Free admission for older people to the Taste of Monaghan.

2018 Social Inclusion Week was a huge success with wonderful collaboration and celebration across the communities of the county.





#### Zero Tolerance Disabled Parking Campaign

Access Officer, Bernie Bradley is working with Monaghan Garda Station & Monaghan Municipal District to develop a campaign of zero tolerance regarding the illegal use of disabled parking bays in Monaghan Town. An audit of all accessible parking bays in Monaghan Town has been completed. A plan will now be developed to ensure each accessible bay in the town is numbered & has adequate signage installed to highlight that the bay is for badge holders only. Signage will also highlight the current fine for parking in an accessible parking bay without a permit. December 3rd was International Day for persons with a disability, Monaghan County Council used this day to raise awareness of the increased fine (€150) for parking illegally in an accessible parking bay & further promote the Zero Tolerance campaign in operation in Co. Monaghan. To see the video click play or visit: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ann6kR8r7hQ



## **COMMUNITY AND ENTERPRISE**

#### **Colour Run For Equality**



A Colourful Celebration of Equality & Inclusion. Monaghan Comhairle na nÓg in association with Monaghan Sports Partnership hosted their 5k fun Colour Run in Rossmore Forest Park on Sunday 23rd September. Equality & inclusion was the theme of the Colour Run with the park coming alive to a backdrop of colour everywhere in an exciting fun-filled event. 300 participants, young & old, soaked up the carnival atmosphere in the park, enjoying the entertainment at the start & finish line. As they made their way along the route, they enjoyed drummers & bag pipers while getting covered in multi clouds of colour! A wonderful event to launch the beginning of Social Inclusion Week.

To keep up to date with the activity of the youth council, you can follow them on Facebook at Monaghan Comhairle na nÓg or on Instagram monaghan.cnog

For further information you can contact Fiona Mc Entee, Youth Officer with Monaghan Co. Co. on 047 73717 or email: fmcentee@monaghancoco.ie



#### Monaghan Comhairle na nOg AGM

This year's event took place in the Four Seasons Hotel in Monaghan on October 25th. We had 130 young people participate in a wonderfully interactive day. The theme for the event was equality & inclusion & the attendees had an opportunity to see the variety of projects the current committee have been working on over the course of their year. Guest speaker was Bernadine Quinn from Dundalk Outcomers who praised the group on all their efforts over the year & reinforced what a difference they are making for young LGBT people in their communities. In the afternoon, the young people participated in a youth led consultation on "the perspectives of young people on getting a safe socialising message out to 12/13 year olds". A report is being compiled from the event & will be presented to the JPC in 2019.

#### LGBT Project Launch - ~wesupportourlgbtfriends

Members of Monaghan Comhairle na nÓg were delighted to launch their posters in St Macartans College on Wednesday 26th September. 4 posters have been created by the committee, depicting poster messages and reinforcing the message of supporting our LGBT friends. These posters have been circulated to all secondary schools, youth organisations & public libraries to increase awareness of the role we all play.

#### Stand Up Awareness Week (November 12th -16th 2018)

As part of Stand Up Week, Monaghan Comhairle na nÓg invited all second-level schools in Co. Monaghan to join them & take a stand against homophobic, biphobic & transphobic bullying. This year, the youth council have implemented a number of initiatives to show support to their LGBT friends in their schools & communities. The latest is the launch of their short video "The Real Me" which took place at their AGM in the Four Seasons Hotel on the 25th October. Stand Up Awareness Week provided an opportunity for schools to look at how they can make them safe & supportive places for LGBTI+ students. It is unacceptable that one in five young LGBTI+ people face bullying, & that 70% of young LGBTI+ students feel unsafe at school. 'BeLonG To' are working hard to educate & train the entire school community around supporting LGBTI+ young people.



#### Age Friendly Strategy

The consultation process is underway for the development of a new Age Friendly Strategy. There are a number of opportunities for older people in the county & those who work with them to be included in the consultation process. The consultation period will run until January 26th 2019 & submissions by phone, email or in person are welcome & encouraged. The campaign will be promoted in the local media & social media platforms & there will be a number of targeted consultation events, including older people's groups & among the Men's Sheds.

#### National Age Friendly Programme

Monaghan Age Friendly Programme will address a conference organised by NOAC to review the findings of the Customer satisfaction survey. Monaghan Age Friendly Guide to Communication booklet & training will be presented as a model of good practice in Local Government.

