



March 8th, 2021

**Do gach ball den Chomhairle
To Each Member of the Council**

A Chomhairleoir,

Iarrtor ort bheith í lathair ag cruinniu den Chomhairle ins an Foirgneamh MTeK, Bothar Ard Mhacha, Muineachan ar an Monday, 8th March 2021 at 11:00 am.

You are requested to attend the meeting of the Council to be held in the MS Teams, Mtek Building, Armagh Road, Monaghan, on Monday, 8th March 2021 at 11:00 am.

Mise, le meas,

C. Thornton

**Carmel Thornton
Meetings administrator.**

Agenda

Notice of Meeting


 *Meeting Notice.pdf* *Page 1*

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes

 *Minutes 8 February 2021.pdf* *Page 2*

2.0 Correspondence

 *RW 01 of 2021 Monaghan Regional and Local Roads Allocations.pdf* *Page 23*

 *correspondence.pdf* *Page 37*

 *Additional Correspondence March 2021.pdf* *Page 56*

3.0 To approve the MCC Annual Service Delivery Plan for 2021

 *DRAFT Annual Service Delivery Plan 2021-V4 to March Co Co Meeting.pdf* *Page 60*

4.0 To receive Notice of Intention to adopt Part IV of the Public Health Amendment Acts 1890

 *Music and Singing licence appl.pdf* *Page 132*

5.0 Diospoireacht as Gaeilge / Tuarascáil Bhliantúil - Coiste na Gaeilge

Members note - the second document contains some Irish phrases which you can use during the meeting


 *Coiste Gaeilge annual report for 2020.pdf* *Page 134*

 *Using Irish at meetings.pdf* *Page 136*

6.0 To endorse Housing Presentation on Home Heating and Energy Efficiency

 *Energy Efficiency & Home Heating.pdf* *Page 137*

7.0 To nominate one member to the Comhairle na nOg Steering Committee

 *Letter re CoCo rep for Steering Committee - Feb2021.pdf* *Page 145*

- 8.0 To receive presentation on Tourism Programme**
📄 *Tourism Presentation - March 2021.pdf* *Page 146*
- 9.0 To consider recommendations and minutes from Corporate Policy Group held on 23rd February, 2021**
📄 *CPG 23 Feb 2021.pdf* *Page 164*
- 10.0 To fix a date for special meeting to consider the Capital Programme 2021-2023 and Civic Offices Project.**
- 11.0 To receive Management Report - February 2021**
📄 *February Management Report_final.pdf* *Page 169*
- 12.0 Business submitted by the Chief Executive**
- 13.0 Matters arising out of the minutes of Council meeting held on 8th February, 2021**
📄 *Minutes 8 February 2021.pdf* *Not included*
- 14.0 To receive update on N2 National Primary Road Schemes**
- 15.0 To receive update on North South Interconnector project**
📄 *NS_Int.pdf* *Page 194*
- 16.0 To receive update on the Ulster Canal project**
- 17.0 Questions**
📄 *Questions Mar2021.pdf* *Page 197*
- 17.1 Questions & Replies**
📄 *Monaghan County Council - Streetscape Accessibility Checklist -.pdf* *Page 200*
- 18.0 Notices of Motion**
📄 *Notices of Motion.pdf* *Page 205*
- 19.0 Votes of sympathy/congratulations**



01 Marta, 2021

01 March, 2021

Do gach ball den Chomhairle
To Each Member of the Council

A Chomhairleoir,

Iarrtar ort freastal ar chruinniú den Chomhairle a thionólfar go cianda trí Fhoirne ar an Luain 08 Marta, 2021 at 11:00 i.n.

You are requested to attend a meeting of the Council to be held remotely via Teams, on Monday 08 March, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.

Mise, le meas,

Carmel Thornton,
Meetings Administrator.

Minutes of Meeting of Monaghan County Council held via Microsoft Teams, on Monday 8th February, 2021 at 11.00 a.m.

Chair: Cllr C. Carthy, Cathaoirleach

Present: Cllrs. Aughey, Bennett, Campbell, Conlon, Coyle, Connolly, Gilliland, Keelan, Kerr-Conlon, Maxwell, McCooey, McKenna, O'Hanlon, P. Treanor, S. Treanor, and Truell.

Mr. E. O'Sullivan, Chief Executive, Mr. J. Murray, Head of Finance, Mr. P. Clifford, A. King, Ms. P. Monahan, Directors of Services, Mr. Cathal Flynn, A/Director of Services, Mr. A. Hughes, Senior Planner, Ms. M. McGarvey, Senior Staff Officer and Ms. C. Thornton, Meetings Administrator.

Apology: Cllr McElvaney

1. Statement by An Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Colm Carthy on the Final Report of the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes

Cllr Colm Carthy, Cathaoirleach read the following Statement

As Cathaoirleach of Monaghan County Council and on behalf of the elected members, I wish to apologise unreservedly to the women and girls who were incarcerated, their babies, the survivors, those now deceased and their relatives, for the pain and suffering caused while resident in Mother and Baby Homes or in the County Home in Castleblayney, while it was under the control of Monaghan County Council.

An Taoiseach Michéal Martin T.D. issued a formal apology on behalf of the State to former residents of the Mother and Baby Home and County Homes institutions, following the publication of the Final Report of the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes, (on January 12th).

The Government now intends to give detailed consideration to the Report over the coming months with a view to developing a comprehensive Government Action Plan to address eight specific themes to include:

- *A survivor-centred approach;*
- *Apology;*
- *Access to Personal Information;*
- *Archiving and Databases;*
- *Education and Research;*
- *Memorialisation;*
- *Restorative Recognition;*
- *Dignified Burial.*

Monaghan County Council, as a public assistance authority, had responsibility for unmarried mothers and their children and the operation of the County Home in Castleblayney until 1970.

The Council sincerely apologises to the residents, their children/adopted people, their families and the relatives of those who resided in the Mother and Baby Homes or the county home, who suffered and were mis-treated while resident there.

Monaghan County Council will actively participate with Government in furthering the development of the Government Action Plan as it relates to local government and as it relates to County Monaghan.

Monaghan County Council commits to supporting local measures that form part of the suite of follow-up actions, for example, in relation to memorialisation and access to archives and records.

In this regard, the Council will request that Government brings forward, as a priority, the legislation required to enable survivors and adopted people the right to access their records and personal information, which will be an important step in addressing the concerns expressed by the residents. We also call for robust supports to be put in place that are unconditional. Most of all, we ask that the women and girls, and their now adult children, are listened to and respected.*

While the Council's apology cannot undo the pain and suffering, it is an acknowledgement of our deep regret that the women and girls, and their children, were failed by the State and a recognition that the Council was part of that failure.

Ends.

*For information on current available supports please see Appendix 1.

Appendix 1:

Current available supports:

For information on available supports and information on how to access them call the HSE Live Team on **1800 817 517**. Lines open Monday to Friday from 8.00 am to 8pm and on Saturday from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm.

Contact your local HSE Counselling Service CHO Area Louth, Meath, Cavan and Monaghan – Phone **1800 234 117**

Connect Counselling provides telephone support. Anyone affected can also directly contact the CONNECT free telephone out of hours telephone counselling and support service where they can talk in confidence with a trained counsellor. This service is generally available between 6pm and 10pm Monday through to Sunday on **1800 477 477**.

Visit yourmentalhealth.ie for more mental health options including phone, text and online. Or call the YourMentalHealth Information Line on **1800 111 888**.

Support is available for adults through Barnardos post-adoption and origins services. The confidential and professionally staffed helpline is open daily 9.30 am – 4.30 pm Monday to Friday at **01 4546388**. Email adoption@barnardos.ie

After he read his Statement, the Cathaoirleach adjourned the meeting for a short period as a mark of respect.

On resumption, Cllr Connolly stated that he wished to make a proposal in relation to the Final Report of the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes.

The Cathaoirleach advised Cllr Connolly that, as agreed with the Corporate Policy Group and the Party Leaders, there would be no discussion on the report.

Urgent business:

The Cathaoirleach informed the members that he had received a notice of urgent business in the names of Cllrs P. Treanor, McKenna, Conlon and Carthy, as follows:

That Monaghan County Council will write to the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment that international trade agreements, such as Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), providing a right to multinational corporation and investors to sue Ireland outside the democracy of the ordinary legal and democratic systems, should be fully and properly scrutinised by the Oireachtas before any Dail vote on ratification. Also TDs should be allowed a vote of conscience on such an important and far reaching issue"

On the proposal of Cllr McKenna, seconded by Cllr Bennett, it was agreed to go 'Into Committee' to discuss whether to accept the motion submitted as urgent business.

Following a short discussion, it was agreed to take the motion of urgent business at the end of the meeting.

On the proposal of Cllr P. Treanor, seconded by Cllr McKenna, it was agreed that the Council revert to public session.

2. Confirmation of Minutes**(i) Minutes of Council meeting held on 11th January, 2021**

On the proposal of Cllr McKenna, seconded by Cllr Bennett, it was agreed that the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 11th January, 2021, be confirmed.

3. Correspondence.

The following correspondence was circulated with the agenda for the meeting:

- Letter from the Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine regarding occurrence of TB in Co Monaghan.
- Letter from HSE to Senator Robbie Gallagher regarding Bóthar Oirialla Group Home, Carrickmacross.
- Letter from Senator Robbie Gallagher to the members regarding Bóthar Oirialla Group Home, Carrickmacross.
- Letter from the Office of the Minister for Disabilities, Ms. Anne Rabbitte T.D. regarding the Respond premises at Drummond Otra , Carrickmacross.
- Letter from the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Mr. Leo Varadkar, T.D regarding Debenhams workers.
- Letter from the Office of the Minister for Defence and Foreign Affairs, Mr. Simon Coveney, T.D. regarding Jadotville.
- Letter from the Office of the Minister for Justice, Ms. Helen McEntee, T.D regarding Tearmann – Domestic Violence services support.
- Letter from the Cathaoirleach of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, Déaglan Ó Flanagáin in response of letter received from MCC regarding his new role.
- Letter re Annual Declaration under the Ethics Framework (which had been circulated separately to each member.)

- Resolution from Donegal County Council regarding request for rail link from Letterkenny to Derry.
- Resolution from Galway County Council regarding the Agri Kids Be Farm Safe Presentation, attached.

The following additional correspondence which had been received after the agenda had issued, was also circulated:

- Email from the Office of the Minister for Justice, Ms. Helen McEntee, T.D regarding Domestic Abuse.
- Email from Deirdre Ni Raghallaigh, Dublin City Dublin on behalf of Cllr Darcy Lonergan regarding Maternity leave for Councillors and enclosing copy of letters to Minister O’Gorman and Minister O’Brien from Dublin City Council members outlining their comments.

Proposals arising out of correspondence:

On the proposal of Cllr Bennett, seconded by Cllr O’Hanlon, it was agreed that the Council supports the correspondence from Dublin City Council calling on the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage and the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to make appropriate legal provisions to allow sitting Councillors avail of Maternity Leave.

On the proposal of Cllr Bennett, seconded by Cllrs O’Hanlon and McKenna it was agreed that the Council support the motion from Galway County Council circulating the Agri Kids - Be Farm Safe Presentation and inviting each local authority to join this imitative of Farming Safety and Safety Measures in Council Awareness Programmes at a local level.

In response to queries from a number of members relating to correspondence delivered to them late on Friday evening, the Chief Executive stated that he could not comment on the matter as it was currently before the Court. He advised that it would be inappropriate and highly inadvisable to discuss it in public. He confirmed that a briefing would be arranged as soon as possible and the members would be notified.

4. To consider Section 183 Notices relating to disposal of the following property:

(i) Disposal of lands at Carn, Clones

Mr. A. King, Director referred to the report which had been circulated recommending the disposal of 207m² of land at Carn, Clones and which was outlined in blue on the accompanying map.

On the proposal of Cllr Coyle seconded by Cllr P. Treanor, it was agreed that the Council approve the disposal of land at Carn, Clones, in accordance with notice dated 15 December 2020 under Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001.

(ii) Disposal of property at 25 Old Cross Square, Monaghan

The members noted the report which had been circulated recommending the disposal of land/property at 25 Old Cross Square, Monaghan and which was outlined in red on the accompanying map.

On the proposal of Cllr Connolly, seconded by Cllr Aughey, it was agreed that the Council approve the disposal of property at 25 Old Cross Square, Monaghan, in accordance with notice dated 20 January, 2021 under Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001.

(iii) Disposal of property at 2/3 Thomas Street, Castleblayney

The members noted the report which had been circulated recommending the disposal of property at 2/3 Thomas Street, Castleblayney marked in red on the accompanying map.

On the proposal of Cllr Campbell, seconded by Cllr McCooey, it was agreed that the Council approve the disposal of property at 2/3 Thomas Street, Castleblayney, in accordance with notice dated 20 January, 2021 under Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001.

5. To consider the Chief Executive's Report prepared in accordance with Part VIII of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) in respect of former Council Offices, Newbliss

The members noted the Chief Executive's report dated 29 January 2021 in relation to planning permission for the renovation and restoration of the former Council Offices at Main Street, Newbliss, which is a protected structure, for use as an Enterprise and Digital Hub. Planning Ref No. 20/8007 refers.

On the proposal of Cllr P. Treanor, seconded by Cllr Truell, it was resolved that the Council proceed with the development as proposed, namely; the restoration and renovation of the former Council Houses at Main Street, Newbliss Planning Ref. 20/8007, to comply with the report from the Chief Executive dated 29 January 2021, in accordance with Part VIII of the Local Government (Planning and Development) Regulations 2001 (as amended).

6. To approve newspapers for publication of planning notices

On the proposal of Cllr Carthy seconded by Cllr Maxwell, it was agreed that the Council approve the following newspapers in accordance with Part 4 Article 18 (2) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2006 –

- Northern Standard
- Anglo Celt
- Dundalk Democrat (Carrickmacross-Castleblayney Municipal District only)
- Irish Independent
- Irish Daily Star
- Irish Times

7. To approve the Monaghan County Council Draft Annual Service Delivery Plan 2021

The Cathaoirleach informed the members that this item had been deferred to the March Council Meeting pending consideration firstly by the Corporate Policy Group.

8. Audited AFS 2019

- (i) To receive the Audit Committee Report on the Annual Financial Statement 2019 and the Local Government Auditors Report 2019 on the Accounts of Monaghan County Council for year ended 31st December 2019.

Mr. J. Murray, Head of Finance referred to the Audited AFS, Audit Committee Report on the Annual Financial Statement 2019 and the Local Government Auditors Report 2019 on the Accounts of Monaghan County Council for year ended 31 December 2019, all of which had been circulated to the members.

Mr. Murray responded to queries from the members.

On the proposal of Cllr Conlon, seconded by Cllr Carthy it was agreed that this Council seeks of the Minister for Housing Darragh O'Brien TD and Minister for Social Protection Minister Heather Humphreys TD seeking of their Departments to re-assess the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) and other rent support structures following yet another report that highlights rent increases throughout rural Ireland that creates further hardships for recipients.

Cllr Conlon proposed, Cllr Keelan seconded that this Council writes to Failte Ireland seeking to robustly re-assess their tourism promotion budget towards County Monaghan following the miserly €3000.00 allocation for 2019 and to work with relevant stakeholders in a more appropriate branding for this County outside of the expansive Irelands Ancient East. Also for Failte Ireland to give a county by county breakdown of the tourism promotion allocation.

Cllr Maxwell suggested that Cllr Conlon's proposal be deferred pending a report from the officials outlining the breakdown of total grant funding received from Failte Ireland in respect of Council projects.

Responding to the proposals put forward, the Chief Executive clarified that the amount of €3,000 referred to by Cllr Conlon was in respect of local festival grants and was not representative of the amount of grant funding received by the Council in respect of projects such as Rossmore Park, the Kavanagh Centre, Carrickmacross Lace Gallery and Carrickmacross Workhouse. He stated that officials would give an overview of the Tourism Programme at a future Council meeting.

Cllr Conlon agreed to defer his proposal pending an update on Tourism at either the March or April Council meeting.

9. Audit Committee:

- (i) **To receive the Audit Committee Annual Report for 2020 which includes Performance & Effectiveness.**

The members noted the Audit Committee Annual Report for 2021, which includes Performance and Effectiveness, which had been circulated with the agenda.

On the proposal of Cllr Maxwell, seconded by Cllr Coyle, it was agreed that the Audit Committee Annual Report for 2021, as presented, be noted.

(ii) To approve the Draft Audit Committee Charter for 2021

The members noted the Draft Audit Committee Charter for 2021 which had been circulated with the agenda.

On the proposal of Cllr Maxwell, seconded by Cllr Coyle, it was agreed that the Draft Audit Committee Charter for 2021, as presented, be adopted.

(iii) To approve the Draft Audit Committee Work Programme for 2021

The members noted the Draft Audit Committee Work Programme for 2021 which had been circulated with the agenda.

Cllr P. Treanor proposed, Cllr Bennett seconded, that we include in the Work Programme for 2021 a request to the Committee to review and recommend to the Council how we maximise the benefits to businesses in County Monaghan, from Capital spend projects, through legitimate use of Social Clauses or other instrumentals.

Cllr Maxwell stated that the Audit Committee remit is to look at the day to day operations of the Council and put in place appropriate checks – it could not take on the body of work requested by Cllr P. Treanor.

Mr. C. Flynn, A/Director of Services stated that the Audit Committee was part of the local authority governance Framework and was independent to the elected members. He did not think it was the appropriate mechanism to deal with Cllr Treanor's proposal. He stated that he would forward information he had received from the Procurement Unit in relation to social clauses to each member.

In view of Mr. Flynn's response, Cllr Treanor's proposal was not put to the meeting. Cllr Treanor asked that the Council would look again at what he was proposing.

On the proposal of Cllr Maxwell, seconded by Cllr Coyle, it was agreed that the Draft Audit Committee Work Programme for 2021 as presented, be adopted.

10. To consider recommendations and minutes from Corporate Policy Group meeting

The members noted the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 26th January, 2021 which had been circulated.

On the proposal of Cllr Keelan, seconded by Cllr Gilliland, it was agreed that the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 26 January 2021 and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

On the proposal of Cllr P. Treanor, seconded by Cllr Carthy, it was agreed that the Council would receive an online presentation from ICBAN on the Framework of Priorities 2020 – 2025.

11. To receive the Management Report – January 2021:

The members noted the Management Report for the month of January which had been circulated with the agenda.

The Chief Executive and Directors of Services responded to queries from the elected members.

On the proposal of Cllr Conlon, seconded by Cllr Bennett, it was agreed that in encouraging efforts at fulfilling Climate Change targets, we seek of Minister Darragh O'Brien and the Department of Housing to elaborate on what increased measures and incentives have been added to the Warmer Homes Scheme and National Home Retrofit Scheme for 2021.

Mr. J. Murray, Director of Housing referred to a presentation that was given to the Housing SPC on Home Heating and Energy Efficiency and he stated that he would circulate a copy of the presentation to all members.

12. To fix a date for special meeting to consider the Capital Programme 2021-2023 and Civic Offices Project.

It was agreed to list this item again on the March Council agenda.

13. Business submitted by the Chief Executive.

The Chief Executive reminded members that an invitation had issued for a briefing on Tuesday 9th February in relation to the announcement on the Preferred Route Options for the N2 Ardee to Castleblayney and the N2 Clontibret to the Border road schemes.

14. Matters arising out of the minutes of Councils meeting held on 11th January, 2021

Matters arising out of the minutes of the Council meeting held on 11th January, 2021 and were responded to by the relevant officials.

Cllr Bennett requested that the Council would again write to An Post requesting them to locate a post box at Annyalla to facilitate local residents.

15. To receive update on N2 National Primary Road Schemes

Ms. P. Monahan, Director of Services informed the members that the update on this item had been included in the Management Report.

16. To receive update on North South Interconnector project

The members noted the following correspondence which had been circulated with the agenda for the meeting:

- a. Email from Niamh Smyth, T.D. regarding North South Interconnector.
- b. Email from Minister Heather Humphreys, T.D. regarding North South Interconnector.
- c. Letter from Pauline Tully, T.D. regarding North South Interconnector.

On the proposal of Cllr. Keelan, seconded by Cllr Coyle it was agreed that this Council notes with deep concern no change in policy from Minister Ryan - Eirgrid - or Government in relation to the undergrounding of the North South interconnector. That this Council further notes that

Government - Minister Ryan - & Eirgrid are in breach of Government policy - Re Community acceptance (Government policy 2012) - in relation to infrastructure such as electricity infrastructure etc. That we write to Minister Ryan - An Taoiseach Michael Martin & the Daireachtas members for this constituency requesting a response to this motion

On the proposal of Cllr Keelan, seconded by Cllr Coyle, it was agreed that this Council notes with deep concern the excessive spending of taxpayers money by Eirgrid on advertising as exposed at the Public Accounts Committee and that we write to Minister Eamonn Ryan, An Taoiseach Micheál Martin, Eirgrid & the Daireachtas members for this constituency requesting a response on this issue.

Cllr Maxwell proposed, Cllr O'Hanlon seconded - that this Council writes to Michelle O'Neill, MLA asking why Sinn Fein in the Northern Ireland Executive have washed their hands of the North South Interconnector and have not invoked the Petition of Concern in the Assembly to have Minister Mallon's decision debated in the Northern Ireland Chamber to argue the case for undergrounding of the Interconnector.

Cllr McKenna stated that he could not support the motion unless the reference to "Sinn Fein in the Northern Ireland Executive have washed their hands of the North South Interconnector" was removed from it. Cllr Maxwell agreed to remove the reference as requested by Cllr McKenna.

The Cathaoirleach put Cllr Maxwell's motion, as amended, to the meeting and it was agreed.

17. To receive update on the Ulster Canal project

Cllr Connolly referred to the presentation given by Waterways Ireland to the Council members on 19th January 2021 and stated that he was shocked to learn that there was no brief for the Ulster Canal beyond Clones toward Monaghan Town and Middletown. He made the following proposal, which was seconded by Cllr Coyle.

That Monaghan County Council writes to Waterways Ireland asking them to clarify their role in the development of the Ulster Canal from Clones to Middletown, Co. Armagh.

Cllr McKenna proposed that the Council writes to the North-South Ministerial Council seeking clarification in relation to the project and requesting that funding is provided for the entire route of the canal. Cllr P. Treanor seconded the proposal.

The Cathaoirleach put both proposals to the meeting and they were agreed.

18. Questions:

Cllr A. Campbell asked:

1. With regard to the development of the 28 houses in Bree, Castleblayney known as Plas an Bhri and these houses near completion.
 - (a) Will the work on these houses be allowed to continue to get them finished due to the stopping of construction work due to Covid-19?
 - (b) When will these houses be ready for hand over?
 - (c) What is the energy rating of these homes?

Reply: Monaghan County Council has contracts in place with Ballymar Developments Limited for the provision of 26 houses at Plás an Bhrí, Bree, Castleblayney, funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage under the Rebuilding Ireland Programme.

Plás an Bhrí has been designated an essential project and works to complete the 26 houses have continued in accordance with the public health regulations under Level 5 restrictions. The houses are substantially completed. There remains minor works and snagging which are due to be completed by March 2021. The 26 homes will be finished to a high quality and will have Building Energy Ratings of A2.

2. With a large vacant site now in the town centre of Castleblayney where the Fire Station and Council office/yard were located and the housing section in Monaghan Council having ongoing discussions regarding this site.

- (a) What is the update in relation to Monaghan County Councils plans for housing and in particular housing for the elderly in this town centre location?
 (b) Will these plans include the protected structure in this area?
 (c) What is the time scale in terms of these plans?

Reply: In consultation and cooperation with an Approved Housing Body, that has provided excellent sheltered housing projects in other counties, Monaghan County Council is examining the possibility of providing sheltered housing for older people in the location where the old Fire Station and Council office/yard are located in Castleblayney. It is intended that the plans will include the protected structure. The proposal is at feasibility stage.

3. The impacts of climate change are becoming increasingly apparent at both local and global level and the scientific evidence suggests that these impacts will intensify over the coming decades. With regard to climate change and the energy 2030 targets which have been set out.

- (a) What plans has Monaghan Council in place?

Reply: Since 2009, Monaghan Co Council has been working towards the National Energy targets – the Energy Reduction target for 2020, and now the Energy & Carbon Dioxide equivalent targets for 2030 and 2050. Monaghan Co Council continually strives to optimise its Energy usage and reduce its Carbon emissions.

- (b) What are the key aspects of any plans which are in place?

Reply: From 2009 to 2020, the focus for Public Bodies was entirely on Energy Reduction, ie Electrical, Thermal & Transport. As Electrical Energy made up the largest component of Monaghan Co Councils energy usage, and Public Lighting made up the largest part of the electrical energy usage, Monaghan Co Council commenced its LED Retrofit of the Public Lighting in order to reduce this. As of end 2019, Monaghan Co Council has reached the 2020 energy reduction target, one year ahead of target. In order to achieve the required Energy & Carbon reductions required for 2030 & 2050, it will be necessary for Monaghan Co Council to improve the energy performance of its public buildings and reduce the usage of fossil fuels.

- (c) How will any plan the Council have in place be monitored?

Reply: The 2020 energy performance of all Public Bodies, including Local Authorities, is recorded and monitored by the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland, on behalf of the Government. Monaghan Co Council inputs all its energy- and fuel usage data into this online monitoring system on an annual basis. It has recently been announced that the same SEAI Monitoring & Reporting system is to

be used to record Public Body performance towards the 2030 and 2050 Energy and Carbon targets.

4. With regards to the National Waste Enforcement Priorities for 2021. What priorities have Monaghan County Council in place under the various headings including tackling significant illegal waste activity, construction and demolition activity, End of Life Vehicles, Waste Collections etc.

Reply: Monaghan County Council is required to detail the steps to be undertaken to progress National Waste Enforcement Priorities and ensure that resources are allocated to these through a submission to the EPA. Below is some detail on the work programme for the Waste Enforcement Team in 2021.

Multi Agency Sites of Interest

- Attend multi agency forum
- Re-establish check points when public health advice allows for them.
- Request Gardaí to accompany WEO on sites where there is the potential for conflict or there is a criminal element involved.
- WERLA shall be kept informed of sites of interest through regular contact with the Coordinator and at the quarterly meetings.

Tackling Significant Illegal activity

- Respond to all complaints and put resources into complaints of most risk.
- Be proactive in gathering and assessing intelligence including aerial surveys.
- Close out 3 cases that are currently before the courts.
- Currently another 5 files with Solrs or pending submission that will require action in 2021. All involve serious criminal activity and construction and demolition waste.
- Work with WERLA on their work programme to include ADI Scheme, Multi Agency Site inspections, operators of concern.
- Awareness programme based on ADI materials supplied in 2020.

Construction and Demolition Waste

- Request Construction and Demolition Plans one month prior to works commencement for major projects and projects that involve any level of demolition through the planning process.
- Follow up on these plans including review and site inspections
- Ensure that all demolition sites comply with requirements of the Waste Permit Regulations for crushing or infilling on sites
- Review all article 27 notifications and where issues arise notify the EPA through Art 27 process. This includes site visits of both source and receiving sites and a desktop review of planning conditions pertaining to both sites.
- Review of AER data at WFP and COR sites and Waste Collectors dealing with C&D waste especially soil and stone
- Investigate all complaints of C and D waste being illegally disposed of.
- Protect wetlands in County Monaghan from infilling

End-of Life Vehicles (ELV) & the Waste Metal sector

- Inspect licences Authorised Treatment Facilities (ATF)
- Inspect waste data from ATFs
- Identify and inspect unauthorised sites containing ELVs. Take appropriate action on these sites

Household and Commercial Waste

- Validate AER Data and work collaboratively with CUWMPO on any audits of major waste collectors, one of which is in County Monaghan
- Data validation of waste collectors AER data and follow up with discrepancies as per waste data and waste flows
- Carry out site audits on at least two operators of concern
- Work with the 3 household waste collectors located in the County on provision of brown bin roll out

Household awareness campaign on recycling and food waste and Commercial waste awareness campaign utilising materials provided by www.mywaste.ie

5. With the Country in Level 5 due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and the importance of health and wellbeing for so many people. Under the Healthy Ireland Keep Well Campaign which promotes exercise and physical activity and minding your mental health. And the big issue with so much information being bombarded at us how to switch off.

- a) What plans has Monaghan County Council in place to promote this very important plan at this time?

Reply: The Healthy Ireland Keep Well message has been promoted to all sectors of our community in various ways since the campaign launched in November 2020. Monaghan County council has created a designated page on the council website www.monaghan.ie/keep-well where a variety of information can be found across the 5 key themes of the campaign. A "Keep Well" calendar has been created on this page which is populated with events, activities, training and information sessions happening locally. It is currently mostly online but still provides lots of opportunities for members of the public to engage in activities to support their physical and mental health.

