

Monaghan Matters



Comhairle Contae Mhuineacháin
Monaghan County Council

**Monaghan County Council
Newsletter
Spring 2019**

CONTENTS

P03: Corporate Services

P04: Corporate Assets
and Energy

P04: Heritage

P05: Tourism

P05: Economic Development

P05: Planning

P06: Housing

P07: Roads

P07: Library

P08: Community and Enterprise

P11: Museum

P11: Environmental Services

P12: Water Services

P12: Fire Control and
Civil Protection

P12: Finance

P13: Local Enterprise Office

P13: Municipal Districts



**Corporate
Services**



Heritage



**Community
and
Enterprise**



**Municipal
Districts**

CORPORATE ASSETS AND ENERGY



Corporate Assets recently completed the installation of a new access ladder and Fall Restraint System to Glen HQ as part of its Health and Safety requirements.

Ban On Use of Plastics Within Public Bodies

Government Departments, public bodies and schools are set to crack down on single-use plastics, with a number of measures including no longer purchasing single-use plastic cups, cutlery and straws for use within their offices.

Richard Bruton, the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and the Environment said “the public service must be the first to show that it takes policies for sustainability seriously, if we are to persuade the rest of society to make the step changes which we need to make. The government has approved a plan to stop purchasing single-use plastic, to cut waste in food and paper, to improve efficiency in the use of energy and water and to reshape procurement to choose sustainable options.”

In addition, all public bodies including state agencies and schools will not purchase single-use plastic beverage cups, cutlery and drinking straws after 31 March 2019 – except where specific public health/hygiene or safety issues arise.

From 1st April 2019, paper cups will only be purchased by Monaghan County Council water coolers that are used within a public area, i.e. Planning Reception and Conference Room within Glen HQ, and the Training Room in MTEK 2.

Our Environment Section are currently sourcing re-usable bottles and will be in touch with staff regarding rolling out of same. These efforts will comply with the reduction of single use plastic as stated above and will also eliminate the need to purchase 20,000 plastic cups on an annual basis. It is planned to roll this incentive out to Glen HQ and MTEK 2 first, and to other buildings by the end of March 2019.



Eastern Local Authority Energy Group

Monaghan County Council hosted the Eastern Local Authority Energy Group regional meeting on Monday the 28th January 2019, in conjunction with SEAI. We were delighted to host colleagues from Cavan, Louth, and Kildare County Councils, as well as colleagues from several sections within Monaghan County Council. Mr. Noel Burns, on behalf of SEAI facilitated the meeting and gave a very informative presentation on Energy Awareness.

The event provided a great insight into how each Local Authority is addressing its obligations of achieving 33% energy reduction by 2020 and the challenges faced.

HERITAGE

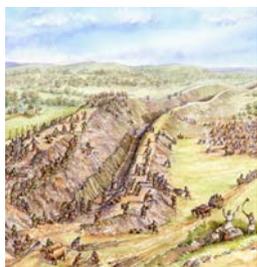
Heritage at the Heart: New Podcast Series

A series of five podcasts on Monaghan heritage places and people has been produced and are being released each week on the Council website. Accompanied with specially commissioned music by distinguished Monaghan composer Michael Gallen, the series features Sliabh Beagh, Mullyash Cairn, The Tin Church in Laragh, Donagh Old Graveyard and the Black Pigs Dyke.

The programmes were produced by the Heritage Office and recorded onsite by Noel Murphy of Northern Sound. They present interviews with local people, custodians, and heritage specialists, with lots of lively discussions and stories about the places and their value to the community. Each podcast is about 15 minutes in length.

The series was funded by Monaghan County Council and the Heritage Council as part of the implementation of the County Monaghan Heritage Plan and the European Year of Cultural Heritage.

The series is available on the Monaghan County Council website: <https://monaghan.ie/heritage/heritage-at-the-heart-podcasts/>



TOURISM

Patrick Kavanagh Centre

The signing of contracts for Phase I of the refurbishment of the Patrick Kavanagh Centre, Inniskeen took place on Monday February 25th 2019 in the Civic Offices, Carrickmacross. The winning contractors, Monaghan County Council members and officials, members of the Patrick Kavanagh Centre's committee and a representative of Fáilte Ireland were present.