#### National Older People's Convention

Wicklow Age Friendly hosted the 2018 National Older People's Convention on November 8th & 9th in Druids Glen, Wicklow. This event brings together older people's networks from across the country to discuss the key issues impacting on older people in the country & explore opportunities to address these issues. Representatives from Monaghan Older People's Network attended the convention.





#### Note of Sympathy

Monaghan County Council was saddened to hear of the passing of Philip Mc Cabe former Manager of Monaghan Citizens' Information Service. Philip was a member of Monaghan Age Friendly Alliance for many years & provided great support to the programme ensuring the older people of the county were kept up to date with social welfare rights & entitlements.



## COMMUNITY AND ENTERPRISE

Peace IV County of Sanctuary Project



#### Hats Off to Equality

Monaghan County Museum had a niteclub vibe as the venue for the 'Hats Off to Equality' Social Inclusion Week event to celebrate diversity in County Monaghan. The event was organised by Monaghan County of Sanctuary PEACE IV project, a project funded by the European Union's Peace IV programme & managed by the Special EU Programmes Body.

A display of hand crafted felt hats was launched on the night. The hats were designed & made at intercultural feltmaking workshops co-ordinated & funded by Failte Isteach, Monaghan Integrated Development and the County of Sanctuary PEACE IV Project.



#### Inter-Cultural Print Classes: Lino Printing

Lino printing is a form of fine art printmaking where the printing plate is cut into lino. The lino plate is then inked with a roller & impressed onto paper or fabric. The printing can be done by hand or with a press.

Over the summer period, participants of various nationalities took part in lino printing workshops with artist Eileen Ferguson. The workshops were funded by the Monaghan County of Sanctuary project, and supported by the European Union's PEACE IV Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB). An exhibition of the art works produced is currently on show in The Market House in Monaghan



#### Lithuanian Family Fair & Crafts Day

Several hundred people attended a very colourful & vibrant Lithuanian Family Fair & Crafts Day held on Saturday September 29th 2018 at The Market House in Monaghan. The event was co-ordinated by the County of Sanctuary PEACE IV project, a project funded by the European Union's Peace IV programme & managed by the Special EU Programmes Body, in partnership with Monaghan Lithuanian School Community.

Lithuanian crafts, flowers, jewellery, cured meats, cakes, handmade soaps & clothes were on display downstairs in The Market House, while upstairs children's face painting & games took place with live music later in the afternoon. This event was held as part of the 2018 Centenary celebrations of the Restoration of the Lithuanian State.





#### New Website for Community Text Alert Scheme

Plans by Monaghan County Council to establish a separate website for the county's Community Text Alert groups were detailed at a recent of the County Monaghan Joint Policing Committee.

The Council's Community Development Officer, Carol Lambe said the website would be owned by the groups & the groups would still control their own database.

The County Council would set up the website & pay for the cost of the texts going out. Ms. Lambe noted that there were 27 Community Text Alert organisations in the county, although she believed four had become inactive. Twenty had indicated clear support for the website proposal and two other areas were come back to the County Council with their response following meetings. She hoped that other groups would come on board when the website started, pointing out that there were a number of areas in the county which did not have any Text Alert coverage.

The County Council's IT section will now organise the tendering process for the website & hoped to have it up & running by early 2019.



#### The Pride of Place Awards 2018

The Awards were held on 17th November 2018 in Cork City Hall & saw representatives from both Monaghan based entries; Drumhowan Community & Killanny CPR group accompanied by Monaghan Co. Co. Leas Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Colm Carthy & Development Officer, Carol Lambe. At the event they joined over 800 of Ireland's brightest & best community leaders at the Gala Awards for the All Ireland IPB Pride of Place competition.

More information see: https://bit.ly/2QjlIin/





#### KNOW ME

The hugely successful KNOW ME campaign has continued to make an impact throughout the country. The campaign which aims to challenge stereotyping & discrimination in our society travelled to Donegal as part of Donegal Social Inclusion week in October. The campaign also travelled to Athlone to be part of a training day for staff working in the Department of Community & Rural Development.