Throughout the month of December and January, MCC has booked a large number of advertising slots on Northern Sound, pointing people to the County Council or Monaghan Sports Partnerships website or social media accounts for information. There is also a twice weekly slot on the popular "Wider View" Programme on Northern Sound where each week there are two guest speakers interviewed on topics that tie into one of the 5 key themes of the campaign. Those themes being, Staying Connected, Keeping Active, Minding Your Mood, Switching Off and Eating Well. All of these interviews have been saved as podcasts and can also be found on the council website at <https://monaghan.ie/podcasts/>.

With funding received from the Community Resilience Fund MCC has developed a programme of work with a variety of actions and activities planned, some already delivered. These see us linking with internal partners like Monaghan Age Friendly programme, Monaghan PPN, Monaghan Sports Partnership & County Libraries on contacting our communities in a variety of ways. All these campaigns and messages are promoted regularly on the Healthy Monaghan Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages. Advertisements have also been taken in the Northern Standard promoting the Community Call helpline and specific Age Friendly initiatives.

Cllr C. Carthy asked:

6. What is the updated position on Vacant Housing in Co. Monaghan i.e: How many units have been brought back into use since the start of 2019?
- What plans are in place to make use of remaining Vacant Units?

Reply: Under the government Vacant Homes Scheme Monaghan County Council have coordinated 7 properties taken back into use under the Buy and Renew Scheme since 2019 (17 houses in 2018 delivered also), 2 properties have been taken back into use under the Repair and Lease Scheme since 2019 (4 units in 2018 delivered also), 80 houses have been taken back into use by Approved Housing Bodies in conjunction with Monaghan County Council since 2018 and 59 new homes will be delivered or in the process of being delivered on previously Derelict Sites in Co. Monaghan (including 32 on the unfinished housing development in Scotstown).

Further to this, since the inception of the Vacant Homes Programme, the Vacant Homes Office carried out onsite inspections of circa 300 vacant homes in county Monaghan. Once vacancy is confirmed Monaghan County Council issues information regarding possible options to owners to bring vacant properties into use (such as the Repair and Lease Scheme) and engages with owners if they are interested to advise them of the particulars of each scheme available. Monaghan County Council's Vacant Homes Office is registered with www.vacanthomes.ie where the public can provide the details of any vacant homes in their locality and the website will automatically notify the Vacant Homes Office by email for further investigation.

Monaghan County Council will continue gathering information and surveying vacant homes to provide a holistic profile on vacancy throughout County Monaghan with the intention of encouraging the use of vacant homes wherever possible towards revitalising and repopulating the areas that are most affected by vacancy.

7. What is the current make-up of the Co. Monaghan Council Housing list:
 (a) How many are on the list for 2, 3, 4 & 5 bed units?
 (b) What are the figures per Municipal District?

Reply: Total waiting list as of 29/01/2021 = 1289

MD	1/2BED	3BED	4+BED
Monaghan	448	127	34
Ballybay/Clones	163	34	13
CMX/CBY	362	71	37
TOTAL	973	232	84

- (c) How long, on average, are people waiting for a housing offer (depending on house size)?

Reply: Information is not currently available.

Cllr R. Truell asked;

8. Can Monaghan County Council investigate the status of 4no. houses that appear to be derelict on Lower Main Street, Newbliss, Co. Monaghan. The Eircode's of these dwelling houses are (i) H18 DK24 (ii) H18 FK52 (iii) H18 W932 and (iv) H18 TE80. If these dwellings are deemed to have derelict status potential, I request that Monaghan County Council advise if the derelict sites process can be commenced for these dwellings and if there is a potential for refurbishment of these houses to assist with housing need in the area.

Reply: Monaghan County Council will investigate the condition of these four houses and liaise with Ballybay Clones Municipal District office when our report is completed.

Cllr S. Conlon asked:

9. Following the selection by Irish Water in July 2020 to upgrade the Waste Water Treatment Plants (WWTP) at Clontibret, Glaslough, Carrickroe, Knockatallon, Oram and Newbliss under the Small Towns and Villages Growth Programme and accompanying budget of €1,238,000, please provide an update on how these upgrade schemes are progressing.

And further, what percentile range are these six WWTP's compliant with discharge standards.

Reply: No reply has been received by Irish Water, but members will be updated once received.

10. Following the recent Government announcement that the National Transport Authority plan to create 248 new Local Authority posts to expand walking and cycling facilities throughout Ireland, what resources have been allocated to Monaghan County Council for this purpose?

Also, do allocated resources include the establishment in Monaghan of one of the 30 new Regional Cycling Design Offices?

Reply: The Executive of Monaghan County Council is aware of the government announcement relating to the proposed creation of 248 new posts to expand walking and cycling facilities across the country, to date no formal communication has been received from the Department or the NTA in this regard.

Staff from the Roads section are engaging with the NTA in regard to the Active Travel scheme and a preliminary meeting was held with NTA on 2nd February where potential schemes and staffing requirements were discussed.

It's envisaged that a submission for staff resources will be made to the NTA in the coming weeks. A significant list of potential schemes has been submitted to the NTA for consideration and further discussions with NTA staff are scheduled to take place in the coming weeks.

In regard to the question on Regional Cycling Design Offices, again MCC has not received any formal communication regarding what is being proposed however, the Roads Section will make enquiries off the NTA on this issue.

11. Considering the €442,625 underspend from the 2020 Active Travel Measures allocation, and that less than €50,000 of the original €1,172,275 was allocated to the Monaghan MD area, will unsuccessful proposed projects previously submitted for this MD now be eligible for some allocation of this carried over funding for works this year?

Reply: In August 2020 Monaghan County Council received an allocation of €1,172,275 from the Department of Transport, Tourism, and Sport (DTTAS) under the July Stimulus Active Travel measures to complete 10 identified schemes. During 2020, MCC successfully completed 5 of these ten schemes, and commenced work on a further 4 schemes, for completion in 2021, with work on the remaining scheme also carried forward to 2021. The below table sets out the list of approved funded schemes, including the amount awarded against each scheme and the completion date/expected completion date.

Active Travel Projects:			
Road Number	Location	Amount Awarded	Schemes Status
Monaghan, Carrickmacross, Clones	Monaghan, Carrickmacross, Clones -Cycle lockers	€30,000	Completed in 2020

R162	Ballybay Town - Resurfacing	€150,000	Completed in 2020
R183 (formerly the N2 out of Castleblayney heading northbound)	Monaghan Rd Castleblayney – Cycle lane & Resurfacing	€357,500	Completed in 2020
R183	Ballybay town park (Lighting)	€20,000	Completed in 2020
LT-14114	Widened /Update of Existing Footpaths to the Estate	€43,650	Completed in 2020
L8934, R178-5, L8932, L8511-0, R179-6, R178-6,	O Neill St, Farney St, Chapel Lane, Parnell St, Shercock Rd, Ivy Lane Carrickmacross – Pedestrian Crossing	€50,000	Commenced 2020, for completion 2021
R938	Dublin Rd Castleblayney Resurfacing and Footpath upgrade	€151,125	Commenced 2020, for completion 2021
R162	Ballybay Town - Monaghan Road Footpath	€55,000	Commenced 2020, for completion 2021
R180	Lough Egish Village – Footpath	€175,000	Commenced 2020, for completion 2021
R927(formerly the N2 out of Carrickmacross heading southbound)	Castleblayney Rd Carrickmacross Cycle lane & Resurfacing	€140,000	To be carried out in 2021
	Total:	€1,172,275	

Subsequent to the August 2020 award of funding, and in recognition of the challenge of delivering Works Designs, Tender Documents, Procurement, Contract Award and Works Completion in the relatively short period to December 2020, DTTAS relaxed the deadline at the request of numerous Councils. This allowed the remaining works and the associated funding to be carried forward for completion in 2021, as per table above.

To date Monaghan County Council has drawn down €926,618 on completed/partially-completed schemes, and will draw down the remaining €245,657 in 2021, on completion of the tabled schemes. It is thus expected that all projects will be completed and no underspend will arise. No further funding will be allocated by DTTAS for the 2020 programme.

In 2021 the National Transport Authority (NTA) announced new budget strands for urban-based Active Travel projects. MCC is in discussions with NTA with a view to identifying suitable qualifying projects across all Municipal Districts. NTA has emphasised that funding will be allocated based on the quality of proposed projects, regardless of geographic location. It is not yet clear whether further funding may be announced for rural-based schemes. Staff will keep members appraised as additional information comes to hand.

Clr N. Keelan asked:

- In relation to road safety approximately how many hedge cutting notices have been sent out to landowners across the county, what action/follow up will be taken to insure that the hedge cutting notices are complied with before the end of the cutting season on the 28th of February next?

Reply: At the beginning of the hedge cutting season in September, and during the

first month of February the Roads Section publish an advert in the regional paper advising landowners of their obligations under Section 70 of the Roads Act (1993). The advert also appears on the MCC website and social media channels.

Hedge cutting issues are also resolved as a result of MD outdoor staff contacting landowners directly. Failure to comply with this verbal request results in letters of being issued by the Municipal District. If a landowner still does not comply, a Notice is issued.

MD	Ballybay/ Clones		Carrickmacross/ Castleblayney		Monaghan	
	Letters	Legal Notices	Letters	Legal Notices	Letters	Legal Notices
2020	7	3	5	1	12	1
2021 (to 1/2/21)	0	0	1	0	0	1

13. What is the annual fuel bill (diesel/petrol costs) for all the Council owned vehicles and where is this fuel purchased?

Reply: The annual fuel bill for Council owned vehicles for last year (2020) is as follows:

€222,656 for Auto Diesel

€14,653 for Gas Oil (Non road user vehicles) eg. Surface dressing plant

€1,015 for Addblu

There are three fueling depots within the County.

1. Monaghan Town Machinery Yard (Main Depot) comprising of Auto, Gas oil and Addblu pumps.
2. Newbliss Fuel Depot containing Auto Derv pump.
3. Carrickmacross Fuel Depot containing Auto Derv pump.

All depots are interconnected using an online Jigsaw fuel management system. Fuel is purchased in bulk deliveries using the OGP single supplier bulk fuels framework currently awarded to Circle K Ireland.

Reply from Fire Section:

Expenditure annually is €18,956.00

Supplier is Circle K with a local agreement in place in Ballybay (as there is no CircleK in the vicinity).

14. In relation to climate change and energy saving measures what is the up to date position in relation to the retrofitting of the public lighting network across the county with low energy LEDs bulbs?

Reply: Progress is continuing towards completion of the remaining LED retrofits, up to December 2020 90% of streetlights have been converted to energy efficient LED lights. Substantial completion is estimated by the end of April 2021 with a total completion estimated by end June 2021.

15. In relation to the roll out of high speed broadband which is now more critical than ever with so many people working from home, when can we expect that every home

and business across the county will be connected? Also, in relation to broadband connection points how many community building/schools etc. are awaiting this service across the county and when will this work be completed?

Reply: The National Broadband Plan is expected to be a 5-7 year rollout. Efforts are being made to expedite the rollout of the National broadband Plan but there will be work taking place within the county throughout the duration of the Plan. As noted in the Broadband Officer's Report, about 25% of premises awaiting connectivity in Monaghan are expected to be connected in 2021, with further areas to be connected in each subsequent year.

Ten BCPs have already been connected across the county. Tullycorbet is next and due to be connected in the first week of February. Two BCPs are awaiting connectivity, namely, St. Pats & Drumhowan. Additional BCPs have been proposed. Monaghan County Council received approval for Latton Community GAA Centre and Clara Hall. The BCPs in question should be completed by the end of 2021. It is hoped that more BCPs will be approved for Monaghan in the course of 2021.

16. What is the up to date position in relation to the upgrading of the Dundalk to Cavan regional road R178 which is critical to this region's economy, in particular the section from Carrickmacross to Sherlock town?

Reply: Cavan County Council, who are the leading partner have made a submission to the DTTaS looking for funding to complete a risk- based analysis for the route to identify the high -risk priority sections in 2021. Funding details for 2021 have not been released to date.

Cllr C. Bennett asked:

17. Can Monaghan County Council please raise the issue of Hard water in Scotstown and Ballinode with Irish Water? The issue still exists and consumers are still being forced to replace appliances due to this ongoing issue. Can Monaghan County Council please outline any measures that they have taken to improve this water supply.

Reply: In relation to the query raised by Councillor C. Bennett regarding the issue of Hard water in Scotstown and Ballinode, Irish Water completely understands the Councillor's concerns with regard to hard water, however, water hardness is not classified as a priority at this time. Water hardness is caused by dissolving minerals in the water, predominantly Calcium and Magnesium (not to be confused with Manganese). It is usually associated with limestone areas where the water filters through the rock and the minerals become dissolved in the water. When the water is boiled it can have a cloudy appearance.

Irish Water is required to comply with the European Union (Drinking Water) Regulations 2014. There are no limits specified for hardness in these regulations. Hard water is generally not a health risk. It is perfectly safe to drink and studies indicate that hard water can be an important source of essential minerals. When hard water is heated calcium deposits can form as limescale. This can affect household appliance such as kettles, showers, dishwashers, washing machines and some older direct heating systems.

With regard to softening at source, hard water can be softened by chemically removing the calcium by a process called ion exchange. This is where the calcium is replaced with sodium chloride or potassium chloride, commonly referred to as salt. Chemically softened water is not suitable for everyone to drink, particularly infants and some risk category adults, such as people with blood pressure issues. This is the main reason why it is not recommended to soften the entire water supply.

It is possible to install individual household water softeners, and there are many

systems available. However, care must be taken in the design and installation of such a system to prevent the occurrence of excessive chemicals in the softened water. For this reason, it is recommended that only the water for domestic hot water system should be softened, and the cold water system, and especially the cold supply to the kitchen sink, should be excluded from the softened process.

Irish Water's primary concern is that the water it provides is fit for human consumption. Lime in water is a naturally occurring chemical and is not harmful to consumer's health.

18. Can Monaghan County Council please provide me with the number of vacant commercial properties registered to them.

Reply: At the end of 2019 there were 709 vacant properties listed on the Schedule of uncollected rates.

19. Can Monaghan County Council please provide me with a list of initiatives that have so far progressed from the Sliabh Beagh Masterplan. The Sliabh Beagh Masterplan needs to be used to its full potential.

Reply: A Tourism Development Action plan has recently been developed in consultation with key tourism stakeholders on Sliabh Beagh. Following on from this, an Appropriate Assessment Screening was commissioned to determine the permissibility of key actions and a funding application was submitted in December under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructural Funding Measure.

Under the Road Infrastructure actions of the plan, road number L11356 was resurfaced in full, from Knockballyrone, over Sliabh Beagh past the Penal Cross to the next junction. Also a short section of the L11355 was completed. The existing picnic areas were all developed and additional picnic areas added.

Cllr A. McCooey asked:

20. Can Monaghan County Council outline the number of social housing units which will be added to the housing stock in 2021 in each Municipal District.

Reply: In 2020 Monaghan County Council and Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs) combined to deliver 94 social houses and prepared more than 50 houses for re-letting (casual vacancies). 44 houses were built directly for Monaghan County Council at various locations throughout the County, 23 were built for AHBs, 20 secondhand houses were purchased by Monaghan County Council, 3 were leased and 4 were built under Part V.

In 2021 it is envisaged that circa 150 social housing units will be delivered in County Monaghan however the timing of delivery is affected by the current Covid19 restrictions that have required building sites to close. Eight social housing sites were allowed to remain open as they were nearing completion, however sites that will potentially deliver significant numbers in 2021 are currently closed including; Lui na Greine Scotstown (32 affected), Clones Renewal Scheme (18 affected), Radhairc an Bhri Castleblayney (27 affected), Gortakeegan Monaghan (8 affected) and Lakeview Carrickmacross (12 affected).

Assuming that sites reopen and get back to up a high level of productivity in March 2021 and assuming that there will be no further site closures in 2021 then it may be possible to deliver the following:

- Carrickmacross-Castleblayney Municipal District:- 96
- Monaghan Municipal District:- 40
- Ballybay-Clones Municipal District:- 29

The figures above exclude voids or casual vacancies and also exclude house purchases. It is envisaged that the number of casual vacancies arising in 2021 will be similar to 2020 which will result in circa 50 houses becoming available for re-letting throughout the County. At present the number of secondhand houses to be purchased has not been determined as this will depend on the progress of construction projects, if construction projects are delayed further then funding might be made available by the Department for the purchase of secondhand houses.

21. Can Monaghan County Council outline the number of housing units which will be suitable for people of the one and two bed housing list respectively.

Reply: Monaghan County Council has accelerated our delivery of 2-bedroom dwellings in response to the increased demand. In 2019 Monaghan County Council constructed 8no 2-bedroom houses in Castleblayney and 29no 2-bedroom houses as part of a 43-house development in Monaghan town. In 2020 additional 2-bedroom dwellings were completed in Carrickmacross (6) by Monaghan County Council and (11) by Clanmil Housing Association in Rockcorry.

A further 71no 2-bedroom dwellings are under construction and due for completion in 2021 and onwards into 2022. We are aware of the growing demand for 1/2 - bedroom units and will manage our resources to address this need on a regular basis. This is an area of focus for us presently.

22. Can Monaghan County Council and/or the Planning section give detail on:

- a) any guidelines or restrictions, if any, that are in place for people who convert parts or their homes or outside garages in to home offices.

Reply: Individuals may be permitted to use a part of their residential premises for commercial use without the need for applying for planning permission, where there is no material change of use. Advice on this is available in the Information Leaflet, 'A Guide to Planning for the Business Person', recently issued by the Office of the Planning Regulator, in partnership with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. This leaflet is available online at <http://www.opr.ie/planning-leaflets/> and also on the Council website. The Planning Office is also available to offer individual advice where necessary, either by telephone or email. <http://www.opr.ie/planning-leaflets/>

- b) what implications there may be from a rates point of view.

Reply: If there is commercial activity taking place the relevant portion of the property would be liable for commercial rates.

Cllr P. Connolly asked:

23. To ask Monaghan County Council in relation to the Local Authority Mortgage Payment Break for

- a) an update in relation to the scheme?

Reply: The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage have just announced provision for a fourth mortgage payment break bringing the total of the four mortgage payment breaks up to a maximum of twelve months.

- b) the number of home loan borrowers availing of this scheme.

Reply: Nine home loan borrowers have availed of this scheme.

19. Notices of Motion

Cllr S. Coyle proposed, Cllr O’Hanlon seconded:

1. *That Monaghan County Council demands of the government and the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O’Brien T.D., that funding be made available for application by Local Authorities to allow them carry out corrective works in Housing Estates, where inferior/defective Developer Provided Infrastructure (DPIs) exists, as this is causing great difficulty for the residences/property owners, the Local Authorities and utility agencies, with many of these properties have been purchased at high prices in the Celtic Tiger years and today carrying a huge mortgage and a devalued property due to the poor/weak Developer Provided Infrastructure.*

Following a short discussion on the motion, the Cathaoirleach put it to the meeting and it was agreed unanimously.

Cllr C. Bennett proposed, Cllr P. Treanor seconded:

2. *This Council notes the centenary of the passing by the British Parliament at Westminster of the Government of Ireland Act in December 1920, the Act which provided for the Partition of Ireland. We recall the deep injustices, divisions and conflict caused by this Act. We reiterate our support for the Good Friday Agreement and the political process arising from it, including the revoking of the Government of Ireland Act. We reaffirm our support for the self-determination of the people of Ireland as expressed in Article 3.1 of Bunreacht na hÉireann and for the bringing about of a United Ireland "by peaceful means with the consent of a majority of the people, democratically expressed, in both jurisdictions". Accordingly we call on both the Irish and British governments to fully implement the Good Friday Agreement and all their obligations with regard to the rights of citizens; we call on the British government to agree to set a date for the Irish Unity referendum as provided in the Agreement; we call on the Irish government to work for this outcome. We stand ready as a Council to work with all statutory bodies and with civic society to plan and prepare for the referendum on Irish Unity and for a positive outcome to the referendum.*

Following a discussion on the motion, a recorded vote was taken which resulted as follows:

For: Cllrs. Bennett, Carthy, Conlon, Connolly, Keelan, McKenna, P. Treanor and S. Treanor	Total 8
Against: Cllrs Campbell, Gilliland, Maxwell, O’Hanlon, and Truell,	Total 5
Absention – Cllr McCooey.	Total 1

The Cathaoirleach declared the motion carried.

Cllr N. Keelan proposed, Cllr Carthy seconded:

3. *That Monaghan County Council writes to the Minister for Health Stephen Donnelly TD and to An Taoiseach Micheál Martin TD requesting the immediate suspension of all medical card reviews until the Covid 19 vaccine roll-out is completed.*

Following a short discussion on the motion, the Cathaoirleach put it to the meeting and it was agreed unanimously.

20. Votes of sympathy/congratulations

It was agreed that a vote of sympathy would be extended to the following:

- Bernie McMahon & Ann Burke, Council employees on the death of their mother Marie Kellett (née Duffy) RIP.
- Brendan Buckley and Suzanne Graham, Council employees on the death of Breda Brannigan, RIP.
- The MacCormack Family, Castleblayney on the death of Geraldine, wife of former County Councillor, Macartan MacCormack,
- Cllr David Maxwell and the Walsh Family, Caherdavin, Limerick on the death of Dennis Walsh Jr, RIP
- Michael Fisher, Journalist on the death of his mother Peggy, RIP
- Patrick Jones, former Councillor on the death of his brother James Jones RIP
- Cllr Raymond Aughey on the death of his aunt Alice Aughey RIP, and former TD and County Councillor, Jimmy Leonard on the death of his sister.

Urgent Business:**Cllr P. Treanor proposed, Cllr Keelan seconded**

That Monaghan County Council will write to the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment requesting that international trade agreements, such as Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), providing a right to multinational corporation and investors to sue Ireland outside the democracy of the ordinary legal and democratic systems, should be fully and properly scrutinised by the Oireachtas before any Dail vote on ratification. Also TDs should be allowed a vote of conscience on such an important and far reaching issue.

Following a discussion on the motion, a recorded vote was taken which resulted as follows:

For: Cllrs. Bennett, Carthy, Conlon, Connolly, Keelan, McCooey, McKenna, P. Treanor and S. Treanor	Total 9
Against: Cllrs Campbell, Gilliland, Maxwell, O'Hanlon, and Truell,	Total 5

The Cathaoirleach declared the motion carried.

March Council meeting:

It was agreed that the March Council meeting would be held on Monday March 8th 2021 and if Level 5 Covid 19 restrictions are still in place, the meeting would be held online.

The meeting then concluded.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Meetings Administrator

Date: _____



15 February 2021

Circular RW 1/2021

2021 Regional and Local Road Grant Allocations

Dear Director of Services,

1. I am directed by the Minister for Transport to enclose details of the 2021 grant allocations to your authority in respect of the maintenance and improvement of regional and local roads. The total grant allocation in 2021 under this Circular is €555.2 million and a separate carry over amount €15.85 million. The amounts available nationally under the various grant headings are set out in **Appendix 1** and individual local authority allocations and scheme details are set out in **Appendix 3**.
2. The conditions applying to the payment of allocations under the various grant categories are set out in the Memorandum on Grants for Regional and Local Roads. The last revision of the Memorandum came into effect in December 2018 (RW14/2018 with further amendments in RW 04 2019).

A revised Memorandum on Grants for Regional and Local Roads will be issued to local authorities by Circular in the coming weeks.
3. In the context of the substantial Exchequer grant support being provided to local authorities, the Minister again wishes to emphasise to Councils the importance of road maintenance and improvement works which promote the safety of all road users, including cyclists and pedestrians. Measures, including appropriate road pavement edge treatment, maintenance of verges, embankments and cuttings, roadside drains together with repairs of road pavement, footways, cycle tracks and cycleways, can all contribute to road safety and are eligible for grant assistance.
4. Local authorities must ensure that all works undertaken on foot of State grants are completed in accordance with the applicable conditions by the various intermediate and completion dates set out in **Appendix 2**.
5. Output returns for individual grant programmes will be required after the final grant payments for the year are made.
6. In addition, local authorities should vigorously pursue outstanding invoices from contractors during the year to ensure the timely claiming of grants in 2021. Local authorities should claim eligible payments as soon as possible and should not wait until the end of the year to do so.

22-25 Sráid an Chláraigh, Baile Átha Cliath D02 HC42, Éire

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7. The Department's Engineering Inspectors will be discussing with local authorities what measures might be taken to ensure that work programmes are advanced as early in the year as possible.
8. Progress on all grant-aided works will be reviewed regularly and grants will be re-allocated where a shortfall in expenditure is expected. Such adjustments may entail the distribution of the sum involved to another local authority.

MapRoad – Pavement Management System (PMS)

9. All Local Authorities are reminded that they must upload and maintain full records of all pavement projects on the PMS. All projects for RI and RM/SRM will continue to be submitted and managed through PMS. Any pavement interventions across other grant categories (for any Government Department or Agency) or using own resources must also be uploaded to the PMS.

In 2021 the Department will be moving from a paper/email-based Form A / Form B return to an online system through the PMS. This will necessitate each LA maintaining records of all pavement works on the PMS system.

10. Section 10 (5) of the Roads Act 1993 requires that each Road Authority maintain a schedule and map of all public roads for which it has responsibility. Each Local Authority is required to keep this schedule up to date on PMS and in accordance with Circular RW12/2013. The payment of grants is linked to this requirement.

Restoration Improvement Programme

11. The Restoration Improvement Programme (RI) continues to be the main focus of the regional and local roads programme. An overall amount of €260 million will be provided under the 2021 Restoration Improvement Grant.
12. Circular RW 8/2018 requested Councils to submit a multi-year RI programme for 2019, 2020 and 2021 based on a budget estimate of 100% of your Council's initial 2018 RI grant allocation.

The Circular specified that the programme should be submitted on PMS. Based on the allocation under this Circular, Councils should now submit an updated RI programme for 2021 by the **12th March 2021** on PMS.

13. As indicated previously the PMS has been amended so that when a local authority presses the submit button in respect of its RI programme an email with an excel attachment of the RI programme will be submitted to RLR@transport.gov.ie. This will be deemed to be the Council's RI programme.

Should the Council wish to change its RI programme during the year it should advise the relevant Department Inspector by email and copy the email to RLR@transport.gov.ie.

A list of inspectors as currently assigned to different councils is given in **Appendix 4**.

When all works are completed by the end of November 2021 a further copy of the completed programme should be sent to the Department by completing the "after" section of Form B in



the PMS and pressing the submit button thereby generating a further email and excel attachment.

14. As notified previously the flexibility to transfer from the Restoration Improvement Grant to the Discretionary Grant is no longer available.

Restoration Maintenance Programme

15. The Restoration Maintenance (RM) Programme continues to be an important programme aimed at protecting road surfaces.
16. Given continuing constraints in relation to current funding for the RM programme, the provision of a Supplementary Restoration Maintenance (SRM) Grant using capital funding is being continued in 2021. An overall amount of €72 million will be provided under the RM and SRM programmes in 2021.
17. Both the RM and SRM Grants **may only be used for Surface Dressing works**. If sealing works other than surface dressing are required, then they should be included under the RI or Discretionary Grant programmes.
- This means that works such as slurry sealing, clause 942 material, wearing course macadam and HRA which are often used in urban areas may now be only carried out under the RI or Discretionary Grant programmes.
18. Councils should record both their 2021 RM and SRM works under the Restoration Maintenance programme on PMS by the **12th March 2021**. The protocol set out in paragraph 13 above regarding the submission of the RI programme also applies to the RM programme.
19. **Councils should plan their programmes to ensure that all their RM grant funding is drawn down first before claiming against the SRM grant.**

Discretionary Grant

20. Discretionary Grants (DG) amounting to €84.4 million will be available to meet the cost of road maintenance and improvement works selected by local authorities pursuant to relevant Departmental Circulars.
21. The cost of salt used by local authorities in the winter period of 2019/2020 has been deducted from each authority's Discretionary Grant. Local authorities can use Discretionary grant monies towards staff or plant costs associated with salting operations or for the purchase of salt.
22. Councils are required to submit details of their proposed 2021 DG Programme on the excel sheet attached in **Appendix 5**. This return should be submitted to the Department at RLR@transport.gov.ie by the **12th March 2021**.

Local Improvement Scheme

23. In the period 2013 to 2018 local authorities were permitted to use a proportion of their initial Discretionary Grant towards local improvement schemes should they wish to do so.



24. The Department for Rural and Community Development (DRCD) introduced ring-fenced funding for LIS in 2017 and proposes to continue to operate this scheme in 2021. **The option of allocating funding to LIS from the Discretionary Grant will not, therefore, apply in 2021.**

Community Involvement Scheme

25. Ring-fenced funding for the Community Involvement Scheme was introduced in 2018. Following the application process, it was decided to provide funding over the two years, 2018 and 2019, so as to allow a greater number of projects to go ahead and to give local authorities more flexibility in delivering this programme.
26. Following a further application process in 2019 the same approach is being taken for the current tranche of CIS funding with funding allocated for a two-year period covering 2020 and 2021. The allocation for your local authority for 2021 is set out in **Appendix 3**. Where the overall amount sought by a local authority exceeds the 2020/2021 allocation, the local authority will have to prioritise the projects to be funded.
27. The CIS allocation as set out in **Appendix 3**. Grants allocated under other Departmental grant programmes cannot be used for the community contribution.