This major tourism project will entail the development of a Kavanagh interpretation centre as well as an information and service centre for Kavanagh Country. It will sensitively tell 'the Kavanagh story' in an interesting and contemporary manner in keeping with best practice elsewhere in Ireland and beyond. The Interpretive Centre will utilise 'immersive' & interactive techniques which will excite & inspire visitors.

The Centre will be fully integrated with the Kavanagh Trail and Kavanagh Country so that it will have a wider market appeal and will also link with local food, drink and activity offerings.



The Graphic above highlights the overall concept of what the offering will be.

It is this integration between the immersive experience at the Centre and the local Kavanagh sites, drumlin landscape, local food and drink and cluster of local attractions that will provide a unique tourism product of real significance for County Monaghan.



Photo credit: Pat Byrne

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Rural Regeneration and Development Fund - Announcement

In February Mr. Michael Ring, T.D., Minister for Rural and Community Development, announced all the remaining successful Category 1 and Category 2 applications from the first call under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund which closed in September 2018.

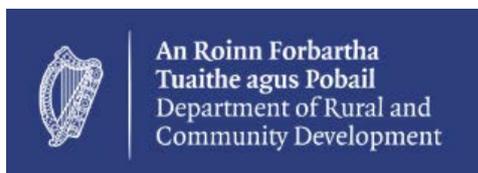
Following completion of the assessment process for applications, 20 successful Category 1 projects and 46 successful Category 2 projects totalling €62m in funding were announced by the Minister (this is in addition to the first 18 successful Category 1 projects announced in November 2018). Details of the projects receiving funding are available on the Department's website, www.drkd.gov.ie. Combined with the announcement in November 2018 which provided funding of €24.4m, this brings the total amount of funding allocated under the Fund to €86m.

Monaghan County Council was successful with the following projects:

- Castleblayney Enterprise Centre – €2,138,000
This significant economic development project will create a new community-run Enterprise Centre, providing high quality office space on a disused site adjacent to Castleblayney Town Centre. It includes 18 high quality office spaces with space for 66 staff in partnership between Castleblayney Enterprise Centre and Monaghan County Council.
- Carrickmacross Town Centre Renewal - €632,000
Development of town centre carpark, parking management plan and develop a detailed master plan for Carrickmacross town centre
- Ballybay Town Centre Renewal - €410,400
Development of new street off Main Street to advance phase 2 to shovel-ready stage. (Note Phase 1 commenced and funded through Town & Village 2018).
- Clones Town Centre Regeneration - €377,350
This proposal involves the regeneration of Clones town centre and consists of the development of three sub-projects to tender stage; Heritage Project at the Diamond, St Tiarnach's Plaza and Fermanagh Street Business Hub.
- Ulster Canal Clones - Waterways Ireland - €325,000
Will develop The Clones Terminus which is located along the original route of the Ulster Canal.

In addition the Monaghan Town Centre application for €1.285 million of grant aid for the Regeneration of Dublin Street under the Urban Regeneration & Development Fund was successful in late 2018

Thank you to all the members and staff of Monaghan County Council and partner organisations in each of the towns who supported these applications.



PLANNING

County Development Plan for the period 2019-2025

The County Development Plan for the period 2019-2025 was made by the elected members on 4th March. This completes a two year process which began in March 2017 with the publication of an Issues Paper and eight week public consultation period, followed by the publication of the draft County Development Plan in March 2018 and a twelve week public consultation period.

The development plan preparation process concluded with the publication of material alterations in December 2018 accompanied by a four week public consultation process.

The County Development Plan for the period 2019 – 2025 will become effective on 1st April 2019 and all planning applications determined on or after this date will be assessed against the provisions of the new development plan.



HOUSING

Maple Grove Smithborough Village

Excellent progress continues to be made under the Rebuilding Ireland Social Housing Programme. Monaghan County Council secured the construction and acquisition of twelve new homes in Maple Grove, Smithborough Village through Turnkey Construction and Acquisition Projects process in 2018. The finance for the acquisition of these units by Monaghan County Council was provided by the Government under the Rebuilding Ireland Programme.