## **COMMUNITY AND ENTERPRISE**

#### **Community Plans:**

The draft plans for the first four communities to have Community Plans developed in partnership with Monaghan County Council went out to their respective communities for consultation. The four communities are Scotshouse, Emyvale, Newbliss and Oram. The communities have until the end of November to consider the Plans before they are finalised. The Plans contain recommendations for projects to be undertaken by the community & by the Council over the next few years. One outcome of the process will be to ensure that there are good projects ready to be submitted by the communities should appropriate funding opportunities present themselves in the coming years.



#### Don't Pour Your Dreams Away

This highly successful underage anti-alcohol campaign ran again in the week leading up to the release of the Junior Cert results. Once again, all agencies were involved, co-ordinated by MID. Monaghan County Council underwrote the postage cost for the schools of sending out an information letter directly to the parents, to inform them not only of the arrangements which were being put in place for the night of the results, but also of the various initiatives which were

underway in the county on a year-round basis, such as NASA (No Alcoholic Substances Aboard) which collaborates with bus drivers transporting young people to non-alcoholic discos). In response to feedback from the schools, the programme is being widened this year & next year also include a module aimed at 1st & 2nd year students.



#### **Property Marking**

The Property Marking Scheme continues to be successful. The machine has been out almost constantly since February 2018's launch. To date

- -12 community groups have carried out property marking (some have taken the machine out more than once)
- -2 sports clubs
- -2 businesses which have been directly impacted by crime have availed of the service
- -An Garda Siochana has availed of the machine on 5 occasions, including to promote the scheme in other counties & Northern Ireland -Monaghan Co. Co. has attended 3 events with the machine, including an IFA Open Day, promoting the scheme in the farming community.

Monaghan County Council has erected 4 'Property Marking in Operation' road signs in each community alert area which carried out property marking events once they covered 50 premises. In 2018, the communities which reached the magic 50 were: Clontibret, Doohamlet, Clones, Kilmore Drumsnatt, Kilmore Swanns Cross, Mullaghmatt, Oram Mullyash, Tydavnet & Tullycorbett.

Monaghan is the first county to implement a property marking scheme. We assisted in the development of the national signage to accompany the scheme, & have written an operator's manual to ensure that volunteers have no issues when borrowing the machine. Since setting up the scheme back in January, we have given advice & assistance to six other Councils who are following our lead, namely Cavan, Louth, Sligo, Donegal, Leitrim & Tipperary.



## MONAGHAN SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

#### Active Adults (50+)

Monaghan Sports Partnership delivered a comprehensive programme of activities throughout county Monaghan for Adults aged 50+ between September & December. Over 220 people took part in classes including Yoga, Pilates, Exercise to Music, Line Dancing, Walking football & our ever-popular Aqua Aerobics in locations like Monaghan Town, Tydavnet, Corduff, Castleblayney, Latton, Smithborough, Clones, Scotstown, Ardaghey & Carrickmacross.

A survey of 50 participants Aqua Aerobics class found that:

- 94% of respondents reported noticing & feeling health benefits
- 74% of respondents said they have recommended programme to others who have since attended
- 52% of respondents had never used the public leisure facility before starting aqua.
- 52% of respondents have attended other activities in Monaghan Leisure Centre as a result of participating in this programme. *Quotes from participants:*
- "The Aqua Aerobics programme has transformed my life, 'I have made many friends & acquaintances. it has made me realise how important it is to keep active as I get older", "Mentally, after aerobics, I am in better form, socially I go for tea or coffee after class"

#### Education & Training

Since September the Sports Partnership has delivered a number of training workshops for sports club volunteers - including Safeguarding (Child Welfare & Protection in Sport), First Aid, Disability Awareness & PALs (Physical Activity Leader).

In total, 85 people have accessed training & capacity building workshops.



#### M-TEK WOW (Walk on Wednesday) Greenway Walk

Owing to the temporary relocation of the Sports Partnership staff to the M-TEK II building from the Civic Centre in Ballybay in September, it was a great opportunity to set up a lunchtime walking group. The group met over the course of four Wednesdays at 1:15pm & made their way down to the Ulster Canal Greenway & returned to M-TEK covering a distance of roughly 3.5km each day. The walk was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The final Sports Partnership led walk took place on Wednesday 17th October, however the participants plan to continue the weekly walk themselves going forward.





Sports Inclusion-for people with a disability Our September to December programme of activity saw the following activities take place: A Tai Chi programme for adults with a disability, Soccer Skills for adults with a disability, Introduction to Water (swim class) & Cycling skills programme for children with a disability.