Drainage Grant

28. Grant funding of €20 million is being provided in 2021 for drainage measures. The allocation for your local authority is set out in **Appendix 3**. The funding may be used for the alleviation of road drainage problems either through new works or remedial works.
29. The works which will be undertaken should be set out in the form – Drainage 2021-attached in **Appendix 6** and the completed form should be returned to the Department at RLR@transport.gov.ie by **12th March 2021**. Any queries should be directed to Regional and Local Roads division at this email address.
30. Councils should refer to the Guidelines for Road Drainage which outlines best practice in relation to road drainage.

Lower Cost Bridge Rehabilitation

31. Grant allocations will continue to be provided in 2021 to fund bridge rehabilitation works. While it is not necessary for Local Authorities to seek approval to transfer funding among the approved schemes listed in **Appendix 3**, the Department should be notified of such transfers. Where local authorities wish to introduce a new scheme, for example, if implementation of an approved scheme is delayed, then approval should be sought from the Department.

Lower Cost Safety Scheme

32. The Lower Cost Safety scheme remains in place for 2021 and allocations are based on the approved schemes set out in **Appendix 3**. While it is not necessary for Local Authorities to seek approval to transfer funding among the approved schemes, the Department should be notified of such transfers. Where local authorities wish to introduce a new scheme, for example,



if implementation of an approved scheme is delayed, then approval should be sought from the Department.

Former National Road Rehabilitation Grant

33. In light of the 2018 regional road pavement condition survey findings, the Department introduced a grant in 2019 to assist local authorities with the rehabilitation of sections of former national roads with a poor condition rating and this grant is being continued this year.

Following consideration of applications received from local authorities, grants allocations under this heading are included in **Appendix 3**.

Climate Change Adaptation & Rehabilitation

34. Grant allocations under this heading in 2021 include, where applicable, funding transferred from the July 2020 Stimulus Plan grants to this year.
35. As the impact of climate change on the road network is becoming more apparent, significant issues are arising on the network as was evidenced by the funding applications received last year under the Climate Adaptation Stimulus Plan measure. For this reason, a specific allocation is proposed for climate adaptation/resilience projects in 2021.

The Department is setting aside a total of €15 million for such projects and will be separately seeking grant applications from local authorities over the coming weeks.

Active Travel

36. Where funding was transferred from the July 2020 Stimulus Plan Active Travel grants to this year, allocations are included in **Appendix 3** to allow local authorities to complete projects.

Speed Limit Signage in Housing Areas

37. Local authorities were requested to submit details of proposed expenditure in 2021 on signage related to implementing 30km/h speed limit signage programme in housing areas. Where applicable, grant allocations under the 30 km/h speed limit grant programme are set out in **Appendix 3**.

PSCI Surveys

38. A grant to assist local authorities in meeting the network survey requirements set out in Circular RW3/2018 and the Pavement Survey Standard is again being made available this year. Drawdown of this grant is subject to the receipt of a RMO certificate regarding the amount of the required 2021 PSCI survey completed as well as back-up in excel format, from the Agresso/FMS. For this reason the PSCI allocation included in **Appendix 3** will not be put up on the PRS until later in the year.

Cycle "Safe Passing" Signs

39. Following the inclusion in the updated Traffic Signs Manual of a new cycle warning sign which advises motorists of the need to leave adequate space when overtaking cyclists, Circular RST 04/2019 issued to all local authorities on the 19th December 2019.



This Circular included an Advice Note to assist local authorities in determining where the provision of such signs would be most effective. Where applicable, grant allocations for these cycle signs are set out in **Appendix 3**.

Own Resources

40. The commitment to contribute significantly from their own resources towards the cost of improving and maintaining the regional and local roads network is essential. In particular it is vital that local authorities at least maintain and increase, where possible, monies available for the maintenance and strengthening of road pavements.

It may be necessary for local authorities to postpone major widening and realignment schemes to achieve this objective, but the first priority must be the satisfactory protection of the existing road network.

41. It is vital that full consideration is given to utilising the Local Property Tax to boost own resources expenditure on regional and local road maintenance and renewal.

Contingency Provision

42. Local authorities are advised that the Department is not setting aside contingency monies to address possible severe weather events and that in line with established practice, a contingency provision should be reserved from the overall resources available to each authority for regional and local roads so as to deal with damage caused by severe weather conditions, including flooding.

Claims for payment of Grants

43. Local authorities should note that claims should continue to be made through Transport Infrastructure Ireland's (TII) Project Reporting System (PRS). These claims will be processed by the Department of Transport. Local authorities should continue to attach general ledger expenditure reports making up the claim on the PRS.
44. As part of the claim approval process each local authority has to nominate an official to verify that a claim is in accordance with the requirements for chargeability of expenditure and that all amounts have been checked in full and are in order for payment. **The Department would like to emphasise that it considers that this verification is a key part of the financial control system and expects this role to be executed with due diligence and care.**
45. The Department also wants to emphasise that local authorities are required to **submit claims on PRS before 12.30pm on the relevant Friday identified in the pay run schedule and if the claim is not submitted by that time, the Department will not be in a position to process the claim until the following month. Grant allocations only apply for the year in which they are allocated and cannot be carried forward. Any element of a grant allocation which is not claimed and approved for payment under the final pay run of the year is, therefore, lost.**



Audit Requirements

46. The accuracy of all figures submitted by local authorities e.g., grant claims, output data, details of own resources expenditure etc., is of the utmost importance. These figures are used in providing progress reports for Ministers and others. As part of our on-going review of the regional and local roads grant system, it may be necessary from time to time to introduce new requirements to further enhance the control systems in operation between local authorities and this Department.
47. You are reminded that this Department can at any time carry out either a full onsite spot-check or a desk-check on regional and local roads expenditure claimed on PRS.

Weather Warnings

48. As part of the 2021 allocations Local authorities are again reminded of the need to ensure that the necessary arrangements are in place with Met Eireann to receive weather warnings. **In addition, in times of above average rainfall, local authorities should ensure that gullies and drains in high-risk areas are kept clear, to reduce the risk of flooding.**

Yours sincerely,

Mary McCullagh
Assistant Principal Officer
Regional & Local Roads Division

c.c. Each Chief Executive, Senior Engineer



Appendix 1

Grants available in 2021 under Main Grant Headings

Grants being allocated to local authorities under this Circular comprise the following:

Category	Amount € m
Restoration Improvement (RI)	260
Restoration Maintenance (RM)	42
Supplementary Restoration Maintenance (SRM)	30
Discretionary Grant (DG)	84.4
Drainage Grant	20
Community Involvement Scheme (CIS)	15.6
Lower Cost Bridge Rehabilitation	13.8
Specific Grants	16.6
Grants for Strategic Projects	24.3
Climate Change Adaptation & Rehabilitation	22.4
Active Travel (Carryover)	13.5
Training	2.2



Lower Cost Safety Scheme	10
Rehabilitation of Former National Roads	8.1
Speed Limit Signage in Housing Areas	0.8
PSCI Survey Support	0.8
Cycle "Safe passing " Signs	0.4
Miscellaneous (incl. MapRoad, salt reserve)	6.2



Intermediate and Final Completion Dates for Regional and Local Road Works

<i>Operation</i>	<i>Intermediate Completion Dates</i>	<i>Final Completion Date</i>
Surface Dressing (SD)	1/3 by end June 2/3 by end July 3/3 by end August	31 August
Road Reconstruction (RR) and Surface Restoration (SR)	1/3 by end May 2/3 by end July 3/3 by end September	30 September
All works other than SD, RR and SR (except schemes which of their nature must continue into the following year)	1/3 by end June 2/3 by end August 3/3 by end of October	31 October

Notes:

1. Road Reconstruction involves the regulation or reconstruction of the existing road pavement and overlaying with bound or unbound materials with or without surface dressing and the provision of drainage, where necessary.
2. Where work is completed by the various dates, the cost incurred should be reflected in the following months expenditure return.



Appendix 3

Grant Allocations

Monaghan County Council	
Restoration Improvement	€6,702,000
Restoration Maintenance	€1,121,500
Supplementary Restoration Maintenance	€801,000
Discretionary Grant	€2,071,500
Bridge Rehabilitation	€743,000
Safety Improvement Works	€255,800
Specific Improvement	€1,350,000
Strategic Regional and Local Roads	€100,000
Speed Limits	€9,000
Cycle Signs	€9,100
Training Grant	€53,000
Former National Roads	€300,000
Active Travel	€272,843
Climate Adaption	€130,775
Community Involvement Scheme	€544,000
PSCI: Survey Support	€18,000
CBGM Pilot	€500,000
Reclaimed Asphalt Pilot	€500,000
Drainage Works	€524,880
Total Allocation	€16,006,398

2021 Specific Improvement Grant	
Scheme Name	LA Allocation
Brackly Bridge Replacement	€1,200,000
R181 Drumillard to Crossduff	€150,000
Monaghan County Council Total	€1,350,000

2021 Strategic Regional and Local Roads	
Scheme Name	LA Allocation
N2 to N12 Link road (Monaghan Business Park)	€100,000
Monaghan County Council Total	€100,000



2021 Bridge Rehabilitation Works on Regional and Local Roads			
Local Authority	Road Number	Location	LA Allocation
Monaghan County Council	L-2201	Scarvy	€74,000
Monaghan County Council	R-182	Aghnadambh Br. MN-R182-B-070	€67,000
Monaghan County Council	R-184	Listroar-MN-R-184-B-050	€61,000
Monaghan County Council	R-182	Tullycoora - MN-R182-B-060	€57,000
Monaghan County Council	L-1153	Rarutagh Br. MN-L1153-B-020	€58,000
Monaghan County Council	L-450054	Corhelshinagh Br. MN-L40054-B-000	€65,000
Monaghan County Council	L-3211	Corderrybane Br. MN-L3211-B-010	€40,000
Monaghan County Council	L-2241	Clonfad Br. MN-L2241-B-010	€52,000
Monaghan County Council	R-184	Aghnameal Br. MN-R184-B-010	€65,000
Monaghan County Council	R-186	Derrykinnigh Beg - MN-R186-B-100	€67,000
Monaghan County Council	L-50511	Knockballyroney - MN-L50511-B-010	€42,000
Monaghan County Council	L-2243	Annies-MN-L2243-B-010	€55,000
Monaghan County Council	L-1501	Ardaghy - MN-1501-B-010	€40,000
Monaghan County Council Total			€743,000



2021 Safety Improvement Works on Regional and Local Roads			
Local Authority	Road Number	Location	LA Allocation
Monaghan County Council	R188/L56011	Drummuck, Corcaghan	€20,000
Monaghan County Council	R186	Hasty's Cross, R186, LP1600 & LT16201	€10,000
Monaghan County Council	LP4052	Ross Rd, Carrickmacross	€55,000
Monaghan County Council	R181/L4201	Tullynahinnera, Castleblayney	€30,000
Monaghan County Council	R179/LS8660	R179 Corcuilloge, Donaghmoyne	€30,000
Monaghan County Council	LT-15101	LP1510 junction with LT15101 in townland of Creeve	€20,000
Monaghan County Council	R179	Shercock Rd, Carrickmacross	€10,000
Monaghan County Council	L22803/R189	Drunanny Drum	€15,000
Monaghan County Council	R162/L7300/L25023	Creagh, Ballybay	€10,000
Monaghan County Council	R178	Essexford Junction	€25,000
Monaghan County Council	LP2700/R188	Corravakan	€15,800
Monaghan County Council	L21104/L2810	Clonkeen Cole, Clones	€15,000
Monaghan County Council Total			€255,800

2021 Former National Roads			
Local Authority	Road Number	Proposed Works	LA Allocation
Monaghan County Council	R927-3 Main Street Carrickmacross	Resurfacing works	€300,000
Monaghan County Council Total			€300,000



Appendix 4

<p>David O’Grady Senior Adviser</p>	<p>John Coppinger Senior Adviser</p>	<p>James McCrum Engineering Inspector</p>
<p>Carlow Clare Kildare Kerry Kilkenny Laois Limerick Tipperary <i>South Dublin</i> Waterford Wexford Wicklow</p>	<p>Cavan Donegal <i>Dublin City</i> <i>Fingal</i> Leitrim Longford Louth Meath Monaghan Sligo</p>	<p>Cork County Cork City <i>Dun Laoghaire</i> Galway County Galway City Mayo Offaly Roscommon Westmeath</p>

Note 1: Italics indicate counties which are self-funding in terms of the main regional and local road programmes



**An Roinn Tithíochta,
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta**
Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage

1 March, 2021

Director of Housing - Monaghan County Council

2021 Allocation - Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with a Disability Scheme

Dear Director,

I am directed by the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Mr. Darragh O'Brien, T.D., to advise you that the combined capital allocation to **Monaghan County Council** for the payment of the Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with a Disability scheme for private homes in 2021 is **€1,286,225**, of which **€257,245** is to be provided from your authority's own revenue resources.

It will be a matter for your local authority to decide how your allocation under the suite of grants is apportioned between the three grant schemes, having regard to local circumstances. **Please note that the legislation in respect of these schemes does not allow for a local authority to alter the maximum amount of the grants available.**

Review of Allocation

If your allocation is likely to be greater than your requirements, please notify the Department to facilitate a reallocation of the funds. Every effort should be made to keep the schemes open, however approvals for grant commitments carried forward into 2022 should not issue in excess of 50% of your current year allocation.

Prioritising

Local authorities should ensure that funds are targeted at essential works only, in order that optimum benefit is received from the available resources. As set out in the guidelines, applications should be prioritised on the basis of the medical needs of the applicant. The Department encourages all local authorities to keep in contact with the hospitals/convalescent homes in their area, to ensure early identification of eligible applicants, whose discharge from care is dependent on the timely adaptation of their home. As far as practicable, a percentage of the allocation under the schemes should be ring fenced in respect of any emergency applications which might arise under these schemes during the course of the year.

Recoupment

Claims for recoupment in respect of the grant schemes should be submitted to the Housing Affordability, Inclusion and Homelessness Division in Ballina without delay, following payment of these grants by your local authority. The Department will issue a quarterly report to local authorities, detailing nationwide drawdown levels throughout the year.

All queries should be directed to Raymond McAndrew (096) 24340, raymond.mcandrew@housing.gov.ie or Noel Halvey (096) 24254, noel.halvey@housing.gov.ie.

Yours sincerely,



Paul Benson

Principal

Housing Affordability, Inclusion and Homelessness Division

Oifig an Aire Coimirce Sóisialaí
Office of the Minister for Social Protection



Case Number: REPS-2021-24844

Ms. Carmel Thornton
Meetings Administrator
Monaghan County Council
Council Offices
The Glen
Co. Monaghan



19 February 2021

Dear Ms. Thornton

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence to the Minister for Social Protection, Heather Humphreys TD, regarding Rent Supplement (Ref: Feb2021/02).

Enquiries are being made and a further letter will issue to you as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

Karen Henry
Private Secretary

*The Minister is a Designated Public Official under the Regulation of Lobbying Act, 2015
(details available on www.lobbying.ie)*

Áras Mhic Dhiarmada, Sráid Sóisialaí, Baile Átha Cliath 1, D01 WY03
Áras Mhic Dhiarmada, Store Street, Dublin 1, D01 WY03
minister@welfare.ie | t: 353 1 704 3000 | www.welfare.ie

Carmel Thornton

From: Minister FHERIS <Minister_FHERIS@dfheris.gov.ie>
Sent: 12 February 2021 14:44
To: Eolas; Info
Subject: Reply

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Ms. Carmel Thornton

eolas@monaghancoco.ie

info@monaghancoco.ie

12th February 2021

Dear Ms. Thornton,

Thank you for your representation in relation to holiday earnings under the Student Grant Scheme.

The assessment of means under the student grant scheme is based on gross income from all sources, with certain social welfare and health service executive payments being exempt.

In the assessment of means, a deduction can be made for holiday earnings made by the applicant from employment outside of term time but within the reference period.

Student grant applications for academic year 2020/21 will be assessed based on income earned in 2019. The 2020 Scheme allows students to disregard holiday earnings up to €4,500 from the assessment of reckonable income. The student must also have been in education when this income was earned. The value of this income disregard was increased from €3,809 to €4,500 in the 2016 scheme.

The eligibility criteria for student grants are reviewed annually by the Department and approved by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform. All proposals made in relation to education expenditure, including student grants, will be considered in the context of Budget 2021.

I trust that this is of assistance to you.

Yours Sincerely,

Frances-Mary Long

Private secretary to Minister Simon Harris T.D.,

Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research

Innovation and Science

Carmel Thornton

41

From: eCorrespondence (DCYA) <DCYA-Correspondence@cloud.gov.ie>
Sent: 14 February 2021 14:07
To: Carmel Thornton
Subject: CEDIY-MOGO-00689-2021

14th February 2021

Ms. Carmel Thornton
cthorto@monaghancoco.ie

Dear Ms. Thornton,

Thank you for your letter.

The response to Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence (DSGBV) is a cross Departmental and multi-agency issue. Under the Child and Family Agency Act, 2013, Tusla, the Child and Family Agency has statutory responsibility for the care and protection of victims of DSGBV. Policy in this area is led by the Department of Justice. Under current financial structures, capital funding for approved housing bodies such as domestic refuge accommodation services, is provided by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

This year a total of €30 million will be made available to Tusla to fund DSGBV services. This includes a €2.7 million increase in core funding, bringing it to €28 million, with an additional €2 million of one-off contingency funding being made available to help services cope with the ongoing effects of COVID-19.

The Programme for Government sets out a number of commitments regarding DSGBV, including an audit on segmentation of DSGBV responsibilities across government departments and agencies, which will inform future investments in this area. This audit is currently underway, and its findings are expected in Quarter 2 of this year.

The Minister and Tusla is acutely aware that there is disparity in the availability of specialist emergency domestic violence accommodation across the country, including counties Cavan and Monaghan. At present, women who are victims of domestic violence from counties Cavan and Monaghan can access specialist domestic violence accommodation in neighbouring counties Louth and Meath.

Tusla is also undertaking a review of emergency accommodation nationwide. This will assess the current and requisite distribution of safe emergency accommodation. Substantial progress has been made on a number of processes which contribute to the review, including a literature review, consultations with stakeholders, geographical and census data analysis, consultation with service users and policy analysis. Tusla has advised that it has been in contact with domestic violence stakeholders in the Cavan/Monaghan area to explore options in relation to the provision of emergency accommodation in the area.

The findings of this accommodation review, in conjunction with the recommendations of the cross-sectoral Monitoring Committee for the Second National Strategy on DSGBV, will inform Tusla's future decisions on priority areas for investment and development of services. Tusla has advised that the report will be published in April 2021.

It is of the utmost importance that the needs of those who experience domestic violence are met in the most appropriate way possible. The Minister strongly supports the work of Tusla and its funded service providers, and is committed to working with colleagues across government to support the Agency in meeting the needs of individuals who experience domestic violence.

Yours sincerely

Lisa Hughes
Private Secretary to Minister Roderic O’Gorman TD

From: Angus Lavery <Angus.Lavery@anpost.ie>
Sent: 26 February 2021 10:31
To: Carmel Thornton <cthornto@monaghancoco.ie>
Cc: Eimear O'Reilly <Eimear.O'Reilly@anpost.ie>
Subject: Letter from Monaghan County Council - rcd 12.10.2020

Dear Carmel,

First of all apologies for the delay in sending this to you. There had been a number of items of correspondence to us in relation to the post Annyalla and this any the complication of working remotely lead to your correspondence being incorrectly filed by me as 'replied to'. I am sorry for that error and hope you will accept my apology to the Council.

On foot of requests from local customers An Post examined the situation at Annyalla with reference to possible use of such a box and the options available to local customers.

Based on the projected mailing volume that would be generated by the population numbers in Annyalla it would not be operationally feasible to install a new post-box there. Currently the nearest post boxes are located at Castleblaney and Clontibret.

However, An Post is reviewing the postal network in the area and I will advise you if this results in any change to the current arrangements.

Regards,

Angus

Angus Lavery
Public Affairs Manager

T +353 1 705 8852
M +353 87 686 7024

**an
post**



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

Seirbhísí Corparáideacha,
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh,
Ceanncheathrú Chorporáideach,
Cé na gCeannaithe,
Luimneach

Corporate Services,
Limerick City and County Council,
Corporate Headquarters,
Merchants Quay,
Limerick

EIRCODE V94 EH90

t: +353 (0) 61 557150
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2nd February, 2021.

To: Each Local Authority

A Chara,

I write to inform you that at a Meeting of Limerick City and County Council held on 25th January, 2021, the following resolution was adopted and it was agreed to circulate it to all Local Authorities for support:

“That, Limerick City and County Council requests the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to immediately suspend the statutory time period for the preparation of the Draft Limerick Development Plan 2022 - 2028 until such time as (a) public health restrictions are lifted to allow for safe face-to-face engagement between the Elected Members, the public and the Executive and (b) the Department provides a definition of the ‘social and economic need’ as referred to in the National Planning Framework.”

Is mise le meas,

James Clune,
Meetings Administrator.

Carmel Thornton

From: Brendan Buckley
Sent: 16 February 2021 09:05
To: Carmel Thornton
Subject: Letter

Dear Carmel,

Mary asked to send you a note to thank you for the letter that we received this morning. We would be grateful if you would pass on our sincere thanks to the Monaghan County Council members for remembering Breda at the recent Council meeting. We are very appreciative of the message of sympathy.

Thanks again.

Regards,
Brendan Buckley



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[Twitter](#)



Brendan Buckley | Civil Defence Officer | Monaghan Civil Defence

Monaghan Fire Station | Annahagh Roundabout | Monaghan Town | Co. Monaghan | H18 YW81.
IRELAND

Direct Line: +3534781100 | Mobile: +353876349034 | bbuckley@monaghancoco.ie



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

Seirbhísí Corparáideacha,
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh,
Ceanncheathrú Chorporáideach,
, Cé na gCeannaithe,
Luimneach

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2nd February, 2021.

To: Each Local Authority

A Chara,

I write to inform you that at a Meeting of Limerick City and County Council held on 25th January, 2021, the following resolution was adopted and it was agreed to circulate it to all Local Authorities for support:

“That, Limerick City and County Council acknowledge the oversight role played by Councils in mother and baby homes, and call on all Councils to write to the Government to establish a national day of recognition for the women and their children impacted; and that the Council write to the Minister for Children asking that the survivors be given access to a written copy of Final Report of the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes.”

Is mise le meas,

James Clune,
Meetings Administrator.



COMHAIRLE | CLARE
CONTAE AN CHLÁIR | COUNTY COUNCIL

9th February, 2021.

Our Ref: February 21-29/AR/MMcI

Dear Meetings Administrator,

At the February meeting of Clare County Council the members passed the following resolution:

“Given the impact Covid 19 has had nationally on work and living patterns, and the opportunities this creates to ‘proactively address issues of town/village decline’ and to promote ‘compact growth’ in those settlements, we would ask the Minister of Housing, Local Government and Heritage that he undertake a review to the current National Planning Framework, and prior to the outcome, he remove reference to, and requirement for local authorities to adhere to, the two tiered approach to land zoning in the delivery of the next County Development Plan due to its negative impact on the ‘facilitation of the building of homes within the existing footprint of rural settlements’ and the ability to deliver on our own rural development goals.

We further request this motion be forwarded to every one of our Oireachtas members and to every other local authority in Ireland for their observations.”

It was agreed that this resolution would be circulated to other local authorities.

Yours sincerely,

Ann Reynolds,
A/Senior Executive Officer,
Corporate Services Department,
Finance and Support Services Directorate.

An Roinn Seirbhísi Corparáideach
Stiúirthóireacht Airgeadais agus Seirbhísi Tacaíochta
Áras Contae an Chláir, Bóthar Nua, Inis, Co. an Chláir, V95 DXP2

Corporate Services Department
Finance and Support Services Directorate
Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare, V95 DXP2



COMHAIRLE | CLARE
CONTAE AN CHLÁIR | COUNTY COUNCIL

9th February, 2021.

Our Ref: February 21-27/AR/MMcI

Dear Meetings Administrator,

At the February meeting of Clare County Council the members passed the following resolution:

“We are calling on the Government to enforce the laws of the land that exist in relation to tackling the unauthorised occupation of public lands all over Ireland. Level 5 Covid restrictions have been in place for some time and are likely to continue in to the future. Local authorities are precluded from taking action at this time and in the interest of Public Health & Environmental considerations we are calling on the Government to engage a Task force and design a mechanism or policy to protect all citizens in Ireland from the unauthorized occupation of Public Lands. We would also request the circulation of this motion to the other 30 Local Authorities, The Oireachtas Members, LAMA & The AILG.”

It was agreed that this resolution would be circulated to other local authorities.

Yours sincerely,

Ann Reynolds,
A/Senior Executive Officer,
Corporate Services Department,
Finance and Support Services Directorate.

An Roinn Seirbhísí Corparáideach
Stiúirtheacht Airgeadais agus Seirbhísí Tacaíochta
Áras Contae an Chláir, Bóthar Nua, Inis, Co. an Chláir, V95 DXP2

Corporate Services Department
Finance and Support Services Directorate
Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare, V95 DXP2

16th February 2021

Our Ref 02/0121

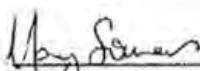
Dear Meetings Administrator

The following Motion was AGREED at meeting of South Dublin County Council held on 11th January 2021.

“During the massive struggle that has been waged by ex- Debenhams workers across the companies 11 stores in Ireland the deficit of workers protection in liquidations has again been sharply exposed. This Council calls for the immediate implementation of the Duffy/Cahill Report, compiled in 2016 in the aftermath of The Clery’s dispute- as one way of strengthening workers’ rights and tackling the legal outs provided to major corporations who engage in tactical liquidations in order to avoid their obligations under hard won workers’ rights. If passed this Council communicates such in writing to Government, to all Local Authorities and to the ICTU offering its support for implementation”.

It was agreed that this motion would be circulated to all local authorities.

Yours sincerely


Miriam Reilly
Meetings Administrator



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council

Comhairle Contae
Thiobraid Árann,
Oifigi Cathartha,
Cluain Meala,
Co. Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council,
Civic Offices, Clonmel,
Co. Tipperary

Comhairle Contae
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15th February, 2021

To: Each Local Authority

A Chara

I write to inform you that at a Meeting of Tipperary County Council held on 8th February, 2021, the following resolution was adopted and it was agreed to circulate to all Local Authorities for support: -

“That Tipperary county Council calls on the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, Ms. Catherine Martin, T.D., to consider providing extra supports to regional newspapers who provide an essential service to may communities including in County Tipperary during the Covid pandemic”.

Is mise le meas

Ger Walsh,
Meetings Administrator



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council

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15th February, 2021

To: Each Local Authority

A Chara

I write to inform you that at a Meeting of Tipperary County Council held on 8th February, 2021, the following resolution was adopted and it was agreed to circulate to all Local Authorities for support: -

"That Tipperary County Council write to the Minister of Environment, Climate and Communication, Eamon Ryan, TD seeking a 75% rebate in the PSO levy on ESB bills for Community Halls and facilities because of their inability to fundraise due to Covid-19. This motion if passed should be circulated to all other Councils and DPER".

Is mise le meas

Ger Walsh,
Meetings Administrator

Seirbhísí Corparáideacha

Comhairle Contae Chiarraí,
Áras an Chontae,
Trá Lí, Co. Chiarraí.



COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHIARRAÍ
KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL

Corporate Services

Kerry County Council,
County Buildings,
Tralee, Co. Kerry.

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12th February 2021

Please quote my Ref 2(a) Item 6 NoM 3 Jan 21 KLY on all correspondence

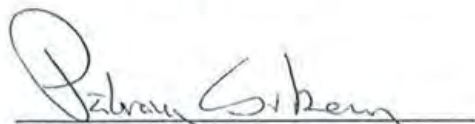
Dear Meetings Administrator

At a recent meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Killarney, the members passed the following resolution.

"That Killarney MD would write to the Minister for Health requesting the immediate introduction of payment to student nurses, once they take up placement duties. If this motion is passed, I ask that it would be circulated to all other Local Authorities requesting their support."

It was agreed that this resolution would be circulated to other Local Authorities.

Yours sincerely


Pádraig Corkery
Meetings Administrator



Seirbhísí Corparáideacha

Comhairle Contae Chiarraí,
Áras an Chontae,
Trá Lí, Co. Chiarraí.



COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHIARRAÍ
KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL

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16 February 2021

To/ Each Local Authority

A Chairde,

I write to inform you that the members of Kerry County Council at their recent meeting adopted the following resolution.

"That this Council writes to Ms. Samantha Power, newly appointed Head of US Aid by President Biden to address this Council at some future date."

It was agreed to circulate this motion to all local authorities for their attention and consideration.

Mise, le meas,

Pádraig Corkery
Riarthóir Cruinnithe / Meetings Administrator
Comhairle Contae Chiarraí / Kerry County Council



Seirbhísí Corparáideacha

Comhairle Contae Chiarraí,
Áras an Chontae,
Trá Lí, Co. Chiarraí.

**COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHIARRAÍ
KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL****Corporate Services**

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54

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16 February 2021

To/ Each Local Authority

A Chairde,

I write to inform you that the members of Kerry County Council at their recent meeting adopted the following resolution.

"That this Council calls on the Government to utilise its seat on the United Nations Security Council to deliver Statehood to the Palestinian people."

It was agreed to circulate this motion to all local authorities for their attention and consideration.

Mise, le meas,

Pádraig Corkery
Riarthóir Cruinnithe / Meetings Administrator
Comhairle Contae Chiarraí / Kerry County Council



COMHAIRLE CHONTAE LAOISE

LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL

55



Comhairle Chontae
Laoise
Áras an Chontae
Port Laoise
Contae Laoise
R32 EHP9

Laois County Council
Áras an Chontae
Portlaoise
County Laois
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Mr. Darragh O' Brien,
Minister for Housing, Planning,
& Local Government,
Custom House,
Dublin 1.

March 1st 2021

Dear Minister O' Brien,

At the February meeting of Laois County Council held on the 22nd of February 2021, I raised the matter of the new Land Development Agency Bill 2021 which was published on the 5th of February 2021. We, the Members of Laois County Council are expressing our strong opposition to this Bill. If enacted, it will remove the powers from Local Authority Members in particular, the local knowledge and also our reserved functions under Section 183 notices for the disposal of public lands owned by Local Authorities. It is a further erosion of Local Authority Member's power.

The Members requested that the matter be referred to you as a matter of urgency. We are strongly requesting that this part of the Bill be dissolved.

I would be obliged to receive your comments/observations on the matter in early course.

I look forward to hearing from you in this regard.

Kind Regards,

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Fitzgerald
Cathaoilreach of Laois County Council

Tá Fáilte Romhat
Gnó a Dhéanamh
as Gaeilge





COMHAIRLE CONTAE SHLIGIGH

SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL

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ÁRAS AN CONTAE COIS ABHAINN SLIGEACH

COUNTY HALL RIVERSIDE SLIGO

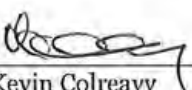
F +353 71 914 1119

W www.sligococo.ie3rd March, 2021To/ **Each Local Authority**

At the Ordinary Meeting of Sligo County Council held on 1st March 2021, the following resolution was agreed:

"To call on Sligo County Council to formally request the Minister for Agriculture to seek the appointment of 'an Independent Meat Regulator' with statutory powers. The purpose of such an independent regulator will be to have legislative powers to investigate anti-competitive behaviour by meat processors, meat traders, bodies associated with the trade of meat, trade of meat by-products and/or trade by retailers who operate along the meat supply chain."

It was further agreed that a copy of this resolution would also be circulated to other Local Authorities.


Kevin Colreavy
Meetings Administrator

Corporate Services Section
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3rd March, 2021

To/ **Each Local Authority**

At the Ordinary Meeting of Sligo County Council held on 1st March 2021, the following resolution was agreed:

“That Sligo County Council engage with their relevant partners including Sligo PPN, Sligo Volunteer Centre to address the urgent needs of the hundreds of community groups across County Sligo who are facing a funding crisis to keep electricity, insurance, credit facilities, heating, maintenance costs and other recurring fixed costs serviced as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Whilst recognising that there has been many beneficial schemes open to the C&V sector to in turn support their communities over the pandemic, there is now a requirement to support the C&V sector themselves to stay afloat.

In addition, that this Local Authority write to the Taoiseach, Tánaiste, Leader of the Green Party and the Minister for Rural Affairs and Community Development to request a scheme be devised to address the Community and Voluntary Sectors funding needs.

That this motion also be relayed to every Local Authority in the country”.

Kevin Colreavy
Meetings Administrator

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3rd March, 2021

To/ **Each Local Authority**

At the Ordinary Meeting of Sligo County Council held on 1st March 2021, the following resolution was agreed:

"To call on Sligo County Council to write to the Government and An Post asking them to give a 2 year extension to the current contract that most of the local Post Offices are engaged in. This is because Covid-19 has had a dramatic negative effect on their income due to the reduction in footfall".

It was further agreed that a copy of this resolution would also be circulated to other Local Authorities.

Kevin Colreavy
Meetings Administrator

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3rd March, 2021

To/ **Each Local Authority**

At the Ordinary Meeting of Sligo County Council held on 1st March 2021, the following resolution was agreed:

"I call on Sligo County Council to make a formal submission to the Minister for Housing, Local Government & Heritage outlining our complete opposition to the proposed provisions of the Land Development Agency Bill 2021.

The proposed removal of the Section 183 reserved function of Elected Members in relation to the disposal of local authority held land to the LDA as provided for in Part 7 Section 56 of the bill is unacceptable and an affront to local democracy. As advocates for the empowerment of local government, we can never support or accept any diminution in the reserved functions and powers of elected Councillors.

I also have concerns regarding the potential long term implications for local authorities in delivering social and affordable housing on local authority held land due to the extensive remit of the LDA. I believe that this is a major battle in our ongoing fight to preserve the local democratic function in the face of ever increasing centralism."

It was further agreed that a copy of this resolution would also be circulated to other Local Authorities.

Kevin Colreavy
Meetings Administrator

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Plean Bliantúil Soláthair Seirbhíse 2021

Annual Service Delivery Plan 2021



Comhairle Contae Mhuineacháin
Monaghan County Council

Introduction

Section 50 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 requires the local authority to prepare an Annual Service Delivery Plan. The Annual Service Delivery Plan translates the objectives of the Corporate Plan 2020 - 2024 into detailed supporting strategies for service delivery. It takes account of, and is consistent with, Budget 2021, which was adopted by the members on 17 November 2020.

The Annual Service Delivery Plan 2021 identifies the services to be provided and the standards to be delivered, monitored and evaluated to ensure that optimum delivery of services is achieved.

The plan provides a clear focus to enable the elected members, staff of Monaghan County Council together with key stakeholders to work together to develop and improve the services that are delivered to our citizens.

In preparing this document, the Council takes account of all plans and strategies that set out policies and objectives for all of its functional programmes, in particular, the following:

- Monaghan County Council Corporate Plan 2020-2024
- Service Level Agreement with Irish Water
- Monaghan County Development Plan 2019-2024
- LECP – 2016 – 2021
- In addition, a wide range of other local, regional and national plans statements and strategies inform and guide the Council's work, and the provisions of these plans have been taken into account in preparing the 2021 Service Delivery Plan.

Principal Services

The allocations to the different Service Divisions of Monaghan County Council in Budget 2021 are as follows:

Service Division	Funding Approved €
Housing and Building	€8,104,744
Road Transport and Safety	€23,571,957
Water Services	€9,180,867
Development Management	€10,486,628
Environmental Services	€6,624,715
Recreation & Amenity	€5,138,206
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	€507,270
Miscellaneous Services	€7,539,896
Total Budget	€71,154,283

The following pages set out

- the objectives and priorities for the delivery of each of the above services

- the strategies for achieving those objectives and priorities
- the performance standards intended to be met in the delivery of services

Municipal Districts

Municipal Districts have responsibility for the delivery of a range of services in their local area with a focus on making towns and districts attractive places to live, work and invest.

Each Municipal District is required to prepare a Schedule of Municipal District Works for adoption in the first quarter of each year. The schedule sets out priorities for works, infrastructure provision or activities to local facilities and amenities within their functional division having regard to centrally allocated budgets. Funding is allocated through the General Municipal Allocation and opportunities to develop new projects are available from national government schemes/programmes, EU/Peace/Intereg or initiatives from other bodies.

Municipal Districts provide many supports to initiatives aimed at local community and economic development. These range from local festivals and events; design of streetscapes and village renewal schemes; support for micro-enterprises and business parks; involvement in energy efficiency projects; promotion of rural broadband; planning for major investments.

Services carried out by each Municipal District include the maintenance, improvement and restoration of regional and local roads and footpaths, low cost safety improvement schemes, sweeping and scavenging, public lighting, public conveniences, school warden services, open spaces, parks and play parks. Municipal Districts are also responsible for the making of Traffic and Parking bye laws and the operation of casual traders.

Municipal District meetings are held monthly. Members and officials also meet regularly with community and business groups.

Support Services

All service departments across the Council are supported internally to deliver on work programmes. The relevant support services are provided by Corporate Affairs & Governance, Finance, Human Resources, Information Systems and Health & Safety Unit. A summary of the objectives and priorities, strategies and performance standards for the support services is also included in this plan.

Some key principles underpin the delivery of quality services to the public. These include customer care, good organisational communications, accessibility, performance management, financial control and data management. Initiatives in these areas are led by the support sections and implemented organisation-wide with the support and cooperation of all sections.

Performance Assessment

In assessing performance in the delivery of services, Monaghan County Council operates a performance management system across all aspects of its work. Under this system, the leadership teams in all sections hold regular meetings, during which recent performance is analysed using relevant data, previous decisions and commitments. Target performance objectives and standards are set, and the effectiveness of overall performance is assessed. MonaghanStat ensures that the organisation

implements strong leadership and assigns responsibility at all grades. Individual development plans are prepared and managed through the PMDS process.

In addition, the audit committee and internal audit process provides independent oversight and monitoring of the council’s governance and control systems.

NOAC

The establishment of the National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC) set up under the Local Government Reform Act 2014 provides further scrutiny of the performance of local government bodies against a range of indicators that the Commission has considered appropriate.

Every year, the sector publishes Performance Indicators to show the level of service provided by each City and County Council. The Local Authority Performance Indicators report provides an overview of the main indicators annually.

The 2019 NOAC Local Authority Performance Indicator report was published in November 2020. In 2019, there were 39 local authority performance indicators. Full details on the Service Indicators are included in Appendix 1.

Management Structure



CORPORATE PLAN HIGH LEVEL GOALS

This Corporate Plan - underpinned by our Core Values - proposes twelve High Level Goals which will deliver our Mission and ensure the improvement of Council services and infrastructure over the period of the Plan 2020 - 2024. For each High Level Goal, we have identified a number of supporting strategic objectives for which actions and activities are identified by relevant Departments in their Annual Service Delivery Plans

<p>1 TO ENSURE A CLEAN, SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT</p>	<p>Support biodiversity and ensure the sustainable management of water, waste, and all other environmental resources</p>
<p>2 TO SUPPORT LOCAL DEMOCRACY</p>	<p>Support the Elected Members, Corporate Policy Group, Strategic Policy Committee, Joint Policing Committee, Public Participation Network and all other committees in their leadership and representative role in response to the needs of the Community</p>
<p>3 TO DELIVER QUALITY & INCLUSIVE CUSTOMER SERVICES</p>	<p>Improve Accessible Services, improve communications and engagement with the public to drive efficiency and effectiveness for our customers.</p>
<p>4 TO SUPPORT OUR LOCAL ECONOMY</p>	<p>Support the Business Community to stimulate growth, encourage start-ups and maximise job creation. Improve prosperity through cross border partnerships i.e. ICBAN and EBR. Deliver on the economic objectives in the Local Economic and Community Plan.</p>
<p>5 TO ENHANCE CULTURE AND CREATIVITY</p>	<p>Strengthen the capacity of the culture and creative sectors within County Monaghan.</p>
<p>6 TO STRENGTHEN OUR COMMUNITIES</p>	<p>Develop, Support and Enhance the quality of life of sustainable, inclusive communities in County Monaghan as envisaged in the Local Economic and Community Plan.</p>
<p>7 TO IMPROVE INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROVIDE ACCESSIBLE SERVICES</p>	<p>Progress key infrastructure projects.</p>
<p>8 TO DELIVER HOUSING AND HOUSING SUPPORTS</p>	<p>Increase the supply of social housing, improve existing housing stock and develop quality amenities to enhance Monaghan as a place to live.</p>
<p>9 TO IMPLEMENT ROBUST BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE</p>	<p>Develop and implement sound financial, management and governance systems to enable organisational and operational efficiency</p>
<p>10 TO DEVELOP OUR PEOPLE AND ORGANISATION.</p>	<p>Ensure Monaghan County Council, is an employer of choice, builds our workforce for the future, supports and values managers as people developers.</p>
<p>11 TO ENSURE EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE SERVICE DELIVERY THROUGH ADVANCING INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND TECHNOLOGY.</p>	<p>Accelerate the digital delivery of improved and accessible services by promoting a culture of innovation.</p>
<p>12 TO TRANSITION TO A LOW CARBON & CLIMATE RESILIENT SOCIETY</p>	<p>Working in partnership with other key stakeholders to deliver on the adaptation and mitigation actions identified in the Climate Action Plan, Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and Climate Action Charter.</p>

Housing			
In the Corporate Plan, Monaghan County Council is committed to seeking to ensure that every household will have access to secure, good quality housing suited to their needs at an affordable price in a sustainable community. The Council's priorities and objectives in this area are outlined below, together with the performance standards to be met. Objectives will be delivered in compliance with Monaghan County Council's adopted governance processes & procedures.			
Supporting Strategy	High Level Goal	Actions for 2021	Performance Standards
To identify the categories of Social Housing need of all communities in County Monaghan and prioritise their needs in capital expenditure programmes	3, 6, 7, 8	Plan and prepare a report outlining the social housing needs of all sections of the Community. Ensure social housing applications are dealt with within a 12-week period	Completion of the Social Housing Assessment 2021
To deliver good quality accessible social housing through planned programmes for construction, acquisition, leasing, maintenance and refurbishment.	3, 7, 8	Continue ongoing construction, acquisition, leasing (if suitable and necessary), maintenance and refurbishment programmes and further develop programmes for subsequent years. Prepare, submit and support funding applications for additional social housing to be provided by Monaghan County Council and Approved Housing Bodies.	Rebuilding Ireland targets and NOAC Housing Stock statistics.
To optimise the use of housing land banks and increase land bank reserves.	7, 8	Examine potential and feasibility having regard to sustainability for development of land in ownership of Monaghan County Council and advertise for acquisition of additional land for future development.	
To ensure casual vacancies are re let in a timely fashion.	7, 8 3, 8	Review pre tenancy process including usage of online video presentations/tests	NOAC Housing Vacancies/Average reletting times and cost/Housing Maintenance Costs

To optimise the use of housing stock while at the same time achieving value for money.		Use of revised contractor framework, incorporate energy efficiency targets to reflect Climate Change Strategy	
To provide for the housing needs of Vulnerable Groups	6, 8	Undertake exercise in identifying vulnerable households on the waiting list and make allocations having regard to that Plan.	Assessment having regard to targets contained in the Housing and Disability Strategy
To meet the needs as set out in the Traveller Accommodation Plan.	6, 8		Report prepared to assess progress of the Traveler Accommodation Programme 2019-2024
To meet the needs of Homeless in County Monaghan.	6, 8		Report prepared to assess progress of the North east Homeless Action Plan 2018 - 2024
To promote home ownership by increasing the range of housing accessible procurement alternatives.	8	Sale of houses will continue under the Tenant Incremental Purchase Scheme and subject to development of a proposed new affordable housing scheme Monaghan County Council will endeavour to provide affordable housing where feasible and needed.	
To co-ordinate a programme of work to bring Derelict / Vacant properties back into use.	1, 6, 8	Continue inspections of properties and follow up to determine whether vacant or occupied. Liaise with property owners to encourage reoccupation of properties. Assessment against the provisions of the Vacant Homes Strategy	
To ensure Private House grants for people with a disability and older people in our communities to meet the priority needs in County Monaghan.	8	Review and Implement priority policy for private housing grants	No's of Housing Grants issued per annum versus No of Priority 1/Priority 2 applications recouped
To promote a high standard of private rented dwellings.	8	Continue the private rented Inspections programme. Review the percentage of	NOAC performance indicators relating to private rented inspections

		inspections compared to overall number of Private Rented Dwellings. Annual target set by Department.	
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Draft

Transportation In its Corporate Plan, Monaghan County Council is committed to developing and managing County Monaghan’s built and natural assets in partnership with other agencies to best utilise and promote economic, social and cultural benefits of our citizens. The Roads Service is key to delivering these benefits. The specific priorities and objectives for the Roads Service are outlined below, together with the performance standards to be met. Objectives will be delivered in compliance with Monaghan County Council’s adopted governance processes & procedures.			
Supporting Strategy	High Level Goal	Actions for 2021	Performance Standards
To plan, develop and progress strategic infrastructural routes.	7	Implement Road Improvement Schemes identified in Ireland 2040 and County Development Plans. a) Clontibret to the Border b) Ardee to Castleblaney. N2-N12 Monaghan Business Park Link Road. N54 to the N12 Northern Route. N53 Dundalk Road to Tullyvin Roundabout. Advance other strategic routes identified in the Development Plan.	Phase 2 Option Selection complete. Phase 3, Design & Environmental Evaluation in progress. Strategic Assessment Report completed, and scheme progressed subject to funding. Strategic Assessment Report completed and included on TII project list. Strategic Assessment Report completed and included on TII project list. Projects prioritised and advanced subject to funding.
To maintain & improve the structural quality of the road network.	7	Progress N54 Tullybryan as Minor Improvement Scheme. N53 Ballinacarry Bridge N12 Silverstream to Co. Armagh border realignment scheme	Completion of Phase 3 of the design process. Phase 4 in progress Consultants appointed and preliminary design completed. Strategic Assessment Report completed

		<p>Deliver National Road Maintenance Programmes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N54 Monaghan Town • N54 Clonlura • N2 Castleblayney By-Pass(Tullyvin to Cremartin) <p>N2 Tullyvaragh Junction</p> <p>N54 Margaret Skinnader Roundabout</p> <p>HD 17 Road Safety Sites</p> <p>National Road Maintenance Schemes</p> <p>Non-National Improvement schemes</p> <p>Non-National Maintenance schemes</p>	<p>2.3kms of resurfacing completed. 2.6km of resurfacing completed PARR approved & design completed</p> <p>Part 8 completed, land acquired, tender process completed</p> <p>Roundabout completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smithboro Pedestrian crossing & N2 Tirnaneill Junction completed. • Feasibility reports approved for Brennan’s Cross, Edenaforan schemes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defect survey completed; defects identified. • Roads repairs prioritised and completed on a risk basis. • Gateway Signage installed at identified locations. <p>Structural improvement on 45Km of Non – National Network completed</p> <p>Restorative Maintenance completed on 65Km of Non-National roads.</p>
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		<p>Bridge Rehabilitation Works</p> <p>Deliver Regional & Local Road Restoration Maintenance</p> <p>Deliver Winter Service Plan</p> <p>Implement PSCI Road Survey and monitoring programme in line with national targets</p> <p>Implement LIS & CIS Schemes</p> <p>Implement funding for Specific Improvement Grants on Regional roads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brackley Bridge • R181- Crossduff to Drumillard 	<p>NOAC R2: Completed Regional Road Grants Works in accordance with agreed Restoration programme</p> <p>20 Bridge rehabilitation schemes completed</p> <p>Discretionary Maintenance works prioritised and implemented in conjunction with the Municipal Districts.</p> <p>Winter Maintenance programme implemented. Severe weather operations reviewed at the end of the season. Plant maintained and updated as required.</p> <p>NOAC R1: 100% PSCI Survey of Regional Network completed. 100% PSCI survey of Local Primary Road Network completed. 100% PSCI survey of Local Secondary Road Network Completed 100% PSCI survey of Local Tertiary Road Network completed.</p> <p>Schemes delivered according to budgetary allocation.</p> <p>Construction underway Land Acquisition completed</p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R180 Lisdoony Road • R180 Tullynaeiglish 	<p>Progressed subject to funding</p> <p>Progressed subject to funding</p>
<p>Ensure effective administration & governance of Roads Programmes.</p>	<p>9, 7, 9</p>	<p>Administer road opening licensing, permits, road closures.</p> <p>Administer signage and customer service requests efficiently.</p> <p>Enforcement of the 1993 Roads Act offences.</p> <p>Facilitate the administration of projects and budgetary spend.</p> <p>Deliver fast and efficient on-line Roads Administrative services.</p>	<p>All online applications processed.</p> <p>Customer Service requests actioned.</p> <p>Roads Act Offences enforced.</p> <p>Timely drawdown and recoupment of funding stream and full audit compliance. Provision of financial reports.</p> <p>Automation of Abnormal Loads forms, Roads & Services in Charge applications.</p>
<p>Maintain & Implement a Severe Weather and flood management Strategy.</p> <p>Climate Action & Sustainable Travel Measures</p>	<p>1</p> <p>1</p>	<p>Severe Weather Action Plan to be adopted.</p> <p>Flooding sub-plan to be adopted</p> <p>Severe Weather Action Team to meet quarterly or as required under the Plan.</p> <p>Plan, design & provide infrastructure to assist with modal shift to walking and cycling routes.</p> <p>Continue to monitor and test the use of recycled asphalt & CGBM in road construction projects.</p>	<p>Draft plan adopted by SWAT in Q1</p> <p>Draft plan adopted by SWAT in Q1</p> <p>Scheduled meetings conducted, other meetings as need arises.</p> <p>Framework for consultants established.</p> <p>New pedestrian & cycleways installed subject to funding.</p> <p>Usable CGBM product developed and year 2 trial of reclaimed asphalt completed.</p>

		<p>Development of Ulster Canal Greenway progressed.</p> <p>Park & Share Facility at N2 Carrickmacross</p>	<p>Part 8 planning obtained for the Greenway. Detailed design underway, land acquisition commenced, tender documents prepared.</p> <p>Scoping/Feasibility report prepared for Carrickmacross area.</p>
<p>Enhance the safety of the road network.</p>	<p>1.3</p>	<p>Deliver Safety Improvement Schemes on National road network.</p> <p>Implement HGV restrictions in Monaghan Town</p> <p>Implement Safety Improvement scheme works on Regional & local roads.</p> <p>Implement the VRS safety barriers repair/ replacement programmes on the applicable National routes.</p> <p>Implement actions in the Noise Action Plan.</p> <p>Implement Fencing Retrofit programme.</p> <p>Draft new five-year Road Safety Plan.</p>	<p>Improved road safety through the completion of identified HD 15, HD17 & HD28 safety improvement schemes on national routes.</p> <p>Restrictions implemented</p> <p>Low cost safety schemes completed as identified and prioritised by the Municipal Districts.</p> <p>VRS inspected, replaced and repaired as needed.</p> <p>Year 3 Noise action measured delivered subject to funding.</p> <p>Fencing installed in accordance with the approved schedule of works (2km estimated length).</p> <p>Plan completed, year 1 actions implemented.</p>

Water Services
 Monaghan County Council is committed to the development and management of County Monaghan’s built and natural assets in partnership with other agencies to best utilise and promote the economic, social and cultural benefit of our citizens. A key element in the delivery of the strategic objective is fulfilling our obligations under the Irish Water / Monaghan County Council Service Level Agreement and managing the implementation of the Rural Water Programme in County Monaghan. These priorities and objectives are summarised below. Objectives will be delivered in compliance with Monaghan County Council’s adopted governance processes & procedures.

Supporting Strategy	High Level Goal	Actions for 2021	Performance Standards
<p>To fulfil obligations under the Service Level Agreement and Annual Service Plan with Irish Water.</p>	<p>1, 3, 7</p>	<p>Deliver on agreed Irish Water / Monaghan County Council Annual Service Plan 2021</p> <p>Water Services with the assistance of Corporate Services to transfer all fixed water and wastewater assets to Irish Water.</p> <p>Decommission and monitor redundant water services infrastructure and non-Irish water assets.</p> <p>To provide support and assistance to planning section for Taking in Charge requests in relation to water service infrastructure and carry out any necessary works as required for transfer to Irish Water – as per memorandum of understanding between Local Authorities and Irish water.</p> <p>Process all relevant planning applications, provide support and assistance to future development and planning applications</p>	<p>Performance measured on each of the ASP Key Performance Indicators.</p> <p>Number of assets transferred to IW.</p> <p>Schedule II TIC Reports completed and returned to Planning Section.</p> <p>All planning reports returned within required timeframe.</p>

<p>To build resilience to the impacts of climate change across all council functions and services through the implementation of the Monaghan County Council Climate Action Plan 2020 – 2021.</p>		<p>Support Climate Change Steering Committee to deliver actions in County Climate Action Plan 2020 / 2021</p>	<p>Work in partnership with Irish Water to ensure biodiversity awareness at all fixed sites. Progress two identified operational sites and prepare native woodland planting and biodiversity specific plans.</p> <p>Provision of electric vehicle for Find and Fix Leakage Inspector</p>
<p>Execute duties as the Water Authority for Group Water Schemes and small private water supplies under the Drinking Water Regulations 2014.</p> <p>Implementation of The County Monaghan Rural Water Programme</p>	<p>1, 3, 7</p>	<p>Implement and manage drinking water sampling plan.</p> <p>Administer subsidy applications Administer and manage rural water capital investment programme</p> <p>Administer Well and DWWTS grants as per 2020 issued circulars.</p>	<p>NOAC W1: Percentage of Private Drinking Water Supplies in Compliance with the Drinking Water Regulations</p> <p>Annual Subsidy Payments Processed and Recouped (€'s) Administer and Supervise the Multi Annual Rural water Programme 2019 – 2021.</p> <p>Carry out pre and post works inspections on eligible applications. All eligible applications processed, and grants issued.</p> <p>Carry out water audit of four Group Water Schemes and four Small Private Supplies</p>
<p>To build resilience to the impacts of climate change across all council functions and services through the implementation of the Monaghan County Council Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024</p>		<p>Support Climate Change Steering Committee to deliver actions in County Adaption Strategy, Climate Action Plan and Charter.</p>	<p>Continue to support National Federation of Group Water Schemes in promotion of their pollinator plan among private group water schemes</p>

Planning
 In its Corporate Plan, Monaghan County Council is committed to promoting and protecting a clean safe environment which is viable and sustainable. A further corporate objective is to develop and manage County Monaghan’s built and natural assets in partnership with other agencies to best utilise and promote economic, social and cultural benefit of our citizens. The Council’s priorities and objectives for the Planning Service in these areas, together with the performance standards to be met, for 2021 are outlined below. Objectives will be delivered in compliance with Monaghan County Council’s adopted governance processes & procedures.

Supporting Strategy	High Level Goal	Actions for 2021	Performance Standards
<p>To provide an effective, equitable and consistent planning service.</p> <p>Operate a Development Management System in compliance with legislative and policy requirements.</p> <p>Operate an enforcement system in line with legislative and policy requirements.</p>	<p>1, 3, 4, 6</p>	<p>Provide an effective, equitable and consistent planning service</p> <p>Operate public consultation & information service</p> <p>Process all planning applications, material contraventions, appeals, declarations, extensions of duration applications, Part 8s, etc</p> <p>Monitor, investigate and take appropriate enforcement action in respect of unauthorised development.</p>	<p>Ensure that all actions are carried out in a transparent and fair way and are processed in a timely manner in accordance with legislative and policy requirements.</p> <p>Operate online planning application information system Public counter facility operated daily Pre-planning clinics operated weekly, and public telephone morning twice-weekly One Agents Workshop conducted per year NOAC P2: Applications processed in compliance with legislative and policy framework.</p> <p>NOAC P3: Enforcement action taken in compliance with legislative requirements and deadlines.</p> <p>Ensure all development contributions and bonds/securities are collected</p>

<p>Implement development contribution scheme within legislative and policy requirements.</p>		<p>Manage, collect and monitor payment of development contributions and bonds/securities Implement the development contribution scheme and ensure compliance through appropriate legislative processes</p>	<p>Implementation of scheme and collection of contributions</p>
<p>To ensure a planning policy framework for balanced and sustainable development in the urban and rural areas. Develop a planning policy framework within legislative and policy requirements.</p>	<p>1, 4, 6</p>	<p>Organise Economic Development & Enterprise Support Strategic Policy Committee Meetings Prepare a revised Development Contributions Scheme for period up to 2025</p> <p>Process variations of the Monaghan County Development Plan as required Complete Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage Housing Needs Demand Assessment (HNDA)</p> <p>Manage Vacant Sites Levy Register</p> <p>Prepare a Village Plan for Glaslough</p> <p>Assist in preparation of Local Area Action Plans (LAAP) in the town of Carrickmacross</p> <p>Assist in implementing Dublin Street South Regeneration Plan Assist in preparing a Master Plan for the development of lands to North of Dublin Street</p>	<p>Organise a minimum of four meetings annually and provide information to members Review conducted within legislative requirements</p> <p>Variations of Development Plan adopted by Members, within legislative provisions HNDA completed</p> <p>Register updated</p> <p>Plan adopted by elected members and implemented Plans prepared and adopted by elected members</p> <p>Implement Dublin Street Regeneration Plan Plan prepared and adopted by elected members Plan prepared and adopted by elected members</p>

		Identification of all areas within the County suitable for wind energy / renewal energy exploitation	
Manage and protect the built heritage within the County.	3, 5, 6	<p>Ongoing review of the Record of Protected Structures (RPS) in accordance with Ministers recommendations</p> <p>Implement Built Heritage Investment Scheme</p> <p>Process applications for Historic Structures Fund</p> <p>Processing of Section 57 Declarations</p> <p>Complete annual Part IV statistical return</p>	<p>RPS reviewed and proposed amendments incorporated as a variation to the MCDP</p> <p>Scheme implemented and funds distributed</p> <p>Applications processed and recommendations referred to Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage for funding</p> <p>Processing Declarations within legislative requirements</p> <p>Return completed</p>
Resolve remaining unfinished housing developments in the county and take in charge developments as required.	1, 6	<p>Resolve remaining unfinished housing developments (UHDS) within the County</p> <p>Taking in Charge of housing developments within legislative requirements as requested</p> <p>Review all historic Taking in Charge (TiC) applications currently lodged</p> <p>Review and revise Taking in Charge Procedures</p>	<p>All remaining unfinished housing developments in the County resolved</p> <p>All applications for Taking in Charge processed within legislative requirements</p> <p>All historical applications for Taking in Charge processed to a conclusion</p> <p>Revised Taking in Charge Procedures produced</p>
Reduce the level of dereliction.	1, 6	Manage derelict/vacant sites register for the towns of Monaghan, Carrickmacross, Castleblayney, Clones and Ballybay and all Tier 4 and Tier 5 villages	Register updated

Economic Development & Tourism
 In its Corporate Plan, Monaghan County Council is committed to providing support to the business community to stimulate growth, encourage start-ups, maximise job creation and improve competitiveness. The Council’s priorities and objectives in this area are outlined below, together with the performance standards to be met. Monaghan County Council committed to delivering on its tourism strategy in partnership with stakeholders. The Council also has a leading role in supporting the local community sector in developing local initiatives. The following priorities/objectives and performance standards are relevant to these commitments. Objectives will be delivered in compliance with Monaghan County Council’s adopted governance processes & procedures.