Works commenced in September 2018 for the twelve 2-storey semi-detached 3 & 4-bedroom houses in an unfinished section of Maple Grove Estate in Smithborough that have been brought into use as Social Housing and are now completed.

Monaghan County Council will continue to seek additional funding for Social Housing at every opportunity that arises and proactively pursue opportunities for additional social housing provision in areas of housing need throughout County Monaghan.



43 Houses at Latlorcan: Monaghan County Council & Geda Construction funded under Rebuilding Ireland

The construction of 43 houses at Latlorcan is progressing well. More than 50% of the timber frame kits have been erected. Brickwork and roofing is advancing, and windows are being installed. 23 of the houses will be weather tight and ready for internal work shortly and they will be followed soon thereafter by a further 7 along with the remaining houses which will also make rapid progress facilitated by the use of timber frame kits provided by IJM Timber Engineering, Monaghan.

The project is progressing well and is expected to complete in Quarter 4 of 2019.

Houses under construction at Latlorcan: Brickwork progressing



Houses under construction at Latlorcan: Roofing in place



Houses under construction at Latlorcan: Windows in place



ROADS

Winter Maintenance

As we are enjoying the mild Spring weather, cast your mind back to the Beast from the East last March, our Winter Maintenance crews had 73 call outs between January and March 2018, during the most challenging of winter weather and storms.



Project News:

-Clontibret to the Border and Ardee to Castleblaney Roads Scheme: Project Liaison Officer, Roisin Moore is now situated in the project offices in M:TEK 1. The new website to chart the progress of this strategic Roads Scheme will launch in April.

-N54 upgrade at Tullybryan was given Part VIII approval by the elected members at the February Council meeting.

Roads Funding:

Monaghan received €21,761,047 funding for National and Non-National roads in 2019. Local Improvement Scheme funding of €250,000 has also been approved for the upgrading of private lanes in the county.



MONAGHAN LIBRARIES

Healthy Ireland @ Your Library

Libraries in Monaghan are currently delivering the nationwide Healthy Ireland @ Your Library Programme that will establish libraries as a valuable source within the community for health information.

Healthy Ireland, a Government-led initiative, is the national strategy to improve health and wellbeing, placing a focus on prevention, individual awareness and keeping people healthy for longer.

On February 7th 2019, Monaghan Library welcomed Transition Year Students from Beech Hill College, Monaghan. Dr. Pascal Markey from 'In Health Chiropractic' gave a very informative presentation to 30 students about 'Stress and How it Affects our Bodies'.

Clones Library welcomed The Alzheimer Society of Ireland and their Mobile Information Service to Clones Library on Friday, March 1st.

Maeve Montgomery, Dementia Adviser was available on the day to provide information and support to all visitors.



Cavan Monaghan Science Festival 2018

The Cavan-Monaghan Science Festival 2018, took place last November and ran in partnership with Cavan County Council and Cavan-Monaghan ETB once again proved a major success. This was the 3rd year of the running of this event. A recent review of programme outputs highlighted that approximately 12,450 persons attended the 250 plus events over a two week period. The festival has led to other programming and projects being developed by both authorities.

This festival is cited as an example of good collaboration and sharing of best practice across authorities and other agencies.



Public Bottle Filling Station

Monaghan County Council in co-operation with Monaghan Tidy Towns, Monaghan Library and Healthy Ireland @ Your Library recently installed a water bottle filling station at Monaghan Branch Library to facilitate water bottle filling by the general public.

Whilst primarily a waste prevention initiative, the water bottle station is conveniently located beside a bus stop and a local park, meaning fresh cold water is available to the general public for free. Monaghan County Council intends to install further public bottle water filling stations in other areas of the county during 2019.



COMMUNITY AND ENTERPRISE

70th Anniversary of the Signing of the Declaration of Human Rights

To mark the 70th Anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Monaghan LCDC Equality Sub-group held a special event in Monaghan County Museum.

In 1948 the world was still fractured from World War II. On 10th December 1948, world leaders gathered in Paris, France, to help make sure that nothing of the like could ever happen again, they agreed on a Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

To mark this, 70th Anniversary events took place around the world and Monaghan was no different. A large crowd gathered in Monaghan County Museum to recognise the contribution that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights has made to the lives of many people since 1948.