In all, 76 adults and children participated. The Cycling skills programme has resulted in a number of children with poor balance & coordination skills associated with a medical condition or disability progressing from basic movements on bicycles (in some cases with stabilisers) to independent cycling. This development opens up new opportunities for those children participating and their families.

Winter 2018

### WATER SERVICES

#### Watermain Rehabilitation Works - Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan

Irish Water, working in partnership with Monaghan County Council, have commenced watermain rehabilitation works on Muckno Street in Castleblayney to improve water quality & security of supply, & reduce high levels of leakage to benefit local residents & businesses.

Future planned watermain rehabilitation works are due to commence on Main Street, Castleblayney in Ql 2019 with a completion date of June 2019.

The works are part of Irish Water's National Leakage Reduction Programme which will reduce the high level of leakage across the country by fixing or replacing ageing water mains over the next four years.

This contract is being carried out by Farran's Construction Limited.

These water mains renewal works involve the decommissioning & replacement of approximately 400 metres of old and damaged pipes with modern, high density polyethelene pipes on Muckno Street & a further 1,150 metres on Main Street.







#### Lough Egish Regional Water Supply Scheme Plant Upgrade

The upgrade works at the Kilkit Water Treatment Plant and Lough Bawn abstraction will secure water quality & supply for the foreseeable future for the Lough Egish Regional Water Supply Scheme. The value of investment is approximately €4.5m.

The project is currently at process proving stage which will continue until the end of November 2018. All civil, mechanical & electrical works have been completed on site & resolution of snagging items is continuing.

Upon completion of the process proving stage of the works, the operational phase of the contract will commence.

This operational stage of the contract will consist of the contractor, Coffey Water Limited, operating the plant for a 12 month period until final handover to Irish Water.









## **MONAGHAN LIBRARIES**

#### Cavan-Monaghan Science Festival 2018

This award-winning festival ran for its 3rd year from 10th-24th November 2018 across counties Monaghan & Cavan, led by the Monaghan County Library Service. The festival is supported by funding of €35,000 from Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), to co-ordinate & organise over 150 events taking place across the two counties to promote science, technology, engineering & maths.

The festival steering Committee, chaired by Deirdriu McQuaid, Acting Senior Executive Librarian, & made up of staff from the Library & Environment Services of both Monaghan & Cavan County Councils as well as the staff of CMETB, worked tirelessly to ensure the success of this ambitious event, which showcased some of the best national & international scientists, researchers, speakers & artists.

The festival programme was designed to stimulate interest, excitement & debate about STEM or indeed STEAM (Science Technology Engineering Arts Maths) through accessible & entertaining interactions with the public.

In addition to the public events, there was a comprehensive Schools Programme with 140 workshops specifically catering for over 3,000 children from Preschools, Primary Schools & Secondary schools throughout Monaghan alone. This year, local engineering companies also opened their doors to give students the opportunity to see the broad range of careers available to them in their own home counties.

Over 4,000 tickets were snapped up for the public events which were held right across the whole geographical region of Cavan & Monaghan counties. Some of the events included; Zombie Science, Superhero Science, The Science Behind Music, The Science of Down Syndrome, Citizen Science & much more.

#### Get Involved:

If anybody has any feedback, ideas or would like to get involved in Cavan Monaghan Science Festival for 2019.

Please email: sciencefestival@monaghancoco.ie

Website: www.cavanmonaghansciencefestival.ie













## MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS

### **Ballybay-Clones Municipal District**

The Market House in Clones is one of the town's most historic buildings. Located on The Diamond, the building recently received a new lease of life after years of dereliction.

This stunning landmark is now the new home of Ballybay/Clones Municipal District & Local Authority Offices. Its restoration blends the old with the new & the conservation architects managed to preserve the original period features of the Victorian building. The local community came out in force on Friday October 5th, to see the renovation for themselves, when it was officially launched by Cathaoirleach of Ballybay/Clones Municipal District, Councillor Sean Gilliland. It is fitting that the building with such a rich history, most recently housing Monaghan County Library before it moved premises, retains a civic function befitting of its town centre location.

Alastair Coey, whose Belfast-based renowned conservation architectural firm won the tender for renovating the Market House, described it as a privilege to work on the building. The first thing his team did was draw up a Conservation Management Plan.