Supporting Strategy	High Level Goal	Actions for 2021	Performance Standards
<p>Develop a strategy to promote entrepreneurship, foster business start-ups, and develop existing businesses, including those sectors with significant export potential</p> <p>Promote economic sustainability and development in County Monaghan by progressing the County as a location for investment and employment creation</p> <p>Promote the Local Enterprise Office as a ‘One Stop Shop’ to meet the needs of small businesses in the county</p>	4	<p>Update the economic data for County Monaghan</p> <p>Implement economic actions adopted in Local Economic & Community Plan</p> <p>Development of a strategy to attract public and private investment</p> <p>Devise a strategy to improve the quality and diversity of employment in the County</p> <p>Provide a range of information, supports and referrals to support business expansion and development</p> <p>Provide access to a range of appropriate funding mechanisms including LEO grants, LEADER funding and Micro Finance Ireland</p> <p>Manage and develop appropriate capacity building management development programmes aiding competitiveness and resilience within SME’s</p>	<p>Informed dataset to assist in policy formulation</p> <p>Complete LECP Actions under Strategic Objective 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 &1.5</p> <p>Promote the County as a place to invest</p> <p>Work with the ETB to develop appropriate training for individuals in the county</p> <p>No. of businesses assisted 1000 No. of referrals 30 No. of events 50 No. of Trading Online Vouchers 40 No. of mentoring assignments 100</p> <p>No. of grants Provided 18 No. of businesses assisted with grant applications 25</p> <p>No. of SME’s on Brexit specific Management programmes 90 No. of SME’s at Brexit specific ancillary events 50</p>

<p>an increase in visitor numbers and visitor revenue.</p>		<p>Promote Kavanagh Centre and develop Arts Programme and key festivals/events in conjunction with local development group</p> <p>Promote new CMX Workhouse exhibition in conjunction with Farney Development Group</p> <p>Progress Failte Ireland funded Destinations Town project for Monaghan Town</p> <p>Develop Sliabh Beagh as a Tourism Destination</p> <p>Develop potential of the Ulster Canal</p> <p>Project manage the LEADER Heritage Project which is being delivered in conjunction with Cavan and Louth County Councils</p>	<p>Increased profile and visitor numbers Min 4 events delivered</p> <p>Increased visitor numbers</p> <p>Project progressed through Planning and Tender Process</p> <p>Work in conjunction with Knockatallon Development Group to deliver min 3 actions from the Sliabh Beagh Tourism Action Plan</p> <p>Continue working with Waterways Ireland and other key stakeholders such as Clones Development Society, to complete plans and secure funding for the restoration of the Ulster Canal and other and the development of a canalside amenity in Clones</p> <p>Support the development of the Ulster Canal Greenway project and the link to the Clones amenity</p> <p>Interpretation Signage and 2 Conservation Management plans delivered</p>
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		<p>Work in conjunction with Carrickmacross-Castleblayney MD and Monaghan LEO office to secure tenants for the new craft studio in the Market House, Carrickmacross</p> <p>Work with Failte Ireland in the development of South Monaghan Tourism Cluster</p> <p>Develop Potential of Lough Muckno</p> <p>Work with ICBAN on the Spot-Lit (EU Literary tourism project</p> <p>Review Monaghan Way Route</p> <p>Commence review of County Tourism Strategy & undertake Consultation for new Strategy 2022-2027</p> <p>Undertake review of existing assets</p> <p>Work in conjunction with East Border Region to access tourism funding under the PEACE Plus programme</p> <p>Review Greenway Strategy for Tourism and cycling strategies</p> <p>Operate Tourist Office</p>	<p>New craft studio occupied</p> <p>New Ireland’s Ancient East Visitor cluster destination developed</p> <p>Complete consultation and Masterplan in conjunction with Failte Ireland</p> <p>Literary ‘product’ developed around Patrick Kavanagh</p> <p>Progress recommendations from Monaghan Way Review report in conjunction with CMX/Blayney MD</p> <p>Key products, themes and investment areas identified which will inform Peace Plus and LEADER programme consultations</p> <p>Identify products/resources that need to be upgraded</p> <p>Funding application submitted in conjunction with EBR and other partner councils</p> <p>Identify projects for development</p> <p>Tourist Office operated on a Seasonal basis from June to end of September</p>
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		<p>Manage Social Media accounts to reflect and promote events and good news stories</p> <p>Ensure promotional materials and website are updated</p> <p>Maintain profile through effective PR and advertising</p> <p>Advice and support meetings provided for new operators and trade workshops organised</p>	<p>Regular postings on Monaghan Tourism accounts</p> <p>Updated content across all media</p> <p>Delivery of annual My Monaghan campaign</p> <p>Individual advice and support meetings provided for tourism operators (individuals and community groups) on request, particularly those interested in applying for funding</p>
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Draft

<p>Community Development In its Corporate Plan, Monaghan County Council is committed to ensuring that everyone in our community has an opportunity to become actively engaged in shaping the future development of the County. Monaghan County Council is committed to leading the promotion and support of Social Inclusion and access to services through the review, development and implementation of its strategies. The Council’s priorities and objectives in the area of Community Development are outlined below, together with the performance standards to be met. Monaghan County Council committed to lead the promotion and support of social inclusion through the review, development and implementation of strategies, policies and practice that promote, equality, protect human rights and eliminate discrimination for all services users and staff of the organisation in line with National Government Policy. Objectives will be delivered in compliance with Monaghan County Council’s adopted governance processes & procedures.</p>			
Supporting Strategy	High Level Goal	Actions for 2021	Performance Standards
<p>Support and facilitate the work of the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) in partnership with Statutory and Non-Statutory Agencies</p> <p>LCDC to deliver and implement Social and Economic Development through the Local Economic and Community Planning Process (LECP), Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) and the Rural Development Programme (LEADER).</p>	<p>3, 6, 12</p>	<p>Manage and administer the LCDC and sub-structures including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SICAP Sub Group • Healthy Monaghan Sub Group • Equality Sub Group <p>Drugs & Alcohol Forum: Facilitate & co-ordinate the meetings of Monaghan Drug & Alcohol Forum Progress actions from the forum’s strategic plan</p> <p>Facilitate meetings of the cross-county Cavan/Monaghan DAF communications subgroup</p> <p>Deliver and monitor community actions of the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP)</p>	<p>LCDC process operated in line with guidelines as revised and issued by DRCD. At least 10 LCDC meetings in 2021.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SICAP – meet as required • Healthy Monaghan – meet as required • Equality Sub Group - 4 meetings <p>4 x meetings of Monaghan DAF held</p> <p>Actions from Strategic Plan progressed.</p> <p>4 x subcommittee meetings of Cavan Monaghan DAF communications group Actions progressed</p> <p>Actions delivered and monitored</p>

		<p>Review 2016-21 LECP and prepare 2022-27 LECP, subject to DRCD requirements and guidance.</p> <p>Manage and administer the SICAP Programme</p> <p>Manage and administer the LEADER Programme</p> <p>Continue interagency work through representing MCC on external committees/boards.</p>	<p>Review of 2016-21 LECP completed and preparation for 2022-27 LECP advanced.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SICAP – managed, administered and funding drawn down and transferred to Programme Implementer. • LEADER – managed, administered and funding drawn down and paid to project promoters. Article 48 Checks conducted as required. Admin costs monitored and managed. <p>Continued representative presence on Board of Cavan Monaghan Local Link (CMTCU).</p> <p>Continued representative presence on Children & Young Persons Services Committee (CYPSC) – Deputy Chair, also on working groups.</p>
<p>Participate in community-focused cross-border and EU programmes with a view to enhancing community infrastructure, capacity and activity.</p>	<p>4, 5, 6, 7</p>	<p>Complete final element of Peace IV – MUGA at Mullaghmatt</p> <p>Prepare for delivery of Peace Plus programme.</p> <p>Commence Peace Programme at Peace campus.</p>	<p>MUGA completed and final drawdown of funds commenced. To be completed before end March 2022.</p> <p>Evaluation of Peace IV completed.</p> <p>Peace Programme Manager and Asst Manager in place and preparation of Local Action Plan commenced.</p> <p>Peace Programme Officer in Peace Campus appointed.</p>

			Development of Peace Programme in Peace Campus commenced.
To promote equality and inclusion for all service users by developing cross departmental actions and policies.	3, 6,	<p>Support Social Inclusion and Positive Mental Health Promotion.</p> <p>Support delivery of Connecting for Life (C4L) Suicide Prevention Strategy</p> <p>Support Equality sub committee of LCDC.</p> <p>Complete Public Sector Duty Plan for MCC and support implementation by all divisions.</p>	<p>Social Inclusion Week 2021 delivered. Positive Mental Health Week 2021 supported.</p> <p>Participate on C4L two county committee and working groups.</p> <p>Four meetings of Equality sub committee held.</p> <p>Working group reconvened Work plan agreed and implementation commenced MCC Divisions supported in delivery of 2021 Actions from Plan.</p>
Support the Public Participation Network (PPN) in realising its role and function.	3, 6, 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide continued development support to all PPN member groups • Ensure ongoing mentoring is provided to all PPN representatives • Develop a tailored training programme to build skill set and capacity of member groups • Collaborate with local authority and other organisations on consultations i.e. review of LECP/Litter Management Plan • Coordinate development of a Migrant Intercultural forum • Launch Community Wellbeing Statement and carry out 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. of meetings held • No. of training sessions delivered • No. of representatives serving on Monaghan County Council decision making committees • No. of submissions made to local, regional and national consultations • NOAC Y2 % of organisations registered with Social Inclusion Pillar • actions assigned to PPN in Migrant Strategy implemented • Community Wellbeing statement launched and PPN representatives trained on how to use the

		<p>promotional campaign on same to PPN and Monaghan County Council</p> <p>Act as an information hub distributing information on funding opportunities, training, consultations and other community initiatives</p>	<p>statement while representing the PPN for theirs and PPN benefit</p> <p>social media platforms maintained and update</p>
<p>Work to strengthen local community groups by supporting the Local Community Sector in developing local initiatives.</p>	<p>3, 6, 12</p>	<p>Manage and implement range of DRCD & other community-focused funding programmes</p> <p>Facilitate the development of a Community Development Strategy for the county (draft: LECP-dependant).</p> <p>Support Communities to develop their plans, projects, Networks and localities.</p> <p>Develop partnerships between Council and Communities</p> <p>Promote community development to the public & encourage them to get involved in their communities.</p>	<p>Local and Community Funding programmes delivered & funding drawn down:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Enhancement Programme • CLÁR • Town & Village Renewal Scheme • Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme • COVID 19 Emergency Fund • Healthy Ireland Fund <p>Strategy agreed</p> <p>Continued participation in projects, programmes and schemes with ongoing improvement in same. (E.G., Project development, Tidy Towns, Pride of Place, etc).</p> <p>Property Marking Scheme continues to be developed and delivered.</p>
<p>Support national policy on Smarter Travel and the promotion of sustainable forms of transportation.</p>	<p>3, 6, 12</p>	<p>Finalise county Walking & Cycling Strategy and commence implementation of year 1 actions.</p>	<p>Strategy completed, launched and implementation commenced.</p>

<p>Implement Monaghan Sports Partnership Strategic Plan 2019-2023</p>	<p>5, 6</p>	<p>Establish Active Travel cross-departmental team & agree annual action plan.</p> <p>Support organisations that promote and / or deliver Sport & physical Activity in the Community</p> <p>Develop the resources, programmes, activities and places which increase participation in Sport and Physical Activity</p> <p>Support National physical activity events (e.g., Operation Transformation Active Schools Week , National Bike Week, National Play & Recreation event)</p> <p>Support delivery of targeted programmes of activity for: People with a disability; Female Sport Increase Awareness of the Sports Partnerships role and the opportunities to participate in Sport and Physical Activity</p>	<p>Active Travel Team established and action plan delivery commenced.</p> <p>Participation programmes for Early Years / Pre-School age Children at 10 (minimum) services throughout 2021..</p> <p>Education & Training timetable developed and minimum 10 training courses provided</p> <p>Sports Club Grant Scheme delivered</p> <p>Dormant accounts-funded Projects delivered: Community Sports Hub activity programme (Ballybay) Outdoor Adventure (Castleblayney) Sports Inclusion Disability Capital supports programme</p> <p>Engagement of over 2,000 people in the County participating across all events including online activity exercise programme.</p> <p>Delivery of programmes supported</p> <p>Improved Communications and information systems in place to increase publicity to general public via weekly news items, quarterly activity reports, newsletter, e-zine. Meetings of Sport Partnership Committee held (min 4 meetings held)</p>
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		Manage our structures and processes to be effective and efficient	Adoption of the Governance Code as a requirement of Sport Ireland funded body)
Implement Healthy Monaghan Strategy 2019 - 2022	6	Deliver 2021 HI Strategic Actions. Deliver HIF 2019-2021 Actions Deliver and Administer Community Mental Health Fund Facilitate Healthy Monaghan committee meetings Implement national campaigns such as #Keep Well	Actions delivered Meetings of Healthy Monaghan held Financial returns completed and submitted to Pobal for all HI funding received. Community Resilience Action Plan implemented
Implement Migrant Integration Strategy 2020-23	3, 5, 6	Implement 2021 actions of Migrant Integration Strategy for county. Implement 2021 AMIF actions	2021 MCC actions delivered Delivery of actions by other agencies/bodies supported Periodic reports delivered to LCDC on implementation.
Implement Monaghan Age Friendly Strategy 2020 - 2024	3, 6	Deliver 2021 actions of Age Friendly Strategy.	2021 actions delivered. 6 Meetings of AF Alliance Older People Networks established and meetings arranged in each MD.
Implement Comhairle na nÓg programme	2, 6	Implement the Comhairle na nÓg 2021 action plan. Support the facilitation of meetings of the youth council	NOAC Y1: Participation in Comhairle na nÓg programme. Youth Council meetings held Action plan delivered

Environment In its Corporate Plan, Monaghan County Council committed to promoting and protecting a clean, safe environment in a manner which is viable and sustainable. In this regard, the Council's priorities and objectives for the Environment division are outlined below, together with the performance standards to be met. Objectives will be delivered in compliance with Monaghan County Council's adopted governance processes & procedures.			
Supporting Strategy	High Level Goal	Performance Standards / Actions for 2021	Performance Standards
<p>To implement legislation and policy with regard to water quality for both surface and groundwaters in the County.</p> <p>Working toward achieving an improvement in water quality status in all water bodies in the County.</p>	<p>1, 12</p>	<p>Deliver the water enforcement and water inspection work plan in line with national priorities and in co-operation with the EPA as per the 2021 RMCEI Plan.</p> <p>Investigative assessments, planning controls, WFD sampling Programme, Discharge License sampling Programme, Farm survey Programme, DAFM farm inspection Programme, Intensive Agricultural Enterprise inspection programme (poultry, pigs & dairy), Educational & Awareness programmes, non-routine inspections (Complaint investigations, unauthorised discharges to waters)</p> <p>Support the next phase of the development of 3rd cycle of the River Basin Management Plan/ public consultation/ revision of plan as required for County Monaghan.</p> <p>Continue to work and support other relevant stakeholders LAWPRO, IFI, Teagasc, OPW, NFGWS, EPA.</p>	<p>2021 RMCEI plan produced and delivered as per the national water quality priorities.</p> <p>WFD sampling program delivered on behalf of the EPA.</p> <p>NOAC E2: % Environmental Pollution Complaints Closed.</p>

<p>To implement legislation and policy with regards to waste management.</p>	<p>1.12</p>	<p>Develop Annual Environmental Inspection Plan based on National Waste Enforcement Priorities as outlined in Circular WP 08/20. The priorities are as follows</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackling significant illegal waste activity • Construction and demolition activity • End of Life Vehicles (ELV) Directive and waste metal industry • Waste collection – household and commercial • Multi agency sites of concern <p>Work with Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authority and Regional Waste Management Planning Office to implement Connaught Ulster Regional Waste Management Plan and Waste Action Plan for Circular Economy</p> <p>Maximise the potential of the potential of the Scotch Corner landfill and Recycling facility in a compliant and environmentally sustainable manner.</p> <p>Continue to investigate future potential income generating/environmentally friendly/climate action projects on site</p>	<p>Annual environmental inspection plan to be submitted the EPA outlining how these issues will be dealt with locally by February 14th, 2021.</p> <p>E1 No/% Households availing of a 3 bin service</p> <p>E2: Environmental Pollution Cases</p> <p>EU and National Recycling Targets</p> <p>EPA Performance Framework Assessment Progress Technical amendment of the existing waste license and agree new concession contract in relation to the operation of the Carrickmacross and Scotch Corner Recycling facilities.</p> <p>One such project progressed during 2021.</p>
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		<p>Continue to operate the Scotch Corner facility in accordance with EPA requirements.</p> <p>Progress rebuilding of landfill site office.</p>	<p>Completion of all monitoring and reporting as required by our EPA licence and progress any additional environmental improvement works as required by the Agency to ensure continued compliance.</p> <p>Office rebuild substantially complete by Q4 2021</p>
<p>To provide and maintain recycling infrastructure in towns and villages in the County.</p> <p>To seek EPA authorisation for historic landfills previously operated by Monaghan County Council.</p>	<p>1, 7, 12</p>	<p>Ensure that the network of bring facilities and the recycling centres at Scotch Corner and Carrickmacross are maintained and operated in line with contractual obligations.</p> <p>Continue to progress site authorisation and subsequent remediation works on the historical landfills previously operated by Monaghan County Council as listed on the on the Section 22.</p>	<p>All recycling facilities comply with their permitting and/or licensing requirements and within the terms of any contract.</p> <p>Complete Tier 2/3 assessment at Corkeeran landfill.</p> <p>Funding application submitted to DCCAE to progress Planning regularisation for 2 historic sites.</p> <p>Secure Certificate of Authorisation from EPA for 2 historic landfills.</p>
<p>To develop innovative environmental awareness projects for targeted audiences.</p>	<p>1, 3, 11, 12</p>	<p>Develop awareness campaign by drawing down funding from the following schemes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Authority Prevention Network Funding Anti-Dumping Initiative Anti-Litter and Anti-Graffiti Fund Community Environment Action Fund 	<p>E4: % of schools that have been awarded green flag status</p>
<p>To implement the objectives of County Monaghan Litter Management Plan.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Prepare and adopt New Litter Management Plan 2021-2023 for County Monaghan</p>	<p>E3: % LA area within the 5 levels of litter pollution</p> <p>E2: Environmental Pollution Cases</p>

<p>To improve air quality through the implementation of air quality legislation. Work with EPA in roll out of the national Ambient Air Monitoring Program.</p>	<p>1.12</p>	<p>Deliver the Air enforcement and Air inspection work plan in line with national priorities and in co-operation with the EPA as per the 2021 RMCEI Plan.</p> <p>Continue to support the Environmental Protection Agency in the roll-out of the National Ambient Air Monitoring Program</p>	<p>2021 RMCEI plan produced and delivered as per the national air quality priorities.</p> <p>Continue to maintain any local air monitoring stations in cooperation with the EPA to ensure the provision of local air quality data.</p>
<p>To protect public health by ensuring food safety compliance in food businesses under Monaghan County Council supervision.</p> <p>To ensure public safety from uncontrolled animals and to protect health and welfare of animals in establishments under supervision of Monaghan County Council.</p>	<p>1.3</p>	<p>Ensure all animals slaughtered undergo required inspections. Carry out inspections and audits of food businesses (FB's), sampling of food and environment, and report results to relevant stakeholders</p> <p>Educate and assist FB operators to comply with food safety legislation. Issue corrective actions to FB operators based on results of inspections, audits and sampling. Monitor response to recommended corrective actions. Implement enforcement where applicable</p> <p>Ensure the welfare of animals admitted to supervised slaughterhouses</p> <p>Provide a dedicated dog warden service</p> <p>Provide access to a dog and horse pound of a suitable standard</p>	<p>No of inspections and audits completed</p> <p>% of scheduled sampling completed</p> <p>Food Safety Authority returns and claims made</p> <p>No. of corrective action reports</p> <p>No. of prosecutions/ enforcement orders/ fixed penalty notices issued.</p> <p>No. of welfare inspections carried out at slaughterhouses</p> <p>No. of stray dog complaints investigated</p> <p>No. of stray or unwanted dogs seized/collected</p> <p>No of dog licences issued</p> <p>Dog pound and Horse pound in operation, in compliance with legislative requirements</p> <p>% of establishments inspected annually</p>

		<p>Inspect and register dog breeding establishments(DBE's) and ensure they comply with legislative requirements; investigate suspected DBE's</p> <p>Investigate complaints of stray horses and enforce horse control legislation</p>	<p>Register of establishments in place</p> <p>No. of complaints investigated</p> <p>No. of stray horses seized</p>
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Climate Change
 In its Corporate Plan, Monaghan County Council aims to progress the transition to a low carbon and climate resilient society. Whilst the Environmental Services section has developed the Monaghan County Council Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024 it will be the responsibility of all the units within Monaghan County Council to ensure progression of the strategy and to progress the measures and action as outlined in the Climate Action Charter and in the National Climate Action Plan – To Tackle Climate Breakdown. In this regard, the Council’s priorities and objectives in the area of Climate Action are outlined below, together with the performance standards to be met. Objectives will be delivered in compliance with Monaghan County Council’s adopted governance processes & procedures.

Supporting Strategy	High Level Goal	Actions for 2021	Performance Standards
<p>To build resilience to the impacts of climate change across all council functions and services through the implementation of the Monaghan County Council Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024.</p> <p>To progress Climate Change Mitigation though further reducing greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>Deliver on the actions and commitments in the “Local Authority Climate Action Charter”.</p> <p>Establish a baseline for current GHG emission levels and identify and undertake appropriate solutions that will have greatest impact in reducing these emissions.</p>	<p>1, 12</p>	<p>Progress the delivery of prioritised actions in the Monaghan County Council Climate Delivery Plan 2020-2021.</p> <p>To build climate resilience in all new capital projects and incorporate biodiversity measures on existing operational sites where possible.</p> <p>Continue to reduce Monaghan County Council’s energy consumption in 2021.</p> <p>Deliver on the mitigation actions prioritised for 2021.</p> <p>In conjunction with CARO progress the new Monaghan County Council Climate Action Plan which will consider both climate adaptation and climate mitigation.</p> <p>Ensure a core staff compliment is put in place with the necessary skills and</p>	<p>Number of actions in the plan substantially advanced in 2021</p> <p>Ensure climate action is embedded in ASDP, team operational plans, and individual personal development plans.</p> <p>% reduction in energy usage in 2021</p> <p>Complete CARO annual reporting template</p> <p>Actions and targets of Monaghan County Council Climate Action Plan 2020 / 2021 achieved.</p> <p>Dedicated Climate Action personnel ensuring climate change initiatives being</p>

<p>Build appropriate staff confidences and capacities to lead and drive the Climate Change agenda.</p> <p>Provide the technical assistance and support across the organisation for developing and implementing plans and strategies.</p> <p>Lead and support local communities, businesses and industry in delivering initiatives to tackle Climate Change.</p>		<p>competencies to lead the climate change agenda throughout the Council and its functional area.</p> <p>Ensure dedicated working groups and committees in place to deliver climate action across all council divisions.</p> <p>Staff from across all levels and from across all sections to attend climate action training programs developed by CARO.</p>	<p>undertaken across all functional areas as set out in the Climate Action Charter.</p> <p>Climate Action Coordination Group meeting regularly and providing the technical assistance and support required across the organisation.</p> <p>All staff including elected members appropriately trained in respect of Climate Action.</p>
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Fire & Emergency Services			
In its Corporate Plan, Monaghan County Council committed to promote and protect a clean environment which is viable and sustainable. The Council's priorities and objectives for the Fire Service, Civil Defence & Building Control under this remit are outlined below, together with the performance standards to be met. Objectives will be delivered in compliance with Monaghan County Council's adopted governance processes & procedures.			
Supporting Strategy	High Level Goal	Actions for 2021	Performance Standards
Provide and develop an inclusive, effective & efficient prevention, protection and response fire & rescue service, locally identified risks, responsive to the needs of our community and in a manner that reflects the diversity of our communities.	3.6	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review and Implementation of Fire & Emergency Operations Plan 2018-2022 2. Implementation of recommendations outlined Fire Service Capacity Review 2020. 3. Acquire site for new fire station in Ballybay and progress development. 4. Fleet: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procure & secure delivery of new Class B Fire Appliance and funding application for new Fire Appliance. • Re-chassis of current water tanker completed. <p>Review station, equipment and training facilities</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Section 26 Plan reviewed and adopted in 2021 and key objectives implemented. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOAC F2: Service Mobilisation • NOAC F3: Percentage of time in attendances at scenes • Review & implement mobilisation and communication systems • Implement recruitment & retention programme. • Completion of training plan • Maintain MoU with NIFRS for Road Traffic Accidents • Implementation of new PPE Policy. • Training and Fleet policy reviewed. 2. Development of Good practice note for a 'Risk Based Inspections Programme and Fire Service Capacity Review recommendations implemented 3. Site acquired for new Fire Station in Ballybay, secured planning permission and preparation of tender documents. 4. Fleet:

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Fire Appliance in operation and funding approval for new Fire Appliance obtained. • Water Tanker operational with new chassis <p>5. Preventative Maintenance Programmes adopted and implemented for vehicles, equipment and communication system maintenance.</p>
<p>To provide a healthy and safe working environment.</p> <p>Provide accessible community support.</p> <p>Develop response to Major Emergencies.</p>	<p>1.3.6</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintain IOS 450001 accreditation and develop fire-fighters awareness programme on Health & wellness. 2. Building Control Regulations Operate public consultation and information service. Provide timely support, assistance and processes applications within statutory time frames. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement Building Control Inspection Plan • Construction Products Regulations Policy implementation 3. Fire Safety: Implement recommendations of Task force on Fire Safety in Ireland <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare, adopt & implement Community Fire Safety Policy • Implement Fire Safety Inspection Policy 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Retain IOS 450001 accreditation and implementation of fire-fighter Health & wellness programme. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilities Management System adopted and implemented. 2. Building Control: Consultation and Inspection rate. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOAC P5: Applications for Fire Safety Certificates • Number of inspections (in accordance with BC Inspection plan), warnings & enforcement notices. • Implementation of mobile inspection app to Fire & BC officers. • Agents Forum meetings, and Agents Workshop/Webinar conducted. • Process BCAR applications received and migration of applications to BCMS.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Process Dangerous Substance Licences & Vapour Recovery requirements <p>4. Civil Defence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of Civil Defence 2030 Strategy and MCC development plan. <p>5. Implement Road Safety Action plan</p> <p>6. Prepare for Major Emergency Management inter-agency operations through participation in appropriate training and exercises</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 No. of Construction Products Regulations inspections <p>3. Fire Safety: New and revised NDFEM Standard Operational Guidance implemented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Fire Safety Policy adopted and implemented. • Fire Safety Plan prepared, adopted and implemented. • Completion of annual inspection plan % Primary Schools visits. % No. Fire Safety talks & events and No. media messages. • Number of community & stakeholder meetings & Fire safety talks (5 No.) • 80% Implementation of Fire Service recommendations. • No. of pre-consultation meetings as requested. • 10 No. inspection in-line with RMCEI <p>4. Civil Defence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of new CD HQ as county and regional support training centre. • Review and retention of current volunteer membership • No. of national (6No.), regional (12No.) & Local (50 No.) training and exercises completed.
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of events attended, and duties completed (60-80 No.) <p>5. Attend all RSWG meetings, and implementation of actions (EDU 26 & 27)</p> <p>6. Major Emergency Management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review maintain and update MCC MEM plan. • Completion of MEM regional work plan • Prepare and deliver MEM training & exercises. • Complete Pre-Fire Planning programme.
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Library Services			
The Library, Museum, Heritage and Arts services of Monaghan County Council play a key role in the Council's commitment to promote economic, social and cultural benefit of our citizens. The main priorities and objectives for these services are outlined below, together with the performance standards to be met. Objectives will be delivered in compliance with Monaghan County Council's adopted governance processes & procedures.			
Supporting Strategy	High Level Goal	Actions for 2021	Performance Standards
Implement Monaghan County Library Development Plan 2019 – 2022.	3, 5, 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peace Campus – Monaghan Library • Peace Campus Community Outreach Programme • Castleblayney Library capital project • Library HQ/Clones capital remedial works project • My Open Library in Clones Library • Annual Science Festival • Manage & overview Decade of Centenaries programme for county • Healthy Ireland programme activities • Work Matter Programme activities • Implement Sensory Programme activities • Implement Dormant account funding programme • Contribute to national online local history digital project • Coordinate and implement Culture Night programme for the county • Manage and implement the Europe Direct Information Centre (EDIC) in Clones Library • Develop STEAM library 	<p>NOAC L1: Number of library visits and number of items issued to customers</p> <p>NOAC L2: Cost of operating the Library Service</p> <p>New Library Statistics from LGMA being released in 2021</p> <p>EDIC centre returns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No of visitors • No of queries • Types of queries received • No of events held • Participation in events • Social media posts • Media reports

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to develop programme to care homes and older people's groups • Review outreach services to isolated rural communities • Coordinate Keep Well Campaign • Review of house delivery service • Review of preschools and school's library service • Develop a comprehensive programme of local studies support to schools, in line with the primary and secondary school history curriculum – one pack to be developed in 2021. • Marketing - Develop a library branding mascot • Customer Review survey 	
Implement annual Right to Read Action Plan.	3, 5, 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop services to babies and young children • Promote and support literacy in schools • Literacy support for low income and marginalised communities • Establish additional book clubs across the county • Reinstate the Right to Read network across County Monaghan 	<p>NOAC L1: Number of library visits and number of items issued to customers</p> <p>New Library Statistics from LGMA being released in 2021</p>
Implement Monaghan Culture & Creativity Strategy Monaghan 2018-2022.	3, 4, 5, 6	<p>Manage and overview the programme for the county on behalf of MCC.</p> <p>To support and roll out the following projects:</p>	<p>Creative Ireland Returns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of Creative Practitioners engaged in initiatives • Audience Figure

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetlands Film Project – produce 5 short films • The Nature Project • Patrick Kavanagh Legacy Programme • War of Independence Digital Media Project • The Big Houses of Monaghan – A Virtual Learning Quest • Writer in Residence • Tradoodle Festival • Elsewhere – The Opera • Monaghan Murals • Inscribed histories at the Rossmore Mausoleum • Cruinniu na nÓg • Cultural Planner in Residence <p>To work with Creative Ireland office to roll out initiatives under the following funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive Ageing and Creative Wellbeing Challenge Fund • Climate Action Challenge Fund <p>To work in partnership with Local arts in Education Partnership, Music Generation and other agencies to roll out collaborative projects as funding is announced for same.</p> <p>Showcase Creative Ireland Programme to date with one day conference/seminar</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual Audience figure
<p>Appoint a County Archivist.</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>Submit a Business Case, for consideration by the Senior Management Team, for the appointment of a County Archivist.</p>	

		Investigate option to share the post with Cavan County Council, who also are without an Archivist at this time.	
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Arts Office

Monaghan County Council through their Arts Section aims to champion, develop and invest in artistic expression to enrich peoples' lives. The Council works to nurture and create the conditions in which great art can happen, while at the same time ensuring that as many people as possible can engage with the arts and discover what art can do for them. Objectives will be delivered in compliance with Monaghan County Council's adopted governance processes & procedures.