Led by Cathaoirleach of Monaghan County Council, Cllr. David Maxwell and Chief Executive of Monaghan County Council, Mr. Eamonn O'Sullivan, the event recalled the horrors of war that resulted in the Declaration of Human Rights being agreed and remembered that the protection of human rights is just as important now as it was in 1948.

Members of public services in the county including Monaghan County Council, An Garda Síochána, HSE and Tusla, joined elected representatives and representatives from local community groups and organisations to mark this occasion. Each of the 30 Articles of the Declaration were read aloud and a candle was lit to represent the people in the world who did not have their human rights protected in their lifetime and those who still have their human rights violated today.



Monaghan Adult Intercultural Futsal League

Monaghan Adult Intercultural Futsal League was held over six weeks at the Phoenix Centre in Carrickmacross. The league was coordinated by the Monaghan LCDC PEACE IV County of Sanctuary project, a project supported by the European Union's PEACE IV Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB), Monaghan County Refugees Resettlement Project & Monaghan FAI.

Teams included a local team from Carrickmacross, teams from Lisanisk B&B and Treacy's Hotel Carrickmacross, St. Patrick's Accommodation Centre and Monaghan Town Foroige and a team from the Syrian community in Carrickmacross. Lisanisk claimed the overall title defeating St. Pat's in the final.

Leas-Chathaoirleach Cllr. Colm Carty congratulated the winning team and commended all participants on their commitment to the league and to social inclusion and integration in County Monaghan.



New Departure on Rights of Persons with Disabilities as Formal Committee Begins Work in Monitoring Ireland's Obligations

In January 2019 eleven people were formally appointed to serve on the first ever statutory advisory committee in Ireland to support monitoring of Ireland's implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCPRD).

Monaghan County Council is delighted that the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission has appointed its Social Inclusion Officer, Bernie Bradley to the Disability Advisory Committee. Bernie has worked in the area of accessibility and equality for 25 years, working in both community and voluntary sectors and public sector. Since 2004 she has worked in the local government sector leading significant cultural and organisational change in equality and accessibility in Monaghan County Council. Bernie has developed numerous policies and initiatives to improve accessibility for people with disabilities that have been implemented in local authorities throughout the country. Bernie holds a Masters Degree in Public Management and a Professional Diploma in Human Rights and Equality. Bernie's appointment is a reflection on the significant progress achieved by Monaghan County Council in the area of inclusion, equality and accessibility in the county over the past fifteen years.

Speaking on the appointment, Monaghan County Council Chief Executive, Eamonn O'Sullivan, said "I very much welcome the appointment of Monaghan County Council Social Inclusion Officer Bernie Bradley to this very important national committee. It is a recognition not only of the important role performed by Local Authorities across the country, and by Monaghan County Council in particular, but to the many years of commitment that Bernie Bradley has given in her role in the Council as Accessibility Officer and Social Inclusion Officer. I wish Bernie well in her role and I am sure that she will be a very valuable part of the committee for its three-year term".



International Women's Day 2019

On Friday 8th March 2019, women around the world celebrated International Women's Day. In its 110th year, International Women's Day celebrates the contribution women make to our world.

Monaghan County Council supported the National Collective of Community Based Women's Networks (NCCWN) groups in the county, Dochas for Women and Blayney Blades in an event to celebrate International Women's Day 2019. The event which focused on resilience and wellbeing, took place in the Ballybay Wetlands Centre.



Public Participation Network (PPN)

In 2014, Local Authorities established a Public Participation Network (PPN) in each county to enable the community and voluntary sector to take an active formal role in local policy making.

The PPN facilitates the opportunity for the public to actively participate and be represented on decision making committees within local government.

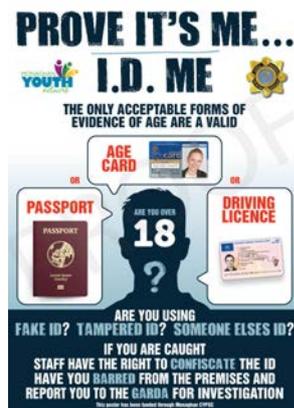
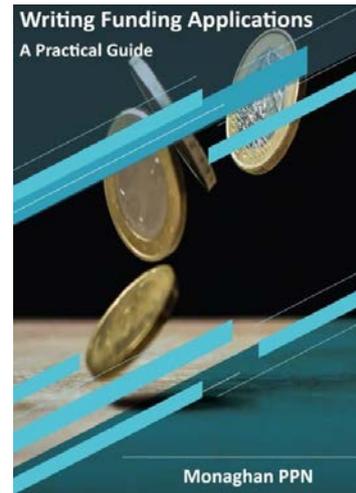
The PPN has many functions, one of which is to build the capacity of our membership so that each and every one of our member groups achieves their full potential.