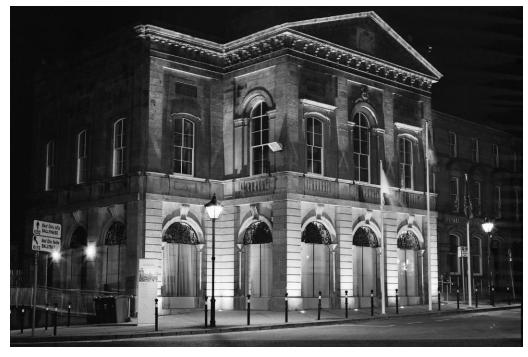


Photo Credit Brian McNamee



#### **Surprise Visitor**

The staff of the MD were delighted today receive a surprise visit from the Clones Cyclone Barry McGuigan . As a Clones native and someone with a great interest in the restoration of historic buildings Barry was delighted to be taken on a tour of the building and recalled many memories of the building from his youth.

Barry complimented all involved in the restoration project and he personally is so happy to see the lights on again in this beautiful and historic building.

## <u> Carrickmacross-Castleblayney Municipal District</u>















#### Carrickmacross-Castleblayney Celebrates Big Tom

Castleblayney Regeneration Committee along with support from Monaghan County Council & representatives of local community groups came together to celebrate our late friend Big Tom McBride.

A festival, 'Castleblayney Celebrates Big Tom' took place in Castleblayney from 21st-23rd September 2018.

What an event & what a fitting tribute to the legend of 'Big Tom' from his hometown, Castleblayney, where a larger than life size statue was unveiled at the 'Castleblayney Celebrates Big Tom' festival.

Thousands of well wishers came to hear the President of Ireland, among many others, talk about the warmth of Big Tom & how his music meant so much to his fans, particularly those who had to leave Ireland to find work.

Special thanks to Civil Defence Monaghan volunteers who helped make the day safe & enjoyable for those who attended.

## Monaghan Municipal District

Monaghan Town & Clones celebrate entrepreneurial success at 2018 Bank of Ireland National Enterprise Town Awards

Monaghan Town was announced as one of the regional winners at this year's Bank of Ireland National Enterprise Town Awards. In addition, Clones was announced as a regional second runner up. The Awards recognise & reward towns where businesses & communities have come together to showcase the spirit of enterprise in their local area.

This year's awards saw collaboration between business groups & communities from over 80 towns & urban villages nationwide, with entries demonstrating exemplary entrepreneurial initiatives being undertaken to boost local economies. At the award ceremony in Kilkenny, a total of 40 awards were given with an overall prize fund of €157,000 allocated to encourage further innovation & entrepreneurship within winning towns. Taking the prize for overall winner of the 2018 Bank of Ireland National Enterprise Town Awards was Letterkenny.

Speaking at the awards, Kieran Tuite, Head of Co. Monaghan at Bank of Ireland said: "Every year we are so impressed by the enterprising spirit & achievements of towns & villages nationwide, as people work together, to drive growth locally & build thriving communities. Entrepreneurship, collaboration & innovative thinking have an immeasurable impact on a community's ability to flourish & we hope that all of this year's winning towns enjoy their success & continue to build on it further in 2019.

At Bank of Ireland, supporting enterprise is central to what we do & as the country's largest lender, with a presence in over 250 communities nationwide, we are committed to encouraging local enterprise & bringing communities closer together. The National Enterprise Town Awards are Bank of Ireland's opportunity to recognise & reward towns where communities & business groups are working closely together with local authorities & local enterprise offices to spur enterprise forward in their area.

The support of City & County Councils across the country is a significant factor in the success of the awards & one which Bank of Ireland is extremely grateful for. On behalf of Bank of Ireland, I would like to congratulate the Monaghan & Clones Town Teams & Local Council Representatives for their respective successes at this year's awards."









#### Over €1.2 Million Sold and The Monaghan Town Voucher can be spent in over 140 shops locally!

The Monaghan Town Voucher has reached a milestone in sales this week with €1,200,000 vouchers now sold! With approximately 140 participating outlets in Monaghan, Emyvale, Glaslough, Scotstown & Clontibret, the Monaghan Town Voucher offers fantastic choice & variety this Christmas. It is the ideal gift of choice for occasions such as: Retirements, Birthdays & Christmas Bonuses & Staff Rewards! Monaghan Town Vouchers are guaranteed to stay local, supporting your local businesses. The voucher is a perfect gift for Christmas as you can use it in a variety of ways, such as heating your home, getting your Christmas outfit, having a beauty treatment, use it in a restaurant, cafe, car wash, boutiques, gyms, & many more amenities.