Supporting Strategy	High Level Goal	Actions for 2021	Performance Standards
Implementation of the Co Arts Development Plan	5	Have the 8 year framework agreement between Monaghan County Council & The Arts Council adopted and commence delivering the goals of the agreement.	<p>Framework agreement will be amalgamated as the working Arts Development plan with 3 keys strategic Actions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supporting Artists Value and support the work of artists, and extend the range of opportunities for artists to develop their practice 2. Young people and the Arts Increase opportunities for children and young people to create, access and participate in great art 3. Creating Capacity Investing in the professional development of venues, festivals and organisations providing high-quality arts experiences

Heritage			
In its Corporate Plan, Monaghan County Council committed to promoting and protecting a clean, safe environment in a manner which is viable and sustainable. The Council's Heritage Office plays a key role in this area and in the local implementation of the National Heritage Plan and National Biodiversity Plan. The Heritage section's priorities and objectives are outlined below, together with the performance standards to be met. Objectives will be delivered in compliance with Monaghan County Council's adopted governance processes & procedures.			
Supporting Strategy	High Level Goal	Actions for 2021	Performance Standards
Implement Monaghan Heritage and Biodiversity Strategic Plan 2020-2025	3, 5, 6	<p>Create awareness about strategic Biodiversity and Heritage plan. Complete Monaghan Wetland Action Plan (year 2) with NBAP funding. Publish and print Black Pig's Dyke Archaeological Monograph. Organise Black Pig's Dyke Research symposium. Publish Conservation Plans for historic graveyards and provide training. Establish historic graveyard network. Phase 2 survey of holy wells. Support establishment of local biodiversity network / field club.</p> <p>Seek funding from Heritage Council and other agencies including Creative Ireland</p> <p>Community Monuments Fund 2021 management.</p> <p>Co-ordinate Monaghan Heritage Week & support other key days – World Wetland</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of actions delivered in the strategic plan by year end. • Number of online and hard copy publications. • Number of attendees. • Heritage information updated on Council website and GIS. • Involvement of heritage office in capital heritage projects and tourism initiatives. • Heritage reports produced and disseminated. • Heritage and biodiversity legislation implementation across the local authority. • Heritage Council funding secured for 2021 • Biodiversity funding secured from NPWS. • CMF grant scheme administered. • Number of attendees • Number of events

		<p>Day, National Bee Day, Biodiversity Week, Culture Night.</p> <p>Support the development of strong local heritage sector and national heritage sector Lead County Monaghan Heritage Forum. Support the Heritage Council to identify issues on the ground. Support Local Authority Heritage Officer Network</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback analysis • Social media communication reach • Number of organisations holding events. • Number of meetings held and decisions made. • Support and advise community led heritage groups to secure funding. • Groups adhering to best practice. • Engagement with NGOs on heritage issues
Implement the Culture & Creativity Strategy Monaghan 2018-2022	3, 5, 6	Work with Culture Team on implementation of Creative Ireland in Monaghan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetland / bog project further developed. • Rossmore Mausoleum phase 2.
Pollinator Plan Guidelines for Local Authorities	1, 5, 12	Work with MDs and Tidy Town co-ordinator to promote AIPP implementation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of groups signed up to principles and actions. • Areas converted to improved management for pollinators in the county.
Collaborative action for the Natura Network Interreg V project	1, 5, 12	<p>Co-ordinate Uplands Site work package and 6 work package meetings.</p> <p>Deliver targets for Sliabh Beagh as part of project for 2021:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement, forecasting, reporting and recoupment through eMS & SEUPB requirements. • Attendance and reporting at 6 steering group meetings for CANN and cross-border agency meetings. • Meet EU Habitats Directive requirements.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bog restoration through planning of additional drain blocking. • Deliver cross-border Fire Risk Management Plan • Start removal of invasive species. • Deliver, in association with ABCDC, tree felling and pesticide application course. Upscale conservation grazing • Hold information events. World Wetlands Day, Heritage week and other days as Identified. • Feed into national Hen Harrier winter roost survey. • Feed into PEACE PLUS planning for next funding cycle. • Advise tourism section about conservation expertise in relation to planned funding applications for infrastructure projects on Sliabh Beagh. • Kilroosky Lough Cluster SAC: • Tie in with CANN actions for this site. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In line with forecasting and overall project commitments on LoO. • Hectarage impacted. • Local stakeholder engagement. • Number of attendees. • Article for EPA catchments magazine on CANN work • Hen Harrier Watches undertaken • Number of online engagements
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Museum			
Supporting Strategy	High Level Goal	Actions for 2021	Performance Standards
<p>Implement Peace Campus Programme Plan.</p>	<p>3, 4, 5, 6, 7</p>	<p>Develop museum exhibition displays for the new Peace Campus</p> <p>Agree action plan with all stakeholders to action the Peace Campus Programme for 2021</p> <p>Work in collaboration with stakeholders to ensure the new museum displays are fully accessible in design</p> <p>Develop plan to move the collections of the museum to the new site at the Peace Campus</p>	<p>Funding for exhibition displays agreed and secured.</p> <p>Exhibition material content agreed and prepared for print and fabrication</p> <p>Action plan agreed – funding sourced.</p> <p>All stakeholders engaged with the Peace Campus Programme Plan</p> <p>Accessible elements of the new museum displays agreed and sent to production</p> <p>Collections boxed and recorded – new locations for collections added to museum digital database</p>
<p>Implement the Monaghan Culture & Creativity Strategy Monaghan 2018-2022.</p>	<p>3, 5, 6</p>	<p>Complete Monaghan Murals project Phase 1</p> <p>Organise Monaghan War of Independence Cross Border project with Fermanagh Museums</p> <p>Launch Rossmore Minecraft Project</p>	<p>Produce two high quality murals in Monaghan and Castleblayney</p> <p>Carry out public art workshops and associated schools programme</p> <p>Digital/ onsite workshops facilitated</p> <p>Short films produced and promoted locally and nationally</p>

		<p>Develop Impact of Partition Project in partnership with the Ulster Scots Agency</p>	<p>Every primary school in the county takes part in the online virtual learning quests associated with the project</p> <p>Local and national publicity</p> <p>Project facilitator procured.</p> <p>Stakeholders engaged – final report produced</p>
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Corporate Assets			
<p>In its Corporate Plan, Monaghan County Council is committed to promoting and protecting a clean safe environment in a manner which is viable and sustainable. The Council seeks to develop and manage County Monaghan's built assets to best utilise and promote economic, social and cultural benefits. The Council seeks to develop Capital Projects in line with the strategic objectives of the Council and to provide high quality facilities for all users. The Council seeks to bring a high level of consistency of approach to the procurement, management and delivery of projects across the organisation in line with the Public Spending Code and the improved procurement structures embedded into the organisation. The specific priorities and objectives for the Corporate Assets Section are outlined below, together with the performance standards to be met. Objectives will be delivered in compliance with Monaghan County Council's adopted governance processes & procedures.</p>			
Supporting Strategy	High Level Goal	Actions for 2021	Performance Standards
Asset management of Public Lighting & continued optimisation of energy efficiency.	7, 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain a comprehensive Public Lighting inventory. Effective Asset Management of Public Lighting infrastructure and ensure effective delivery of Public Lighting maintenance contract. <p>Upgrade Public Lighting to maximise energy efficiency and progress our energy efficiency programme for Public Lighting upgrade.</p>	<p>NOAC E5 - Energy efficiency performance performance indicators report: A. The cumulative % of energy savings achieved by 31/12/2020 relative to baseline year (2009)</p> <p>Achieve Public sector Energy targets.</p>
Continue to progress Public Sector energy efficiency target.	7, 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare & implement 2021 Energy Action Plan. Commence planning for 2030 Energy and Carbon targets . Review and update Corporate Energy Policy. Act as EPO (Energy Performance Office) for Monaghan County Council. <p>Monitor and report all energy used by the Council to SEAI .</p>	<p>NOAC E5 - Energy efficiency performance performance indicators report: A. The cumulative % of energy savings achieved by 31/12/2020 relative to baseline year (2009).</p> <p>Achieve Public sector Energy targets.</p>
Delivery of Capital Programme.	7, 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare Annual three year Capital Programme. 	<p>Compliance with;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Spending Code.

<p>Application of Monaghan County Council Accessible procurement strategy to all capital projects.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Governance policies in place for Capital Projects. • Coordinate and assist in delivery of Capital Building Projects across organisation • Identify sustainable uses for Council owned derelict properties and progress towards redevelopment <p>Work with Corporate Procurement Team in delivering Capital Projects</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCC Procurement Governance and Guidelines • Ensure effective cost controls, time management, risk mitigations are in place and continuous monitoring and review. <p>Delivery of building projects</p>
<p>Coordinate the management of the Council's property portfolio & ensure modern facilities for the delivery of services.</p>	<p>7.9</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To progress Capital projects in 2020 • Maintain and update a detailed I.T. based Property Portfolio • Work closely with National Asset Management Group • Implement the recommendations of the L.G. A.S. VFM report No. 30 • Policy for the acquisition and disposal of Property Assets to ensure effective governance of the purchase, sale, lease & transfer of all properties by Council • Property Asset Management. • Optimise the use of all active properties. • Ensure office facilities in place for the effective delivery of Council Services • Coordinate maintenance and management of Council Building Portfolio 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property Interest Register in place to ensure a comprehensive inventory of property currently owned by M.C.C is effectively managed by Sections. • Progress ownership of title for unregistered properties. Effective use and management of property achieved across organisation. • Put in place and support property management committee to coordinate all property owning sections of the council • Ensure MCC assets in National database are up to date • Effective Governance in place for Monitoring and Reporting and reviewed. • Disposals in line with Section 183 of L.G. Act. • Acquisition & Disposals to be recorded on PIR system. • Property Asset Management Plan reviewed

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with Corporate Procurement Team & OGP in procuring goods, services and works • Oversee the management and operation of Monaghan Leisure Centre. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance with LGAS VFM 30 • Annual Report of Property Assets prepared • Monitoring of KPIs and Metrics. • Annual Review of Office Space Utilisation. • Annual review of workspace needs • Systems in place for planned and response maintenance in accordance with LGAS VFM 30. • Record and Monitor property; metrics, KPI's and benchmark. • Record & Review Ratio of Planned and Response maintenance
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Support Services

The delivery of the front-line services to the public is underpinned and supported by the services provided internally by the Corporate, Health & Safety, Finance, Human Resources and Information Systems departments of the Council. A summary of the priorities, strategies and performance standards of each of these support sections is set out below. Objectives will be delivered in compliance with Monaghan County Council's adopted governance processes & procedures.

Corporate Services			
Supporting Strategy	High Level Goal	Actions for 2021	Performance Standards
<p>To ensure democratic accountability and effective governance.</p> <p>Provide robust business management, risk management, audit and corporate governance structures and systems in compliance with statutory obligations.</p>	2, 3, 9, 11	<p>Administer and support meetings of the Council and all Committees</p> <p>Fulfil the organisations responsibilities under the Ethics Framework</p> <p>Support good governance through effective audit process</p> <p>Deliver an effective Internal Audit Service</p> <p>Prepare reports, work programmes and reviews inn line with corporate governance requirements</p> <p>Maintain and update Corporate and Section Risk Registers</p>	<p>Meetings held, agenda business transacted effectively, follow-up actins implemented.</p> <p>Up-to-date and complete Ethics Register in place by 28/02/2021</p> <p>2021 Internal Audit Plan delivered</p> <p>2021 Audit Committee work plan delivered</p> <p>Training undertaken by staff and Audit Committee</p> <p>Annual Report adopted by June 2021</p> <p>Annual Service Delivery Plan adopted by 31 March 2021</p> <p>Monthly Management Report submitted to Council</p> <p>NOAC returns submitted by specified date</p> <p>NOAC report reviewed and analysed</p> <p>Risk registers reviewed and updated quarterly</p>

<p>Manage the Annual Register of Electors. Organise Local Elections and Election Count.</p> <p>To promote and deliver accessible information on voter participation.</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>Publish up-to-date Register</p>	<p>Up-to-date register published in accordance with statutory dates</p> <p>Promote 'Your Vote Your Voice'. Campaigns promoted via Social Media, Website and local Newspapers</p>
<p>To ensure compliance with legislative and statutory obligations in service delivery.</p>	<p>3, 9</p>	<p>Continue to implement appropriate measures to achieve compliance under General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)</p> <p>Ensure compliance with Children's First Act 2015</p> <p>Ensure compliance with the Official Languages Act 2003</p>	<p>Appropriate policies, protocols and procedures demonstrating that Monaghan Co Co is achieving compliance with data protection legislation</p> <p>Adoption of a comprehensive security programme ensuring protection of personal data</p> <p>Delivery of awareness training to all staff and elected members to ensure compliance with GDPR and data protection</p> <p>Designated Liaison person and deputies in place Awareness training delivered to all staff</p> <p>Scéim na Gaeilge actions for 2021 implemented.</p>
<p>Deliver quality inclusive services to our customers that reflects the diversity of our communities</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>Develop appropriate, effective and accessible communication and customer care services and systems</p> <p>Progress roll out of National Catalogue of Services Project</p>	<p>Communications Officer appointed Draft Communications Strategy developed Review Customer Care Plan</p> <p>90% of services catalogued. MCC point of contact to continue to liaise with National Project Board Phase 2 of project underway</p>

<p>Enable the public to gain access to records held by the Council to the greatest extent possible consistent with the right to privacy and the public interest.</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>Respond to information requests, complaints and protected disclosures in line with statutory requirements</p>	<p>All FOI, Data Protection, AIE requests and Ombudsman complaints and protected disclosures addressed within the statutory timeframes.</p>
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Finance			
Supporting Strategy	High Level Goal	Actions for 2021	Performance Standards
Compliance with Statutory Regulations.	9	Ensure robust, balanced budget is prepared for review and adoption by Members Ongoing reduction in Cumulated deficit Annual Financial Statement completed and submitted by 31 st March Ensure no material audit adjustments are required Ensure all payments to suppliers are made in adherence with prompt payment legislation Quarterly reports submitted on time PO's > €20k return submitted on time Revenue returns and payments calculated accurately and submitted on time	Budget adopted by members within legislative timeframes Reduction achieved each year AFS submitted within legislative timeframes No audit adjustments Prompt Payment return submitted on time and published on website with all payments within the regulatory timeframe Submitted within required timelines All returns published on the website No taxation penalties/ interest payable
Operate efficiently to support all Council functions/ Members of the public/ Local businesses.	2, 3, 6, 9	NOAC indicator – Monitor/ improve Rates collection % Indicator – Monitor Rent collection %	% of Rates collection meets or exceeds NOAC's target % collected acceptable to Local Government Auditor

		<p>Indicator – Monitor/ improve Loan collection %</p> <p>Ensure all other debtors are reviewed and collected on a timely basis</p> <p>Promote additional use of LVP card transactions in relation to POs to improve payment times for Suppliers</p>	<p>% collected acceptable to Local Government Auditor</p> <p>No 'old' debtors on Aged Debtors report</p> <p>Increase in number of LVP card transactions in conjunction with reduction in number of POs</p>
Monitor and strive to continuously improve Financial Management.	9	<p>Issue Quarterly financial reports to SMT and Members – comparing actual vs. budget and forecasting full year income and expenditure</p> <p>Monitor cashflow and ensure adequate funding is in place for all revenue expenditure and capital projects</p>	<p>Report prepared and issued to SMT and Members</p> <p>All capital balances/ expenditure reviewed and reconciled quarterly</p>
Demonstrate effective Asset Management.	9	<p>Update and monitor the Fixed Asset Register. Compare the FAR with other IT systems such as iHouse. LGA reviews reconciliations</p>	<p>Local Government Auditor satisfied that systems reconcile</p>
Continuously review and improve Financial Administration function.	9	<p>Ensure that Suppliers are paid promptly and accurately</p> <p>Review and improve internal controls and increase quantity of monthly/ quarterly reconciliations within Finance</p> <p>Reduce number of cheque payments/ increase number of EFT payments</p>	<p>No Penalties/ interest payable for prompt payments</p> <p>LGA conducts more controls audits and fewer substantive tests during annual audit</p> <p>Reduction in number of cheque payments</p>

Human Resources			
In its Corporate Plan, Monaghan County Council committed to ensuring that there is an appropriately resourced, skilled and motivated workforce to meet the priorities and objectives of the organisation. The HR section has the lead role in delivering on the Council's commitments in this area. The 2021 service delivery plan for HR is set out below. Objectives will be delivered in compliance with Monaghan County Council's adopted governance processes & procedures.			
Supporting Strategy	High Level Goal	Actions for 2021	Performance Standards
Plan and deliver our Organisation's Workforce requirements.	3, 10	<p>Develop a Workforce that is equipped with the skills and competencies to meet the challenges of our evolving environment.</p> <p>Implement Our People Strategy 2020-2024</p> <p>Carry out continuous Workforce Planning for the organisation.</p> <p>Legislation and statutory obligations.</p> <p>Ensure ease of access through technology</p> <p>Laserfiche project continued with the assistance of IT</p>	<p>Total number of WTE's. WTE's per Capita. Target Training & Development Plan to areas identified as priority.</p> <p>Agreed objectives have been achieved.</p> <p>Succession Planning, business continuity and training needs met, panels maintained.</p> <p>Ensure compliance with legal and statutory obligations including General Data Protection Regulations. Clear Policies/procedures communicated to all staff.</p> <p>Superannuation Data transfer completed.</p> <p>Optimise use of Core system and MyPay systems</p> <p>Back scanning of files completed. Continued programme of automation of HR procedures.</p>

		Makodata 'Data Analytics' project initiated in conjunction with the LGMA.	Roll out of Makodata to ensure efficient and effective HR Data Analytics.
Be an employer of Choice.	3, 10	<p>Attract and recruit people with the appropriate knowledge, skills and behaviours.</p> <p>Support 'My Council' activities to raise awareness of the diverse, impactful and valuable work of MCC.</p> <p>Promote career opportunities and the potential for development and progressing offered by MCC</p> <p>Continue to build strategic alliances with other organisations to position MCC as a key employer of choice.</p>	<p>Positions are advertised to a wider catchment by use of social media and new public jobs website.</p> <p>Enhance the recruitment and selection process.</p> <p>Skilled professional interview boards training in competency-based interviewing are appointed.</p> <p>A highly skilled and trained workforce is in place.</p> <p>Exit interview forms are conducted to improve MCC as an employer</p> <p>Training and Development needs analysis carried out and prioritised.</p> <p>Support Engineers Ireland Accreditation and technical staff development, Leadership, Graduate and Accounting Technicians Programmes.</p> <p>Engineers Ireland Accreditation received</p> <p>Opportunities are provided for students/graduates via Graduate Programme, MIFET, Accounting Technicians Ireland</p>

<p>Create culture of continuous learning and development.</p>	<p>3, 10</p>	<p>Implement annual training and development programme and ensure that all training is prioritised in line with the business plan.</p> <p>Promote the 70:20:10 reflective learning model as suggested by Engineers Ireland</p> <p>Implement and monitor PMDS</p> <p>Implement induction and probation</p>	<p>Staff are equipped with all the required knowledge, qualifications and skills including technical staff in line with Engineers Ireland Accreditation.</p> <p>Training, including on the job training is recorded accurately</p> <p>Quarterly CPD meetings held</p> <p>PDP's are periodic reviews are implemented for all staff</p> <p>Satisfactory integration and monitoring of progress of new staff</p>
<p>Empower and enable our managers and supervisors.</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>Training provided to all Line Managers on PMDS including dealing with underperformance and policies such as Disciplinary, Dignity at Work, Grievance and attendance management etc.</p> <p>Line Managers given the responsibility for monitoring the performance of new staff during probation period and taken appropriate action where required</p> <p>Policies and procedures are developed, and refresher training and awareness is provided to new and existing Line Managers.</p>	<p>Line management capacity and competence to manage employees effectively to ensure smooth running of the organisation is achieved.</p> <p>Newly appointed line managers are supported by HR and Senior Management.</p> <p>On the job training, mentoring and coaching of Line Managers is provided.</p> <p>Policies and procedures are developed, communicated timely to support effective people management.</p> <p>Regular meetings are held, and Senior Staff Forum are updated on HR activities.</p>

		<p>Engaging in Senior staff Forum to disseminate new HR policies/procedures or initiatives.</p> <p>Continuing support of Engineers Ireland Accreditation</p>	<p>CPD Committee meetings are held quarterly and supported by HR.</p>
<p>Promote positive employee relations and engagement.</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>Communicate and consult effectively with employees on key organisation activities and plans</p> <p>Recognise individuals, team and organisation achievements</p> <p>Ensure that Performance Management is in operation throughout the organisation to facilitate formal arrangement for Line Managers to meet with staff and agree objectives.</p> <p>Promotion of new Employee Assistance Service and Wellbeing App</p>	<p>Management reports are updated monthly</p> <p>Meetings are held every two months with Senior Staff Forum</p> <p>Communicate quarterly through MCC Staff Newsletter</p> <p>Promote use of REACH APP</p> <p>Successes are recorded in Social Media, staff portal, REACH, Annual report and monthly Management report.</p> <p>Objectives agreed for year ahead and compared with previous year.</p> <p>Positive and constructive feedback given to staff.</p> <p>Areas identified where additional supports are required with regards to training and development.</p> <p>EAS is promoted and ensure APP downloaded by staff, members and their families.</p> <p>Regular meetings are held with unions</p>

		<p>Maintain Collaborative employee relations with unions and staff representatives, respecting IR mechanisms. Working to resolve issues up to and including attendance at the WRC or Labour Court</p> <p>Provide information and consulting on relevant issues</p>	<p>Agendas and minutes are issued Awareness is raised with HOS on matters that can cause issues if not correctly managed.</p> <p>Reduction of conflict, disputes and risk of industrial action.</p> <p>IR Issues circulated to HOS.</p>
<p>Create a fair, supportive and healthy working environment.</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>Promote and support a culture of dignity, respect and equality</p> <p>Continue to develop a health and wellness framework to create a health working environment by promoting early intervention and good communications</p> <p>Raise awareness of equality and diversity, equal treatment for all.</p>	<p>Clear Policies and Procedures implemented consistently across the Council.</p> <p>Relevant training provided.</p> <p>Health & Wellness framework in place: - Employee Assistance Programme Wellness APP – encourage downloading Wellbeing events Health & Safety system Eyesight tests Flu Vaccinations Family friendly policies Occupational Health care.</p> <p>Operation of attendance management system NOAC C2: working days lost to sickness Absenteeism reduced below 3.5%</p> <p>Record and monitor COVID 19 instances</p> <p>Diversity and equality learning module delivered to all staff.</p>

Health & Safety Unit			
Supporting Strategy	High Level Goal	Actions for 2021	Performance Standards
<p>Manage and implement the Health and Safety Management System (HSMS) to ensure the safety, health and welfare of employees and others that could be affected by Monaghan County Council's operations by being compliant with legislation, codes of practice and best practice.</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>Provide a suitable Health and Safety Management System (HSMS) that is the requirements of ISO 45001.</p> <p>Provide support, assistance, advice, information and training to employees to ensure the safety health and welfare of employees and other that may be affected. Develop and implement an audit, inspection, investigation and review process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and maintain the MCC Online H&S Management System including the Corporate Safety Statement, H&R Assessment and Inspections. • Develop and maintain the H&S Unit Corporate Risk Register. • 2021 Health and Safety Unit Operational Plan in place. • Meet with the Safety Committee Members. • Two Safety Link Newsletters and regular Safety Briefings issued to employees. • Participate in European H&S Week. • Deliver Management Team Monthly Reports. <p>Investigate incidents and maintain records.</p>

ICT In its Corporate Plan, Monaghan County Council has committed to delivering an efficient, effective and accessible service through advancing information systems and technology and promoting a culture of innovation. The Information Systems and Innovation department has the lead role in delivering on the Council's commitments in this area. The 2021 service delivery plan for this department is set out below. Objectives will be delivered in compliance with Monaghan County Council's adopted governance processes & procedures.			
Supporting Strategy	High Level Goal	Actions for 2021	Performance Standards
Provide a modern, secure, green and accessible ICT infrastructure to enable efficient and reliable service delivery.	1, 3, 11	Monitor and maintain datacentre in HQ Install additional data node to on-premise Hyperconverged solution and upgrade cloud backup solution Monitor and maintain server/data backup solution Review Disaster Recovery (DR) Plan and conduct bi-annual DR testing Maintain comms room equipment in remote offices, install/upgrade switches, routers and other N/W equipment Continue implementing Windows Server and Desktop Upgrade/Migrate/Replace Programme Implement IT asset management solution Implement CIS cyber-security controls and continue to provide high level of cyber security through managing multiple layered cyber-security systems	NOAC indicator – Overall cost of ICT provision per WTE NOAC indicator – Cost of ICT provision as a proportion of revenue expenditure No. of Servers, PCs and Laptops running unsupported Operating Systems Service availability - uptime Telecommunication costs Datacentre energy usage All IT assets maintained in asset register Percent of CIS controls at green status Percent of IT risks at green status