For this reason, Monaghan PPN published a practical guide to writing funding applications, to help groups have a better understanding of the grant application process and how to best demonstrate the value of your project to an intended funder.

The guide will take you through the grant writing process and identify some of the common reasons why grant applications fail to receive funding.

This booklet is meant to be used as a resource, that a group can refer to as and when the need arises.

To receive a copy of the booklet, contact Leona Keenan, PPN Resource Worker at 047 73750 or email ppn@monaghancoco.ie



Prove It's Me Campaign

Monaghan Safe Socialising Committee, a subgroup of Monaghan Youth Network is an inter-agency group that has been working on a number of initiatives to safeguard our under 18's while socialising. Their pieces of work have been focused at parents, young people and other agencies who have a duty of care when dealing with young people.

This piece of work links with local vintners, hoteliers and off licensees. The 'Prove It's Me' Campaign was launched on the 6th March 2019. 500 posters have been printed and in partnership with the local Gardai, these posters will be distributed through the County. The aim of this initiative is to reduce the use of false ID's among young people by getting the support of licenced premises who will now only accept 3 valid forms of identification.

Countywide Text Alert

Monaghan County Council is pleased to announce that an innovative solution to supporting the county's Text Alert groups has advanced to contract stage. The service will be rolled out through the Komeer app, which is an Irish-owned and developed service, commonly used by schools and sports clubs.

All twenty-six active community alert groups in the county have signed up to the new scheme, which is an initiative of the Joint Policing Committee (JPC) and is backed by both An Garda Síochána and Monaghan County Council. The first training programme for group administrators took place on Wednesday 6th February and a follow-up Webinar was held online. Groups will now begin the process of migrating their existing subscribers over onto the new system. To assist this process, Monaghan County Council has produced promotional postcards and posters for the groups to circulate around their areas. It is intended to launch the new service and commence sending Garda alerts out from 1st April. From this date, the service will be widely promoted to the general public, and sign-up information will be available at all Garda stations and Council buildings/ libraries.

There are two ways to join the service:

- To receive alerts to your Smartphone, download the KOMEER App. Search for 'Monaghan Community Alerts'. If there is an active community alert group in your area, it will be listed. If not, you can still join the service by joining the default 'Monaghan Community Alerts' group.
- To receive alerts by Text, pick up a form from any library, Garda station or representative from your local community alert group, and return it to Monaghan County Council.

Alerts are free to receive, with Monaghan County Council covering the cost of the service.

This is the first time that the county has had full coverage for Garda Alerts and was a priority action in the JPC's multi annual plan.

WELCOME TO MONAGHAN COMMUNITY ALERTS

a new county-wide service providing Garda alerts to the community. The service replaces previous local text alert schemes around the county, and is supported by Monaghan County Council and An Garda Síochána

The service is open to everyone living in Co. Monaghan, and is totally FREE to join.

Please download and install the FREE Komeer App now!

Available on the App Store | Available on the Play Store

Quick Start Guide

- 1 - Find Komeer on App/Play Store and install on your device
- 2 - Create account and complete your details. You will need either an email address or Facebook account to get started
- 3 - Search for 'Monaghan Community Alerts' and click 'Join Group' This signs you up to the county-wide service
- 4 - Where there is an active Community Alert scheme in your local area, you will find them listed as a sub-group on the App. If you would like to receive alerts from one or more local groups in addition to the Garda alerts, just click to join. You can also sign up to receive alerts from Monaghan County Council. You can UNSUBSCRIBE from any group at any time, all on the App.