Sales of the voucher have now reached  $\[ \in \]$ 1.2 million, and will hopefully get to  $\[ \in \]$ 1.3 or  $\[ \in \]$ 1.4 million by the end of the month. Taking into account the shop local multiplier effect (as per Retail Excellence Ireland) for every  $\[ \in \]$ 1 euro spent in a local store it benefits the local economy by  $\[ \in \]$ 4, thus the Monaghan Town Voucher has helped to retain approximately  $\[ \in \]$ 4.8 million in the local economy, helping to sustain employment in the retail & hospitality sector. It's a fantastic initiative that is driven by the team in Monaghan Municipal District office with great support from the business community.

For corporate orders please contact Monaghan Municipal District on 047 73777 or via email to *ordermtv@monaghancoco.ie* 

With more & more retailers joining the voucher on a weekly basis, for the most up to date list of participants, take a peek at the;

Monaghan Has It Website: http://monaghanhasit.ie/

Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/monaghanhasit

The Town Voucher is sold through our 6 main Distributors:

- Fleming's @Reception
- Monaghan Shopping Centre
- Rocks of Monaghan
- McConnon's, Old Cross Square
- G & G Stores, Emyvale
- McMahon's, Centra, Scotstown.





## MONAGHAN FIRE CONTROL AND CIVIL PROTECTION

#### **Christmas Fire Safety Campaign**

Make sure that all Christmas lights conform to the EN Standard & are turned off when leaving home. Never overload plug sockets & remember that a candle is a naked flame, so don't leave them burning unattended or near decorations. As most fires start in the kitchen, make sure the cooker is never left unattended.

It's also an important time of year to remember our 'STOP Fire' check list:

- · Smoke alarms fitted on each floor;
- Test them on a weekly basis;
- Obvious dangers removed &
- Plan your escape route.

These easy to remember steps enable everyone to quickly decide what actions they need to take to help keep fire safe.



#### Winter Ready Campaign

The series of severe weather events over the past year has demonstrated the necessity for ongoing preparedness for severe weather & flooding emergencies.

For good simple advice on how to be winter ready please visit www.winterready.ie





For more information visit the Monaghan Fire & Rescue Facebook page & Twitter



Monaghan Fire & Rescue Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/monaghanfireandrescue/ Monaghan Fire & Rescue Twitter: https://twitter.com/monaghan\_fire





















#### LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE

Local Enterprise Office Monaghan serves as a first stop shop to provide support & services to start, grow & develop micro business in Monaghan.

The key objectives of LEO Monaghan are to provide; Business Information & Advice; Training; Mentoring; Financial Supports; Networking; Local Economic Development Services & Enterprise Education.





#### Women's Programme

Monaghan Women in Business (MWIB) is an informal network which aims are to: provide information, support, promotional & networking opportunities to all who take part.

As part of the programme, Minister for Business, Enterprise & Innovation, Heather Humphreys, T.D., opened National Women's Enterprise Day (NWED) in the Hillgrove Hotel Monaghan on the 18th October 2018. Monaghan LEO organised an event programme under the theme "From Local to Global" aimed at inspiring female business leaders to take their local ideas & make them a global success. The local ambassador was Marie Mohan from Greenfield Foods & the keynote speaker was Ms. Noelle O Conner from Tan Organic. 83 local female entrepreneurs attended this inspiring event.



LEO Monaghan is committed to supporting SMEs to continue growing their business against this backdrop of uncertainty as the terms of the UK's new relationship with Europe evolves. As part of this support the Head of LEO participated in a panel discussion at the Department briefing, Brexit- Getting Ireland Ready. The LEO also had a stand at this successful event which was held in the

Four Seasons Hotel on 19th October & was attended by up to 400 local businesses. Information & advice was imparted on all relevant Brexit supports including the Brexit Loan Scheme, Brexit Mentor Programme, Lean for Micro, Co-Innovate Programme & the Technical Assistance for Micro Exporters among others.

Pictured to the right are John McEntegart, Head of LEO at Brexit Event with Minister Covney & Minister Humphreys.