		<p>Review Cisco IP telephony solution. Examine feasibility of implementing MS Teams telephony for all users Maintain I.S. Risk Register</p> <p>Review I.S. policies and procedures</p>	
Lead innovation, and develop and support initiatives through collaboration at local, regional, national and EU level.	3, 11	<p>Set up Innovation Team</p> <p>Develop Innovation Training programme for Innovation Team</p> <p>Finalise and publish MCC Innovation Strategy, develop an implementation roadmap and an action plan for 2021</p> <p>Prepare and submit proposals to National Public Service Innovation Fund</p> <p>Support and promote a culture of innovation in MCC</p> <p>Develop programme of events for National Public Service Innovation Week 2021</p> <p>Continue to develop the Innovation Hub on the Staff Portal</p> <p>Continue to build relations with external innovation networks</p>	<p>Innovation team established; terms of reference agreed</p> <p>2021 innovation actions completed</p> <p>Attendance/participation at national public sector innovation network events</p> <p>No. of ideas received through call for ideas for local innovation fund and national innovation fund</p>
Upgrade and Implement new and emerging software and systems where appropriate, including AI and Robotics, while keeping in mind accessibility, security, privacy and	3, 11	<p>Continue the roll-out of Laserfiche throughout the organisation</p> <p>Carry out application upgrades, including the upgrade of Agresso Milestone 4 to</p>	<p>Laserfiche Project Plan Progress</p> <p>No. of applications running on latest / latest minus 1 version</p>

<p>information management requirements.</p>		<p>Milestone 7, to avail of new/enhanced features and functionality, and for security purposes Review Virtual Reality solution implemented for house tours and identify other applications of this technology e.g. virtual tours of council buildings</p> <p>Deploy business intelligence tools to provide graphic information dashboards to assist with decision making</p>	<p>Use of Information dashboards</p>
<p>Implement and maintain high quality GIS systems and open data technologies.</p>	<p>3, 11</p>	<p>Continue the roll-out of the new GIS system throughout organisation</p> <p>Publish open data on national portal</p>	<p>Legacy GIS system replaced with new IMGS solution</p> <p>Data sets published</p>
<p>Provide broadband, wi-fi facilities and online services to staff, libraries and the community.</p>	<p>3, 4, 6, 7, 11</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to develop www.monaghan.ie website • Replace/Upgrade WAN links to avail of improvements in broadband and security • Continue to support library facilities as spaces to encourage innovation and creativity • Review and maintain corporate and public Wi-Fi networks • Replace application forms with online forms and automated workflow using Laserfiche system • Implement online interactive mapping applications • Implement national online planning system when available 	<p>NOAC indicator – No. of visits to website</p> <p>Improved bandwidth and reliability</p> <p>No. of online application forms</p>

		and as per national roll-out schedule	
Implement and promote remote working technologies including mobile devices and apps, virtual teams, conferencing facilities.	3, 4, 7, 11	<p>Deliver training to staff and councillors on use of Microsoft/Office 365 including MS Teams</p> <p>Continue to develop and implement Mobile Apps</p> <p>Manage the Council's mobile phone/device/sim card estate</p>	<p>All staff and Councillors trained in Office 365</p> <p>Complete up-to-date Register of mobile phones / tablets / sim cards</p> <p>All mobile devices (phones, tablets, laptops) enrolled in MDM</p>
Provide high quality technical support to all our customers.	3, 11	<p>Implement a new Service Desk solution with self-service capability</p> <p>Continue to provide high quality technical support</p> <p>Carry out analysis of service desk calls to identify trends, and training requirements</p>	<p>No. of Support Calls logged / resolved per month</p> <p>Average time taken to respond to and to resolve support requests</p>
Implement the National Broadband Plan (NBP) for County Monaghan and the County Monaghan Digital Strategy		<p>Facilitate the delivery of fibre to 3,735 premises</p> <p>Facilitate the delivery of broadband to 16 broadband connection points (BCPs)</p> <p>Facilitate the delivery of broadband and WI-FI to 34 locations under the Wifi4EU project</p> <p>Finalise the Digital Strategy, develop an implementation roadmap and action plan for 2021</p>	<p>No. of premises with fibre connectivity under NBP</p> <p>No. of BCPs set up</p> <p>No. of WI-FI locations live</p> <p>No. of MCC actions completed on the County Monaghan Digital Strategy</p>

Appendix

1. Housing

Performance Indicator H1:	Social Housing Stock
Performance Indicator H2:	Housing Vacancies
Performance Indicator H3:	Average Re-letting time and Cost
Performance Indicator H4:	Housing Maintenance Cost
Performance Indicator H5:	Private Rented sector Inspections
Performance Indicator H6:	Long Term Homeless Adults
NOAC Report: Page 68 - 78	

2. Roads

Performance Indicator R1:	Pavement Surface Condition Index (PSCI) Rating
Performance Indicator R2:	Roadworks/Expenditure
Performance Indicator R3:	% of Motor Tax Transactions conducted online
NOAC Report: Page 79 - 91	

3. Water

Performance Indicator W1:	% Drinking water in private schemes in compliance with statutory requirements
Performance Indicator W2:	Percentage of registered schemes monitored
NOAC Report: Page 92 - 93	

4. Waste/ Environment

Performance Indicator E1:	No. of households with access to a 3 bin service
Performance Indicator E2:	% of Environmental pollution cases
Performance Indicator E3:	% Litter pollution
Performance Indicator E4:	Schools awarded Green Flag Status
Performance Indicator E5:	Percentage Energy Efficiency Performance
NOAC Report: Page 94 - 99	

5. Planning

Performance Indicator P1:	Building Control Inspections
Performance Indicator P2:	An Bord Pleanála Appeals
Performance Indicator P3:	Planning Enforcement
Performance Indicator P4:	Cost per Capita
Performance Indicator P5:	Fire Safety Certificate Applications
NOAC Report: Page 100 - 104	

6. Fire Services

Performance Indicator F1:	Cost per Capita of Fire Service
Performance Indicator F2:	Mobilisation Times
Performance Indicator F3:	Attendance Times at scenes
NOAC Report: Page 105 - 108	

7. Library/Recreation

Performance Indicator L1:	Library Visits & Issues
Performance Indicator L2:	Cost of operating a Library service
NOAC Report: Page 109 - 111	

8. Youth/Community

Performance Indicator Y1:	Participation in Comhairle na nÓg scheme
Performance Indicator Y2:	Groups associated with the PPN
NOAC Report: Page 112 - 113	

9. Corporate – HR and ICT

Performance Indicator C1:	Wholetime Equivalents (WTE)
Performance Indicator C2:	Sick Leave
Performance Indicator C3:	Website and Social media
Performance Indicator C4:	Overall cost of ICT provision per WTE
Performance Indicator C5:	Overall cost of ICT as a proportion of Revenue Expenditure
NOAC Report: Page 114 - 117	

10. Finance

Performance Indicator M1:	Revenue Account balance
Performance Indicator M2 (A):	5 year summary of collection levels for Commercial Rates
Performance Indicator M2 (B):	5 year summary of collection of Rent & Annuities
Performance Indicator M2 (C):	5 year summary of collection of Housing Loans
NOAC Report: Page 118 - 127	

11. Economic Development

Performance Indicator J1: Job Creation

Performance Indicator J2: Trading Online Vouchers

Performance Indicator J3: Mentoring Receipts

Performance Indicator J4: Tourism Strategy

NOAC Report: Page 128 - 129

Draft



Comhairle Contae Mhuineacháin
Plean Bliantúil Soláthair Seirbhíse 2021

Monaghan County Council
Annual Service Delivery Plan 2021

15 February 2021

Mr. Cathal Flynn,
A/Director of Corporate Services.

Memo:

Re: Proposal to adopt Part IV of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1890 - Application for Music and Singing Licence – Castleblayney Arts & Community Development Company Limited (Iontas Centre)

Monaghan County Council has received a request from Seamus Mallon Solicitors Castleblayney, on behalf of Castleblayney Arts & Community Development Company Limited (Iontas Centre) for a declaration that Monaghan County Council (or it's predecessor Authorities) adopted Part IV of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1890.

I have reviewed the legislation relating to the above -

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1890 is divided into 5 Parts. Parts II, III and IV are adoptive by local authorities and only come into effect following a resolution of the local authority. Part IV (Section 51) deals with the issue of Music and Dancing Licences.

By virtue of Section 14 of the Public Dance Halls Act of 1935, licences for public dancing have been removed from the remit of the 1890 Act, but the licensing of public singing and music remains governed by the 1890 Act.

This means that before a "Music and Singing licence" can be issued by the Courts under Section 51 of the 1890 Act, the Court must be satisfied that Part IV of that Act has been adopted by the local authority in the first place.

It would require extensive resources to trawl through the minutes of Monaghan County Council and the former Town Councils to determine if indeed such resolution was passed, adopting Part IV. The relevant legislation was enacted back in 1890 and while it is conceivable that somewhere in the minutes of meetings of each of the five relevant local authorities that have been held in the intervening 125 years, such resolution(s) could exist, the chances of finding same are remote.

It remains open to Monaghan County Council to adopt Part IV now – the procedure is clearly laid out in the 1890 Act.

The Council's Solicitor has confirmed that *...the adoption of Part IV doesn't appear to have any downside for the Council but it would mean that any singing or public entertainment establishment which doesn't sell alcohol and which in the past didn't need a Part IV licence will now need one.*

The process for the adoption of Part IV is relatively straightforward and requires that the Council pass a resolution adopting Part IV of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1890 (as amended).

Prior to the Council passing a resolution, and in accordance with Section 3 of the Act, one calendar month, at least, before such meeting, special notice of the meeting and of the intention to propose such resolution shall be given to every member of the authority.

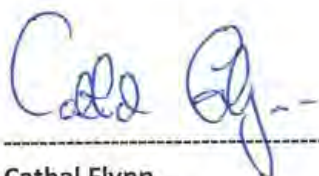
When the resolution is adopted, the Council must, in accordance with Section 4 of the Act, publish details of the resolution in one or more newspapers circulating within the district of the local authority and the resolution shall come into operation at such time not less than one month after the first publication of the advertisement of the resolution as the local authority may fix. A copy of the advertisement shall be conclusive evidence of the resolution having been passed.

Having regard to the foregoing, I recommend that the Council consider passing a resolution adopting Part IV of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1890 for County Monaghan.



Carmel Thornton,
A.O. Corporate Services
Monaghan County Council.

Approved for submission to Corporate Policy Group for consideration



Cathal Flynn,
A/Director of Corporate Services



Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Coiste na Gaeilge 2020

Díríonn Coiste na Gaeilge Comhairle Contae Mhuineacháin ar úsáid na Gaeilge a chur chun cinn sa Chontae. Bunaíodh an Coiste agus toghadh na Comhairleoirí seo a leanas: An Comh. Pat Treanor, An Comh. Cathy Bennett, An Comh. Richard Truell, An Comh. Raymond Aughey agus An Comh. Hugh McElvaney.

Bhí dúshlán romhainn i 2020 ach is fíor, áfach, gur éirigh leis an gCoiste réimse leathan gníomhaíochtaí a sholáthar as Gaeilge agus orthusan bhí:

1. Scéim deontas do Sheachtain na Gaeilge trínar bronnadh naoi gcinn de dheontais €200 ar Ghrúpaí Pobail chun imeachtaí as Gaeilge sa Chontae a reachtáil.
2. Is mór an trua go raibh orainn an scéim bhliantúil scoláireachtaí chun mic léinn dara leibhéal a chur go dtí cúrsaí samhraidh sa Ghaeltacht a chur ar ceal, ach táimid tiomanta don bhfilleadh ar an scéim úd nuair a beidh na cúrsaí samhraidh ar siúl arís.
3. Tharla oiliúint sa teanga do bhaill fhoirne agus baill tofa Comhairle Contae Mhuineacháin go luath sa bhliain agus 12 a bhí páirteach inti. Mí na Samhna tharla oiliúint ar leith don bhfoireann tosaigh sa phlé le custaiméirí as Gaeilge, an eagraíocht Gaelchultúr a sholáthraigh í sin ar bhonn náisiúnta.
4. Le linn an frithdhúnadh mí an Mheithimh d'éagraigh an Coiste trí oíche ceoil, amhrán agus filíochta i sraith beo ar *Facebook* darb ainm Le Chéile Muineachán. Bíodh is go raibh an-chuid srianta i gceist ba mhór an gaisce é a leithéid de chlár ardchaigdeáin a chur ar fáil. Gabhaimid buíochas le gach éinne a bhí ag baint leis na hócáidí.
5. Don Oíche Chultúir bhí an Coiste páirteach in ócáid san Ionad Patrick Kavanagh. Ba mhór an pléisiúr fáiltiú roimh an file áitiúil Caitriona Ní Chléiricín maraon leis an nGaeilgeoir ceolmhar cáiliúil Phillip King agus a bhanna ceoil Scullion.
6. Anuraidh cheannaigh an Leabharlann 250 leabhar nua as Gaeilge do pháistí ar chostas €1466. Anuas air sin d'éagraigh an Leabharlann ócáid le Gráinne McElwaine do mhic léinn meánscoile. D'fháiltíodh freisin roimh dhá Sheimineár Gréasáin leis an údar as Gaeilge Sadbh Devlin mar chuid d'Fhéile Leabhar na bPáistí ar tharla sreabhadh orthu isteach go Bunscoileanna ar fud na tíre.
7. I ndiaidh tréimhse comhairliúcháin phoiblí sheol an Coiste Scéim nua Teanga go dtí an Aire Stáit Jack Chambers TD. Ghlac an tAire leis an Scéim ar an 27 Nollaig. Tá sé rí-thábhachtach go gcuirfear i bhfeidhm na geallúintí a luadh sa phlean seo go ceann na dtrí bliana atá romhainn amach.

Coiste Gaeilge Annual Report 2020

Monaghan County Council's Coiste Gaeilge aims to promote the use of the Irish language in County Monaghan. The Coiste has been established with the following Councillors elected; Cllr. Pat Treanor, Cllr. Cathy Bennett, Cllr. Richard Truell, Cllr. Raymond Aughey and Cllr. Hugh McElvaney.

2020 was a challenging year, however, the Coiste still managed to deliver a wide range of activities as Gaeilge they included:

1. Grant scheme for Seachtain na Gaeilge with nine grants of €200 each awarded to Community Groups to hold for events as Gaeilge in the County.
2. Unfortunately, the annual scholarship scheme for second level students attending Gaeltacht courses during summer months was cancelled, but there is a commitment to return to this scheme when summer courses resume.
3. Irish language training for Monaghan County Council staff and elected members took place in the early part of the year with 12 participants. In November 3 staff undertook specific training for front line staff dealing with customers as Gaeilge delivered on a national basis by Gaelchluir.
4. During 'the lockdown in June, the Coiste delivered 3 nights of music, song and poetry on a facebook live series called Le Chéile Muineachán. It was a great achievement by all involved to deliver such high-quality programme given the restrictions in place. An coiste would again like to thank all involved
5. For Culture Night the Coiste participated in an event in the Patrick Kavanagh Centre. The Coiste was delighted to have local poet Caitriona Ní Chleircin and well renowned musician and Gaelgeoir Phillip King and his band Scullion.
6. The library bought 250 new children's books as Gaeilge last year at a cost of €1466. The library also ran an Irish language event with Gráinne McElwaine for secondary school students. They also hosted 2 Webinars with an Irish Language author Sadhbh Devlin as part of Children's Book Festival in October which were streamed into Primary schools across the County.
7. The Coiste after a period of public consultation submitted a revised Irish Language Scheme to the Minister of State, Jack Chambers TD. The scheme was accepted by the Minister on the 27th December. It is very important that the Council implements the commitments given in this plan over the next 3 years.

Úsáid na Gaeilge ag Cruinnithe Using Irish at Meetings

A Chathaoirligh	Chairperson (When addressing them)
Clár an chruinnithe	Meeting agenda
I láthair	Present
Nithe ag eascairt as...	Matters arising from...
Liosta Oibre	Job List
Cruinniú a thosú	Start a meeting
Freastail ar chruinniú	Attend a meeting
Cruinniú a ghairm	Convene a meeting
I modh rúin	Off the record
Cruinniú Cinn Bhliana	Annual General Meeting
Miontuairiscí	Minutes of the meeting
Molaim na miontuairiscí	I propose the minutes
Cuidím le sin	I support that
Molaim an rún	I support the motion
Iad siúd i bhfabhar	Those in favour
Iad siúd i gcoinne	Those against
Ag staonadh	Abstaining
Tacaím leis an méid a dúirt X	I support what X said
Tosnóimid an cruinniú ag a 7	We'll start the meeting at 7
Glacfaimis sos lóin ag a 1	We'll take lunch at 1
Tosóimid arís ag a 3	We'll reconvene at 3

Fáiltím roimh chomhfhreagras as Gaeilge
I welcome correspondence in Irish



Comhairle Contae Mhuineacháin
Monaghan County Council

MONAGHAN COUNTY COUNCIL

Home Heating and Energy Efficiency Presentation

Prepared by:

Housing Department
Monaghan County Council



Motion regarding dual fuel heating systems

Motion below submitted for debate at the December 2020 Council meeting:- referred to SPC

“In regard to the option of dual heating systems in Council houses, typically from an oil burner as well as solid fuel, that this Council continue to honour Council tenancy agreements whereby tenants occupy dwellings on the basis that both heating systems are available”

Note: type of heating system is not mentioned in tenancy agreements, the responsibility of tenants to maintain their heating systems is mentioned in the tenant’s handbook

Dual heating systems & Tenancy Agreement



- The tenancy agreement does not state or indicate anywhere that dual heating systems are provided or necessary within a property neither is there anything in the tenancy agreement stating that the property will be retained in its existing form without any changes being made
- Monaghan County Council carries out improvements to homes on an ongoing basis and the question of not honouring tenancy agreements has never been raised before
- Monaghan County Council always moves with the times to improve its housing stock, very significant improvements in Energy Efficiency are being achieved by a combination of insulation upgrades and the elimination of the solid fuel element of dual heating systems
- Monaghan County Council is a **benevolent** landlord with the aim of looking after and safeguarding the interests of tenants by improving Energy Efficiency to reduce or eliminate fuel poverty and eliminate the negative aspects of solid fuel heating systems (Carbon Monoxide poisoning, house fires, health problems, air pollution, environmental issues etc.)



Cost of solid fuel heating appliances & flues

Average cost of

- replacing a fireplace (inc. mantle piece & hearth) is **€1020**
 - lining a chimney flue in a single storey house with a stainless steel liner is **€780** and 2-storey house is **€1210**
 - installing a new stove is **€2930**
-
- 174 M.C.C homes have a single energy efficient heating system in the form of a Heat Pump
 - 1,496 M.C.C homes currently have dual heating systems (oil or gas fired central heating and solid fuel)

Estimated cost of replacing = €10.4 million

- fireplaces in all homes with dual heating systems is €1.5million
- stoves and flues in all homes with dual heating systems is €5.9million.
- stainless steel flue liners in all homes with dual heating systems is approximately €3million

Solid fuel heating systems are no longer funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Benefits of Energy Efficiency upgrades:- removal of solid fuel

- Greater return of heat for every Euro spent on fuel when using an Energy Efficient system
- Elimination of heat loss through the chimney (stack effect)
- Reduction in draughts
- Risk of carbon monoxide poisoning eliminated:- **6 people in Ireland die every year from CO poisoning**
- Risk of chimney fires eliminated
- Reduced risk of household fires:- **20% of all house fires is associated with solid fuel heating**
- Impact of fuel poverty reduced as inefficient solid fuel heating systems are removed
- Reduced CO₂ emissions to the local atmosphere
- Health complications associated with solid fuel systems removed (asthma, bronchitis, allergies, cancer, cardiovascular etc):-
- Risk of musculoskeletal issues associated with carrying fuel and lighting and stoking fires removed
- Smell of smoke removed from the local community:- **1,180 die prematurely due to air pollution in Ireland each year**
- Impact of carbon tax on tenants reduced
- Acknowledgement of the importance of Climate Adaptation





Current Situation

- Tenants must maintain and service all heating systems in the property as stated in Tenant Handbook.
- In homes with dual fuel heating systems when solid fuel fires, back-boilers, stoves or flues come to the end of their life there is no requirement to replace them as they are **not the primary energy efficient heating system of the home.**
- Homes that are included in deep Energy Efficiency upgrades that may include the installation of an energy efficient heat pump have their solid fuel fires, back-boilers, stoves or flues removed as part of the Energy Efficiency upgrade. The removal of the solid fuel fires, back-boilers, stoves, flues and their associated vents is required to achieve a low heat loss level that allows the homes to be heated to a comfortable temperature at a reduced cost **reducing or eliminating fuel poverty.**
- **Solid fuel heating systems are not funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.**



Effects of retaining dual heating systems

- Retaining open fires / chimneys / solid fuel heating in all houses would result in significantly higher maintenance costs and replacement costs for both tenants and Monaghan County Council.
- We would be creating worse financial conditions for all our tenants as we are aware that the future direction of government policy is towards carbon taxes on solid fuels - increased costs leading to increased fuel poverty for most of our tenants
- We would be continuing with outdated and inefficient heating systems
- We would be continuing with a heat source that is proven to be unhealthy and potentially dangerous to our tenants and causes various illnesses
- We would not be moving towards environmentally sustainable heating sources but maintaining and reinstating a non-environmentally sustainable heat source contrary to national government direction and our own strategic aims as set out in the Climate Charter that Monaghan County Council has signed up to as an organisation
- Funding for the retention of the solid fuel heating systems is not be available from Central Government and would have to be funded by Monaghan County Council which would have significant implications for Planned Maintenance and other Energy Efficiency work required to the Council stock
- Retaining solid fuel heating would prevent Monaghan County Council and tenants from availing of the opportunity to install the best most energy efficient and environmentally friendly heating systems and all the energy efficiency upgrade work that goes with them

Proposal



- Older persons, particularly those occupying Older Persons Dwellings (OPDs) will be allowed to continue with their preferred heating system where feasible, as OPDs become vacant they will be upgraded as the opportunity arises.
- At no cost to tenants, Monaghan County Council will continue to improve the Energy Efficiency of the dwellings it owns at every opportunity, towards eliminating fuel poverty, including the gradual phasing out of solid fuel heating systems because of the reasons set out in the preceding slides
- At no cost to tenants, heating systems will continue to be upgraded when they become damaged or come to the end of their life, the draught-proofing of the house will be improved and Monaghan County Council will ensure that the primary energy efficient heating system is working efficiently before removing the solid fuel fire because of the reasons set out in the preceding slides
- Monaghan County Council will provide zero interest loans up to the amount of €2000 for tenants who want to keep dual heating systems in their houses and will arrange repair and replacement work on their behalf (subject to compliance with applicable guidelines and regulations) to acknowledge the preference of some tenants



Comhairle Contae Mhuineacháin Monaghan County Council

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Acmhainní Daonna
Human Resources
047 30586

Airgeadas
Finance
047 30589

Na Bóithre
Roads
047 30597

Clár na dToghthóirí
Register of Electors
047 30551

Comhshaol
Environment
042 9661240

Na hEalaíona
Arts
047 38162

Íasachtaí /Deontais Tithlochta
Housing Loans/Grants
047 30527

Leabharlann an Chontae
County Library
047 74700

Mótarcháin
Motor Tax
047 81175

Músaem an Chontae
County Museum
047 82928

Pleanáil
Planning
047 30532

Pobal
Community
047 73719

Rialú Dóiteáin/Foirgnimh
Fire/Building Control
047 30521

Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil
Local Enterprise Office
047 71818

Seirbhísí Uisce
Water Services
047 30504/30571

Meetings Administrator
Corporate Affairs
Monaghan County Council
Council Offices
Glen Road
Monaghan

08/02/2021

A Chara

Monaghan Comhairle na nÓg is a youth council comprising of representatives from each of the Secondary Schools in the County. The operation of the youth council is facilitated by the County Council through a Service Level Agreement with Youth Work Ireland Cavan Monaghan.

The Youth Council work on a variety of actions each year and are supported in their work from the advice and assistance of a steering committee. This committee consists of representatives from the community, voluntary and statutory community. The steering committee members would meet 4 times a year to hear progress updates, receive presentations from members and offer expertise and advice as required.

We are seeking a nomination from the elected members to sit on the Comhairle na nÓg steering committee. Meetings currently take place via Microsoft Teams and last approximately 1 hour. Post Covid times, meetings will take place in the main Council offices. The first meeting of 2021 will take place on Thursday 04th March at 2pm.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards

Fiona Mc Entee

Fiona Mc Entee
Youth Development Officer

Fáilteann an tÚdarás Áitiúil roimh chomhfhreagras I nGaeilge.

Comhairle Contae Mhuineacháin, Oifigí an Chontae, An Gleann, Muineachán, Éire.
Monaghan County Council, Council Offices, The Glen, Monaghan, Ireland.

☎ 00353 47 30500 📠 00353 47 82739 🌐 www.monaghan.ie

✉ eolas@monaghancoco.ie info@monaghancoco.ie

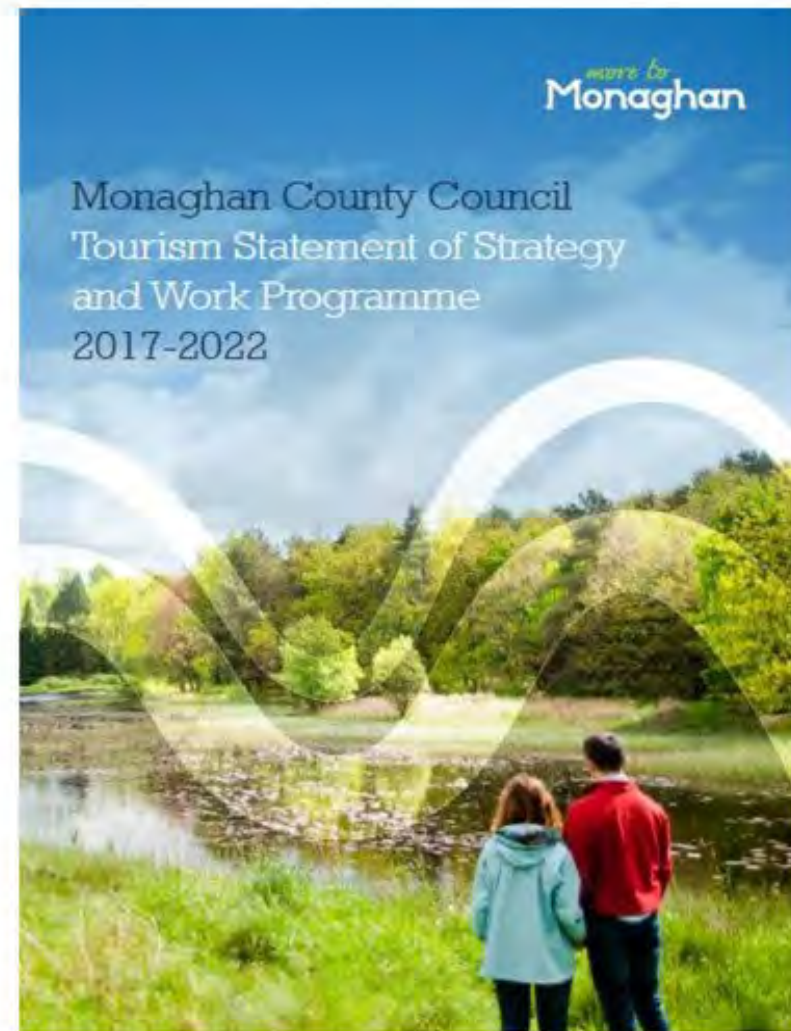
Tourism Presentation

Council Meeting

- 8th March 2021



Tourism Unit implements the Tourism Statement of Strategy and Work Programme 2017 - 2022



Delivery involves Liaison with Key Organisations

- Fáilte Ireland
- Cross Border Partnerships (EBR & ICBAN)
- Monaghan Integrated Development
- Waterways Ireland
- Inland Fisheries Ireland
- Coillte etc



Failte Ireland

149

Covid 19 Business Supports

Adaptation Fund Supports – 37 Businesses - €131,000

Restart Grants - €10,400

Safety Charter – 46 businesses signed up

Mentoring & Business Supports – key Accounts - €15,000

Workshops

Pilot South Monaghan Cluster Training - 20 attendees - €18,000

Kavanagh Centre

Specific Mentoring Support to Kavanagh Centre – €8,000

(Retail offering, Booking Systems etc, Marketing to Operators etc)

Failte Ireland

150

ORIS Funding 2020

€117,000 awarded for 8 Measure 1 Projects

Kavanagh Centre

Exhibition Development Grant - €198,000

Destination Towns

Monaghan Town Event Space & Monument Lighting - €500,000

Lough Muckno

Visioning Report for future Lough Muckno Development

What's been Delivered in terms of Product Development?