For Help tap on 'Support' on the Komeer app

National Age Friendly Programme

Monaghan Age Friendly Strategy review report is completed and will shortly be circulated to members. The report documents the achievements and progress of Monaghan Age Friendly Programme since its establishment in 2011. The report highlights the initiatives developed by Monaghan Age Friendly Programme that have been adopted at national level by Age Friendly Ireland and rolled out in other local authorities.

Age Friendly Strategy Consultation

The public consultation process for the development of a new Age Friendly Strategy for County Monaghan is ongoing. The issues identified in public consultation with older people and service providers will form the objectives and actions of the second Age Friendly Strategy for the county in April. There are several opportunities for older people and service providers to submit their views to the consultation. A questionnaire has been issued to older person's groups, service providers, statutory agencies and businesses signed up to the Age Friendly Business Programme.

Consultation sessions took place with Men's Sheds throughout Monaghan and Monaghan U3A. Public consultation meetings also took place around the county. The consultation process ended on 8th March 2019 and it is hoped to have a Draft Age Friendly Strategy prepared for the April meeting of Monaghan Age Friendly Alliance.



Monaghan Older People's Network

A restructuring of Monaghan Older People's Network has been agreed by Monaghan Age Friendly Alliance. The purpose of the restructuring is to increase the representation of older people from throughout the county on the network and provide the opportunity for older people from all areas of the county to become involved in the work of the Age Friendly Programme. The existing structure of one county wide forum will be replaced with forums based in each of the Municipal District areas.

Each Municipal District will establish an Older People's Network that will meet three times per year and a countywide meeting will take place annually. The role of the network will be to guide and support the work on Monaghan Age Friendly Alliance and to raise any issues impacting on older people at local level to the alliance members.

Your Vote, Your Voice

Local and European Election 2019 Awareness Programme

A new campaign is currently being developed by the Access Officer in relation to the accessibility of the voting process. Current information and communication relating to the voting process in the county will be reviewed to ensure the information available and communication about the voting process is accessible and easy to read. Information on the accessibility of polling stations will be collated to identify any access issues that exist and provide voters with accessible information on the alternative voting options available. The purpose of this campaign will be to ensure that all people in the county who have the right to vote have access to information on the voting process in a format that they can use and understand.

The programme developed in Monaghan will be used by the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Disability Advisory Committee as part of their work in promoting the 'Convention on the Rights of People with a Disability' and the right to vote.

Awareness Programme

To support ongoing work in accessibility, an awareness raising programme for people with a disability in the county is currently in development. This programme will develop an accessible guide to the voting process.

The aim of this programme will be to support people with a disability to exercise their right to vote.

This programme will be delivered in partnership with Monaghan PPN and Monaghan County of Sanctuary programme and will also target migrant communities in the county to exercise their right to vote.

The programme will produce an accessible guide to voting that will include

- The importance of using your vote
- How to register to vote
- Access to polling stations
- Understanding your polling card
- How to complete a ballot paper
- Information on candidates and how to contact them



MUSEUM

Museum Events Programme 2019

The events programme for this year was launched at the museum's first event of the year on February 5th.

One of the highlights of this year's programme include the launch of the Monaghan War of Independence Files as a unique online resource with over five hundred pages of fascinating first-hand accounts of what life was like in Monaghan during those turbulent years.

The stories were recorded for the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Rising in 1966 and later donated to the museum.



The event guide is available to view here: <https://monaghan.ie/museum/2019/02/11/museum-events-2019/>

Monaghan County Council's Commemoration of the First Dáil Éireann

Members of Monaghan County Council, as well as members of the Oireachtas were joined by Monaghan County Council staff in the Council Chamber on Monday, January 21st to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the first meeting of Dáil Éireann. The Curator of the Museum acted as Master of Ceremonies and provided a brief overview of the history of government in Ireland from the first meetings between Norman noblemen and knights in the mid-thirteenth century all the way up to the historic first meeting of the Dáil in the Mansion House in 1919.

There were a number of key statements from that first meeting. Cathaoirleach of Monaghan County Council, Cllr. David Maxwell, read out the Declaration of Independence. Leas-Chathaoirleach Cllr. Colm Carty, read out the Welcome to the Free Nations of the World in English and Irish. Chief Executive of Monaghan Council, Eamonn O'Sullivan, read out the Democratic Programme for Ireland and finally Minister Heather Humphreys read out the Provisional Constitution which was adopted at the first Dáil.

This was a unique and important event as it not only marked the 100th anniversary of Irish government but also the incident at Soloheadbeg in Co. Tipperary where two Royal Irish Constabulary members were killed in an ambush by the Irish Volunteers; this event marked the beginning of the War of Independence in Ireland.

The museum will be hosting a range of events, exhibitions and public displays throughout the upcoming commemorative period of the War of Independence in Monaghan.



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



Awards for repairmystuff.ie and Derryvalley Project

The first award winning project was the online repair directory www.repairmystuff.ie, which won best Waste Management Initiative at the LAMA Community and Council Awards at the ceremony in Croke Park in February 2019.

This is a go-to list of businesses from all over Ireland offering repair services for a multitude of categories such as clothes, electrical equipment, furniture, shoes etc. The initiative is supported by the EPA's Local Authority National Waste Prevention Network (LAPN). It encourages people to re-use and repair instead of throwing away, an objective of the Regional Waste Management Plan is to support the Circular Economy. The initiative has proven very successful to date, with user participation increasing on an ongoing basis. There are 700 businesses listed and an average of 3,000 users per month.

The second award winning project was the Derryvalley project, Ballybay, winning best Environmental and Ecological Project at the LAMA Community and Council Awards. This pilot initiative commenced in 2017 and examines the various sources of pollution along the Dromore river.

This project involved soil testing and preparation of nutrient management plans for participating farms in the catchment. The project demonstrated that the sustainable use of fertiliser has the potential for significant cost savings to farmers, as well as contributing to improvements in water quality.

It is hoped to significantly improve the water quality in this catchment area over the course of the project.

Dog Control Service

The Council employs one full-time Dog Warden for the county. Shelter facilities for the detention and care of stray/unwanted dogs are provided on behalf of Monaghan County Council by Carrick Dog Shelter in Lisdoonan and MSPCA in Emyvale. In 2018, the trend of reducing numbers of dogs being impounded by the Council continued - 475 dogs were impounded as compared to almost 900 dogs impounded in 2008. All except 7 of the 475 dogs were reclaimed by their owners or re-homed to members of the public/dog rescues. 7 dogs were euthanised because they were unsuitable for re-homing.

The total number of dogs licenced in Monaghan is just under 6,000. The Council produced an information leaflet on dog owners' responsibilities in 2018 and continued its advertising campaign to highlight the danger to sheep of straying dogs. In 2018, An Post launched the National Dog Registration System, a database of the details of all licenced dogs and dog owners in Ireland. Dog owners can continue to buy their licences at any Post Office and now also have the option to buy their licence online.



Local Authorities Water Program (LAWPRO)

The new border region Local Authorities Water Program (LAWPRO) Catchment Assessment Team is now in place at the Civic Offices in Carrickmacross. The Catchment Assessment Team is a local authority shared service working on a regional basis. The Catchment Assessment Team was established as an additional measure under the River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) 2018-2021. The focus of the team will be in the Priority Areas for Action (PAA). The PAA are areas which have been selected for focussed actions to improve water quality. The team will be undertaking local catchment assessments to understand the issues affecting water quality and to develop locally appropriate solutions.

In the border region there are 37 PAAs, 5 of which are located within County Monaghan. The 5 PAAs in County Monaghan include the Mountain Water and Emy, the Maghera, Avaghon, Summerhill Kilroosky Lough Cluster and the Clyde/Proules. Public meetings will be held in each priority area for action prior to the commencement of river walks and local catchment assessment work. Public meetings took place in the Mountain Water and Emy Catchment on the 31st of January 2019 and in the Maghera Catchment on the 28th of Feb 2019. The purpose of these meetings is to inform local stakeholders and the community about the water quality in the area, the planned work programme and to gather any local information that may aid the process.



For further details see: <http://watersandcommunities.ie/>

WATER SERVICES

Irish Water invests in 9 new vans to ensure delivery of first class water services for Monaghan customers

Irish Water is upgrading the fleet of Water Services vans operating in County Monaghan as part of its ongoing strategy to improve the service delivered to customers. This has included the delivery of new work vehicles to Monaghan County Council.

The provision of these new vehicles will help ensure Water Services staff continue to deliver an efficient and reliable service to customers. The new vehicles will be operated by Monaghan County Council on behalf of Irish Water, and will be used for the maintenance and upkeep of the water networks across the county, in routine, reactive and emergency situations.

Kevin Smith, Irish Water's Operations Lead for Monaghan, commented: "We are delighted to be in a position to hand over these new vehicles to Monaghan County Council. This investment in modern, efficient vehicles will enable personnel to carry out their work in a safe and efficient manner, ultimately improving the service we offer to our customers. This investment is in line with Irish Water's commitment to developing a systematic approach to the operation and maintenance of the water and wastewater networks in order to continue to deliver a quality service to all our customers."

Cathal Flynn, Head of Water Services with Monaghan County Council added: "We are very pleased to take delivery of new service vehicles. A modern fleet helps us ensure that our staff continue to provide efficient and effective delivery of water services to the people of County Monaghan."

Irish Water, in partnership with local authorities, is investing in upgrading its fleet nationally. This is essential in order to deliver on our commitment to deliver quality, fit-for-purpose water and wastewater services for all our customers.

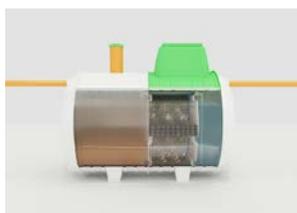


MONAGHAN FIRE CONTROL AND CIVIL PROTECTION

Market Surveillance Campaign 2019

Wastewater Treatment systems within the scope of EN 12566 series must be CE Marked, since 1 July 2013.

If you are a:
-Manufacturer,
-Importer, or
-Retailer/ distributor,
of wastewater treatment units including septic tanks, you should pay attention to the rules for CE Marking.



Over the coming weeks, the Market Surveillance Authority for construction products will be checking the CE Marking of wastewater treatment units including septic tanks within the scope of EN 12566 parts 1, 3 and 6.

The objective of the Market Surveillance Authority is to ensure that only products compliant with the Construction Products Regulation (EU) No 305/2011, are placed on the market.

If you receive a visit, the Market Surveillance Authority will primarily check that you have applied the CE Marking correctly and that you have all therequired documentation in place.

The Market Surveillance Campaign 2019 is co-ordinated by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in co-operation with the Market Surveillance Authorities and the National Building Control Office.

For all queries, please email: buildingstandards@housing.gov.ie



An Roinn Tithíochta,
Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil
Department of Housing,
Planning and Local Government

FINANCE

Monaghan County Council Rents App

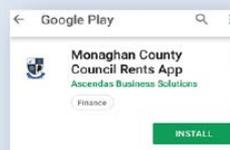
A free Monaghan County Council Rents App is now available to Monaghan County Council tenants.

Each tenant will receive a letter and their temporary password inviting them to register for the service. This app can be accessed via smart phone, tablet or computer. Tenants will be able to view their rent account online.

Additional features to the service will be rolled out later this year, these will include notifications and payment functionality.

For use on your pc download the following link:-
<https://rents.monaghancoco.ie/#/login>

For use on your Smartphone, download the free Monaghan County Council Rents App from the relevant Apple/Google store.



LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE

Job Creation in Monaghan

Local Enterprise Office Monaghan 2018 jobs figures, announced by Heather Humphreys T.D. Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation and Pat Breen T.D., Minister for Trade, Employment, Business, EU Digital Single Market and Data Protection, show that 134 jobs were created by companies supported by Local Enterprise Office Monaghan last year. This is an increase of 13% since 2017.

John McEntegart, Head of Enterprise, LEO Monaghan; said “These figures highlight the important role that Local Enterprise Office Monaghan is playing in creating jobs and sustaining small businesses in the region. The LEOs are the first engagement any entrepreneur or small business owner should have when they want to develop or grow their idea or company. Every day Local Enterprise Offices help small businesses to get off the ground, overcome challenges, hire new staff, fund innovation, prepare for Brexit and plan for the future.

The range of supports on offer from the Local Enterprise Office will help anyone seeking to start or grow a small business through highly practical services such as professional business and management training, mentoring, networking opportunities, finance and much more.”



MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS

St. Patrick's Day Parades



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