Completed LECP & Tourism Priority Actions 2017 - 2022

Heritage

152

- Patrick Kavanagh Centre
- Carrickmacross Market Square Craft Hub
- Carrickmacross Workhouse (*due to open when restrictions lift*)
- Clones Lace Museum (*in conjunction with MD*)
- Castleblayney Heritage Trail
- Expanded Clones Heritage Trail



**PATRICK
KAVANAGH
CENTRE**



Natural Resources & Amenities

153

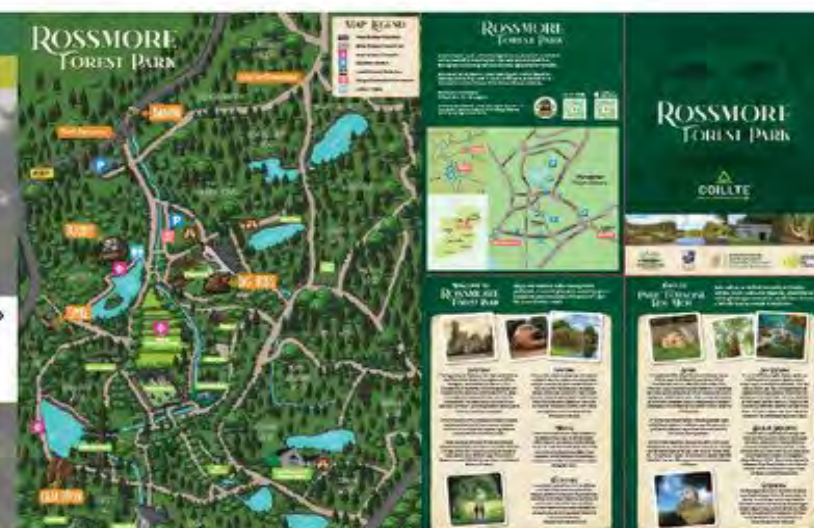
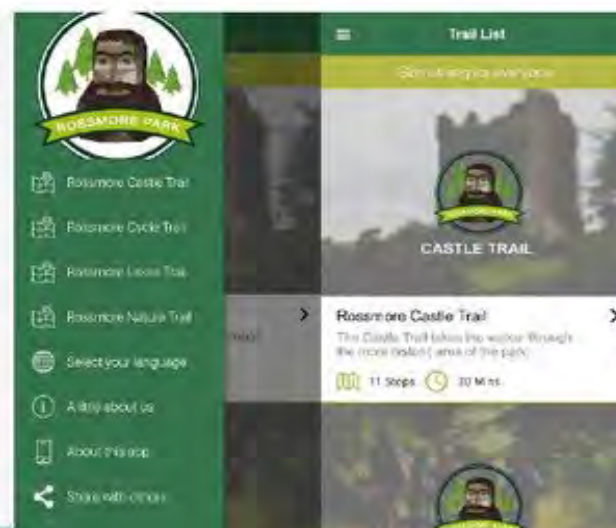
- Rossmore Playpark
- Rossmore Park Upgrade
- South Lodge Angling Stretch
- Lough Muckno Watersports Facility Upgraded
- Changing Unit for Triathletes at Muckno



Walking & Cycling Trails

154

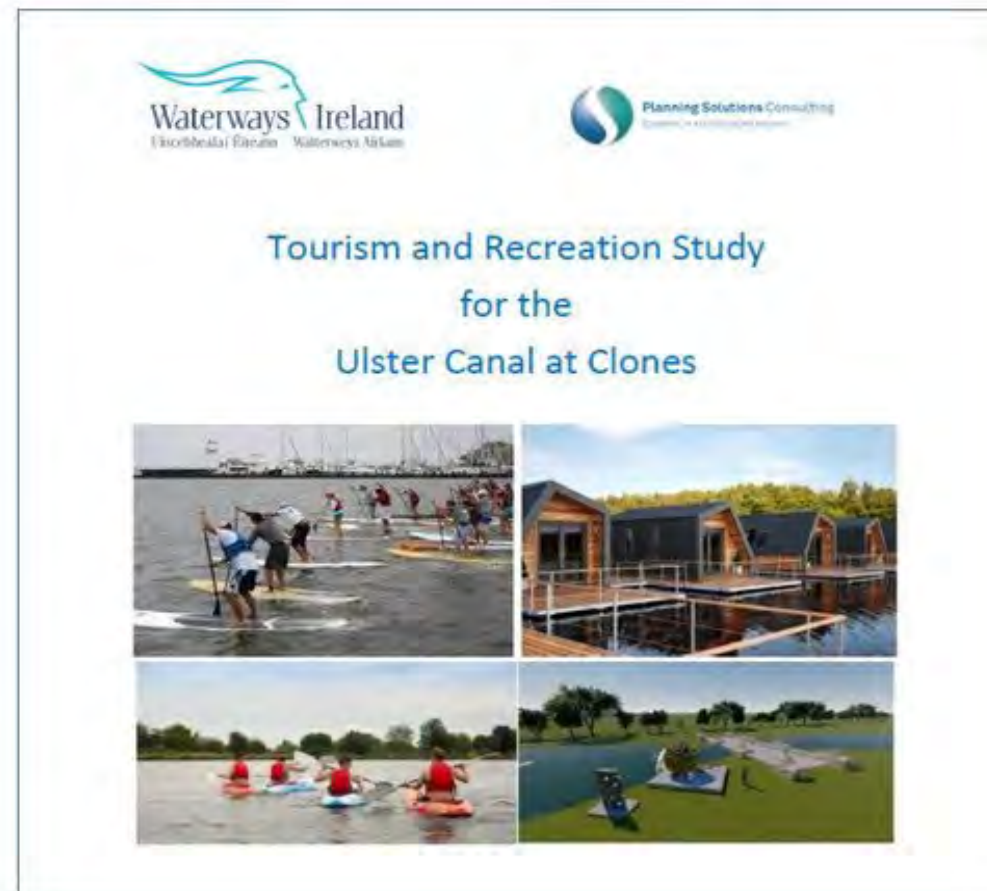
- Branded Kavanagh Trail (& Brochure)
- Kingfisher Cycle Trail Upgrade
- Muckno Trail with link to Dundalk Road
- Ballybay Walking Trails (& Brochure)
- Rossmore Trails upgrade (Trails App & illustrated Map)



Ulster Canal

155

- Work with Waterways Ireland on recent Canalside Marina report and support submission for RRDF Funding



Key Projects driven by other Sections

- PEACE Campus (Museum)
- Clones Post Office (Ballybay Clones MD)
- Phase II Greenway Development (Roads)
- Numerous amenity/walking developments and angling access improvements at a local level (MDs)

What Projects are in Progress?

157

- **Destination Towns Monaghan**
- **Rossmore Cycle Trail**
- **Rossmore Signage & Interpretation**
- **Development Plans for Black Pig's Dyke at Scotshouse**



Tourism Development

158

Sliabh Beagh

Recent Completion of a Tourism Action Plan

Live Application for funding under ORIS – Measure 2



What's been Delivered in terms of Tourism Promotion?

159

**Completed LECP & Tourism Priority
Actions 2017 - 2022**

Completed Social Media & Tourism Promotional Actions

- New County App
- New County Brochure
- New Look Website
- Calendar of Events (Print & on-line) *except for 2020*
- Annual #MyMonaghan Summer campaigns
- #MyMonaghan Christmas Campaign
- Social Media (on-going posts & engagement via tourism accounts)



Ongoing Tourism Promotions

161

- Major Summer Campaign aligned to Failte Ireland's – Make a Break for It campaign
- Video clips of 'taster experiences'
- County by County Film Programme for US TV circulation (filming in April)

Visitor Servicing & Trade Engagement

162

- **Tourist Office staffed in Monaghan Town (seasonal)**
- **Mail, Phone & email enquiries responded to**
- **Trade Workshops delivered (in conjunction with Failte Ireland)**
- **Currently developing North Monaghan Tourism Cluster**
- **Commence consultation for new County Tourism Strategy**



Q & A

Minutes of meeting of the Corporate Policy Group held remotely via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday 23 February 2021 at 10.00 a.m.

Chair: Cllr Colm Carthy

Present: Cllrs. R. Aughey, S. Gilliland, N. Keelan, P. Treanor

Mr. E. O'Sullivan, Chief Executive, Mr. J. Murray, Head of Finance, Mr. A. King, Mr. P. Clifford and Ms. P. Monahan, Director of Services, Mr. C. Flynn, A/Director of Services, Mr. N. O'Connor, Oifigeach Gaeilge, Ms. M. McGarvey, Senior Staff Officer and Ms. C. Thornton, Meetings Administrator.

Apology: Mr. A. King, Director.

At the outset, the Chief Executive referred to the sad passing of two staff members since the last meeting – Raymond Logue, Ballybay-Clones MD and Michael Kelly, Dog Warden, Environment Section. He expressed sympathy to the families and work colleagues of both men. He stated that the past year had been a particularly difficult time for the Council with the passing of four staff members during the period. The Cathaoirleach and the other members concurred with the expressions of sympathy.

1. To approve Draft Annual Service Delivery Plan 2021

Mr. C. Flynn, A/Director of Services, outlined the main elements of the Annual Service Delivery Plan (ASDP) for 2021, which had been circulated with the agenda for the meeting. The plan, which had been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Reform Act, 2014 and in conjunction with the Corporate Plan 2020-2024, identifies the services that the Council intends to provide to the public in the year ahead. He stated that the Plan, which reflected the provisions of Budget 2021, sets out the objectives and priorities for each department; the strategies for achieving those objectives and the priorities and performance standards intended to be met. He stated that the Draft Plan is required to be adopted by the full Council.

Cllr Treanor referred specifically to Monaghan County Council's work with ICBAN identified in the priorities and objectives of the Economic and Tourism Development Plan. Cllr Treanor requested the inclusion of the Framework of Regional Priorities for the Central Border Region 2021 -2027. Mr. Flynn agreed to make the requested amendment.

It was agreed that the Draft Annual Service Delivery Plan for 2021 be recommended to the full Council for adoption.

2. Tuarascáil Bhliantúil - Coiste na Gaeilge

Nial O'Connor Oifigeach Gaeilge presented the Annual Report for the Coiste Gaeilge for 2020. He stated that while 2020 was a very challenging year, the Coiste still managed to deliver a wide range of activities as Gaeilge, details of which were listed in the report.

Regarding the Gaeltacht Scholarship Scheme he stated that he had been in contact with the Gaeltacht College partners in relation to this year's Gaeltacht Scheme, but this would be

dependent on the lifting of Covid 19 restrictions. The matter will be kept under review by the Coiste Gaeilge.

Cllr Treanor thanked Nial for the report and also thanked the other members of the Coiste Gaeilge for their work during the year. Cllr Treanor requested that the Scéim na Gaeilge which had recently been approved by the Minister for the Gaeltacht would be circulated with the agenda for the March Council meeting. He also requested that 'Diospoireacht as Gaeilge' would be an item on the March agenda. This was agreed.

3. To consider supplementing the Covid 19 Emergency Fund with a contribution from the Community Grants

P. Monahan referred to the Community Fund of €90,000 for allocation to groups under the Community Grants Scheme. In late 2020, in conjunction with the Community Call and Keep Well initiatives, MCC was awarded €43,137 to allocate to groups under the COVID-19 Emergency Fund – Round 2. The main purposes of this grant were to:

- Allow groups to adapt their services and operations to fit the new COVID-19 reality, including:
 - o adapting premises to allow for social distancing
 - o offering on-line activities
 - o providing social supports and friendly calls by phone etc
- encourage groups to become more involved in the Government's 'Keep Well' campaign in particular with the three themes: Staying Connected, Switching Off and Being Creative, and Minding your Mood.
- provide support to groups (including those involved in the Community Call) with day to day running costs.

Applications for this scheme closed on 1st February 2021, and it was significantly over-subscribed, with 71 applications requesting a total of €210,325. A large proportion of applicants are requesting a contribution towards running costs.

MCC Community Section now proposes, subject to the agreement of the elected members, to supplement the COVID-19 Emergency Fund – Round 2 by adding €40,000 from the Community Grant fund. This is based on the allocation made under Measure 2 of the Community Grants Scheme in 2020 which funds events such as community BBQs, fun days, Easter/Christmas events, etc. This supplement would go some way towards addressing the high demand among groups that was evident under the COVID-19 fund, and would also be a pragmatic way to ensure that a significant amount of the Community fund reaches groups in the current year, given that the events and works that would normally be funded are currently restricted under the Covid regulations, and it is not considered practicable to fund events that are very unlikely to go ahead.

A supplement of €40,000 to the COVID-19 Emergency Fund – Round 2 would leave €50,000 remaining in the Community fund. It is proposed that this remaining Community Fund would be retained and advertised later in the year, when hopefully groups will have greater flexibility in proceeding with works and events.

Following a discussion on this item, it was agreed to recommend to the full Council that an amount of €40,000 would be added to the Covid 19 Emergency Fund – Round 2 from the Community Grant Fund.

4. To consider placing the Library Building, North Road, Monaghan on the open market

Mr. J. Murray, Head of Finance informed the members that it was proposed to place the Library Building on the North Road on the open market. He had discussed the matter with the Monaghan MD members at the last meeting and the majority of the members were in favour of the proposal. Should a suitable offer be forthcoming, the proceeds of any sale would go towards the new library at the Peace Campus. The proposed disposal, if proceeded with, would be subject to the approval of the elected members in accordance with Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001.

It was agreed that the Council proceed to place the Library Building on the open market to explore what offers might be forthcoming.

5. To consider adopting Part IV of the Public Health Amendment Act 1890

The Meetings Administrator referred to the Report which had been circulated. She explained that the Council had received a request from Seamus Mallon Solicitors Castleblayney, on behalf of Castleblayney Arts & Community Development Company Limited (Iontas Centre) for a declaration that Monaghan County Council (or it' s predecessor Authorities) adopted Part IV of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1890.

Following a review of the legislation it was noted that the Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1890 is divided into 5 Parts. Parts 11, III and IV are adoptive by local authorities and only come into effect following a resolution of the local authority. Part IV (Section 51) deals with the issue of Music and Dancing Licences. By virtue of Section 14 of the Public Dance Halls Act of 1935, licences for public dancing have been removed from the remit of the 1890 Act, but the licensing of public singing and music remains governed by the 1890 Act. This means that before a " Music and Singing licence" can be issued by the Courts under Section 51 of the 1890 Act, the Court must be satisfied that Part IV of that Act has been adopted by the local authority in the first place. It would require extensive resources to trawl through the minutes of Monaghan County Council and the former Town Councils to determine if indeed such resolution was passed, adopting Part IV. It remains open to Monaghan County Council to adopt Part IV now — the procedure is clearly laid out in the 1890 Act.

The Council' s Solicitor has confirmed that *...the adoption of Part IV doesn't appear to have any downside for the Council but it would mean that any singing or public entertainment establishment which doesn' t sell alcohol and which in the past didn't need a Part IV licence will now need one.*

The process for the adoption of Part IV is relatively straightforward and requires that the Council, following a period of notice to each member, pass a resolution, adopting Part IV of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1890 (as amended).

Following a brief discussion it was agreed to recommend that the Council commence the process to adopt Part IV of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1890.

6. To consider requests from outside bodies for Presentation/Updates, as follows:

(i) ICBAN Presentation

It was agreed that the Council would accept the offer of a presentation from ICBAN officials on the 4th March at 2.30 p.m.

(ii) National Broadband Ireland - update re broadband roll out in Co. Monaghan

It was agreed that the Meetings Administrator would pursue a date for this presentation with NBI and that the presentation would be separate from a Council meeting date.

7. To consider request from Fermanagh & Omagh District Council re the establishment of a Joint Cross Border Brexit Committee

The members noted the request from the Chief Executive of Fermanagh & Omagh District Council seeking the Council's opinion on the establishment of a Joint Cross Border Brexit Committee with that Council and Donegal, Leitrim, Cavan and Monaghan Councils to discuss matters relevant to the border region.

Following a discussion on the request it was agreed in principle to recommend to the full Council that Monaghan County Council participate in a Joint Cross Border Brexit Committee, subject to receiving the Terms of Reference for the proposed Committee and details of membership.

8. To receive Health & Safety Report January 2021

Mr. C. Flynn, A/Director outlined the main points of the Health & Safety report for January 2021. The report was noted.

In response to a query from Cllr Keelan, Mr. Flynn confirmed that the current rosters for outdoor staff would remain in place until the 5th March and would be reviewed at that time having regard to Covid 19 restrictions in place.

9. Update on N2 National Primary Road Schemes

Ms. P. Monahan, Director informed the members that the Preferred routes have now been selected for both schemes and published. Options selection reports and PC3 consultation reports have been published for both schemes. The project team is now working to progress the projects to phase 3, which is Design and Environmental evaluation. The Council is now at an important gateway and will require sign off by TII to proceed to the next stage. All deliverables that are required by TII to give this sign off are now ready, and the Council will today be submitting its request to proceed to the next phase. This will take approximately 18 months to 2 years. At that point the projects will reach another major milestone where permission to proceed to phase 4 Statutory processes will be escalated above TII and will be a cabinet decision.

10. Any other business**Deputy Chief Executive**

Mr. E. O' Sullivan informed the members that Mr. Paul Clifford, Director of Services would act as Deputy Chief Executive in respect of any absences by the Chief Executive during 2021.

Minute's silence

All present at the meeting observed a minutes silence as a mark of respect to the deceased staff members – Michael Kelly RIP and Raymond Logue RIP.

The meeting concluded.

Not for publication



Comhairle Contae Mhuineacháin
Monaghan County Council

MANAGEMENT REPORT

FEBRUARY 2021

In accordance with Section 136(2) of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended by the Local Government Reform Act, 2014, I am required to prepare a monthly Management Report and to furnish a copy to each Councillor.

The report is set out in line with the functions of the various directorates. It aims to update the members on the following:

- (i) Developments and progress in the different sections over the previous month.
- (ii) Performance and outputs on a year to date basis for various service provisions.
 - (iii) Key immediate priorities going forward.
 - (iv) Ongoing implementation of the Corporate Plan.
- (v) In accordance with Section 151(4) of the Local Government Act 2001, CE/Directors orders are available for inspection at each monthly Council meeting on request.

HOUSING

JOHN MURRAY, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES/HEAD OF FINANCE

Housing Capital Programme

After the Government confirmed a shutdown in construction activity on Friday 8th January 2021 as part of the national effort to halt the spread of COVID-19 it was initially expected that all construction sites would remain closed until restrictions were eased however social housing sites with dwellings that could potentially be completed by the 28th of February were allowed to remain open. Subsequently an extension to the completion date was allowed up to the 30th of April 2021 for social housing sites with dwellings that could potentially be completed before that date.

Unfortunately, a small number of social housing sites in County Monaghan were not permitted to remain open as they are not nearing completion. The sites that were not permitted to remain open include 32 houses at Lui na Greine Scotstown, 41 houses at Ard an Radhairc Carrickmacross and four sites under the Clones Renewal Scheme. The increasingly protracted time period that sites are closed will potentially lead to delays in handover of completed dwellings however Monaghan County Council is minimizing and eliminating delays by working closely with contractors to mitigate the effects of the site closures. Some of the programmes for the sites mentioned include phased handovers, adjustments to the programmes agreed with contractors will help to ensure that potentially significant delays are mitigated by encouraging rapid completion of additional houses to be added to the first phases of some developments.

The following social housing sites were allowed to remain open as they are at snagging stage, completed or nearing completion or handover:

1. Clones Renewal Scheme; Davey's, Fermanagh Street, Clones (3 at snagging stage)
2. Clones Renewal Scheme Boylesports site, Fermanagh St. Clones (3 handed over Feb 2021)
3. Liseggerton, Clones (19 nearing completion)
4. Drummond Close, Carrickmacross (7 nearing completion)
5. Plás an Bhri, Bree, Castleblayney (26 nearing handover)
6. 12-17 Cnoc Na Greine Tydavnet (6 handed over Feb 2021)
7. Lough Na Glack Carrickmacross (24 completed Feb 2021)
8. Mullaghmatt Remedial Works Scheme (nearing completion, final house to be handed over Feb 2021)
9. Radharc an Bhri, Bree, Castleblayney (second phase includes 6 houses nearing completion)
10. Lakeview Apartments Carrickmacross (first phase of 4 nearing completion)

Monaghan County Council is continuing to work on properties arising as casual vacancies with 11 in progress at present and work preparing 18 newly acquired properties for letting is also continuing.

It appears that the current Covid19 restrictions may remain in place for sites until April 2021 which is approximately 14 weeks delay on the projects affected. Delays will be mitigated as far as possible and additional opportunities for provision of social housing continue to be explored.

An Expression of Interest process for the sale of land or houses to Monaghan County Council is currently open, the closing date is the 10th of March 2021. It is anticipated that a number of Expressions of Interest from Developers interested in constructing houses directly for Monaghan County Council on privately owned land will be received. Following assessment of submissions Monaghan County Council will prepare funding applications for any potential housing projects that are found to be suitable for development as social housing.

Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme 2021

On 18 February 2021 Monaghan County Council received notification from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage of an Energy Efficiency funding allocation in the amount of €406,933 for 2021 this is an 11% increase compared to the 2020 Energy Efficiency funding allocation. In anticipation of the increased Energy Efficiency allocation Monaghan County Council has been working on an ambitious Energy Efficiency Programme for 2021 and subsequent years. The aim of the programme is to improve the Energy Efficiency of older properties, poorer performing properties, to address potential fuel poverty and to reduce the environmental impact of the housing stock. Monaghan County Council has set an increased spending target on Energy Efficiency in anticipation of a further increase in funding and the proposed "rolling" Energy Efficiency programme planned by the Government.

The works that will be completed by Monaghan County Council will vary from house to house depending on age and condition of property. The aim of the works will be to improve the Building Energy Rating (BER), to a minimum standard of B2 as set out in the requirements for funding.

To date in 2021, Energy Efficiency work to the value of €292,500 has been tendered and the successful contractor has been appointed and works commenced on site. The works have currently been suspended in line with Level 5 restrictions set out by the Government. When restrictions have been eased the works will recommence with an anticipated completion of mid to late summer 2021. The tendered work consists of deep retro-fitting eight properties at a cost of approximately €36,500 per property. The works include new external insulation, new windows and doors, installation of an energy efficient heat pump and elimination of solid fuel fires. The photos below shown the works that have already commenced.



In addition to this, currently in the process of being tendered are works to the value of €206,290. The proposed works will include new windows and doors and a new energy efficient heat pump in 12 houses in Ard Gleann and Ard Glas in Monaghan town. Technical staff are currently examining alternative ways to survey the houses under the current Covid19 restrictions to speed up the tendering process.

In addition, where required, as vacancies arise in housing stock Energy Efficiency upgrades will be carried out with the aim of achieving a minimum building energy rating (BER) of B2. It is currently anticipated €144,500 will be spent improving vacancies arising in 2021. Monaghan County Council will take advantage of vacancies arising as it is possible to safely complete internal upgrade works while houses are vacant.

All of the above works have been strategically targeted to ensure funding being spent is achieving the best return possible. The initial process of identifying suitable properties involves a desktop study being completed. The desk top study identifies properties that will potentially benefit the most from an Energy Efficiency upgrade while giving priority to tenants at risk of fuel poverty. Following detailed surveys of the properties Home Energy Reports are prepared describing the works that can be completed and the effect they will have on the Heat Loss Indicator of the house.

Pre and post work Building Energy Ratings (BER's), completed for each property, will allow Monaghan County Council to examine the effect that upgrade works will have on factors such as Energy Savings and Carbon Reductions ensuring the works being completed will have an immediate positive impact on home heating costs and the environment.

Housing Repair Statistics

1st November – 23 February 2021

Repair Status	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Total
Repairs Received	180	181	146	122	629
Repairs Closed	139	130	115	68	452

At present there are currently 436 open repairs, 272 are assigned to contractors and the remaining 164 repairs have been reviewed and are deemed routine tasks (non-emergencies) and will be dealt with when current Covid-19 Level 5 restrictions have been lifted/eased.

Mullaghmatt Remedial Works Scheme



The final house receiving full refurbishment works has been handed over. The houses have been finished to a very high standard and have achieved a B2 BER.



All roof works and bay window works have been completed with the exception of some minor snagging. External house painting is ongoing and is due to be completed in March 2021.



Before



After



Site development works ongoing and due to be completed in the coming weeks.

TRANSPORTATION

PATRICIA MONAHAN, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

National RoadsMajor Schemes**N2 Ardee to Castleblayney and N2 Clontibret to the Border Road Schemes:**

Preferred Route Corridors and the associated Option Selection Reports were published on the 9th of February 2021 for both the N2 Ardee to Castleblayney and N2 Clontibret to Border schemes. The Preferred Route Corridors for both schemes have not changed since the publication of the 'Emerging Preferred Route Corridors' for the third non-statutory public consultation which commenced in August 2020. Option H: Green+Yellow+Orange is the Preferred Route Corridor for the Clontibret to Border Road Scheme. On the Ardee to Castleblayney Road Scheme, Option A: Yellow, is the Preferred Route Corridor. The Preferred Route Corridors are typically 400m wide, however they do not represent the actual width of the road scheme or the lands to be acquired – the corridor indicates the lands within which the N2 road scheme could be developed. The Option Selection Reports document the process of selecting the Preferred Route Corridor, and outlines the rationale and criteria applied to select the preferred option.



A briefing in relation to the publication of the Preferred Route Corridors and Option Selection Reports took place for Elected Representatives on the 9th of February 2021. Registered landowners and properties within the Preferred Route Corridor received an information leaflet to their door, while stakeholders registered with the N2 Project Team were notified by email. Adverts and information was also published in local press/media and on social media.

The Option Selection Report is a large document comprising 9 different volumes with associated appendices. It is available to view via the project website www.N2MonaghanLouth.ie. A digital copy of the Option Selection Report (on memory stick) can be requested by anyone who cannot access the online report due to poor internet access. Appointments can be made (subject to applicable Covid-19 restrictions) to view a hardcopy of the report by contacting the project phonenumber, and the project team is available to answer any queries around the publication of the Preferred Route Corridor. Over a 10-day period from the launch of the Preferred Route Corridors on the 9th of February, the project team had received 44 queries by phone/email, and the project website had been visited over 1400 times.

Monaghan County Council will now be requesting approval from TII to proceed to the next Phase of the design process (Phase 3: Design & Statutory Approvals). During this Phase further development of the scheme, including design of the road, identifying the land take required, junction design and the preparation of an Environmental Impact Assessment, will be progressed. This next phase is planned to take place in 2021 and 2022.

The planned approach to the Phase 3 Design Process is shown below. To inform the design process, the N2 Project Team will undertake a range of engineering and environmental site surveys on lands within and around the Preferred Route Corridors. The design team will be in contact with relevant landowners in advance of these surveys.

Planned Delivery of the Phase 3 Design Process



Already, due to the time constraints involved, wintering bird surveys have been undertaken and a site walkover has been completed to scope for a Ground Investigation contract planned to start in Summer 2021. The project team would like to thank the landowners involved for their co-operation in allowing members of the project team to access to their lands.

As the site surveys are completed, the initial design of the road can be progressed. When the design has reached a level of maturity where informed discussions can take place, the N2 Project Team will consult with directly impacted landowners in relation to the initial design and its impact on land and property.

Stakeholders and the public will be kept informed of progress as part of our commitment to ongoing stakeholder engagement.

The N2 Project Team are working remotely, but can still be contacted; N2 Project Phonenumber on 087 340 3786, or by email;

ArdeeCastleblayney@N2MonaghanLouth.ie or ClontibretBorder@N2MonaghanLouth.ie.

Minor Improvement Schemes

N54 Tullybryan Scheme:

Consultants RPS and the National Roads team are progressing with the Preliminary Design of the scheme with Departures submitted to TII Safety for approval. A Risk Workshop was undertaken on 2nd February and Land & property Cost Estimates have been updated. The Total Scheme Budget will be revised to include updated risk and land costs. The Site Investigations (SI) tender assessment is complete, and letters issued to tenderers. Roads Design Division have been liaising with the landowners affected by the SI. It is planned to carry out the works in March 2021, but commencement is dependent on the Government Public Health Measures regarding Covid 19 restrictions on Construction works.

Following feedback from TII Senior Archaeologist the tender for Archaeology investigations has been updated and it is planned to publish over the next few weeks.

The CPO publishing date is expected to be March 2021.

PARR Pavement Asset Repair and Renewal Schemes:

2020 & 2021 Pavement Scheme – N54 Monaghan Town - 2.3km

The advanced works installation of new sewers and sewer connections on North Road (by third party for Ropewalk development) have been delayed because of the Government Covid 19 restrictions. Irish Water/ MCC Water have advised that the commencement date for this works is 22nd March 2021. This

in turn has required Roads to reschedule the outstanding roads re-surfacing works and footpath works on North Rd, Old Cross Square, Dawson St, and Broad Rd. John McQuillan Ltd is now scheduled to commence at the end of April 2021. These works are planned to be undertaken at night-time (Sunday to Thursday).

2021 Pavement Scheme – N54 Clonlura- 2.6km

Additional site investigations were undertaken along N54 Clonlura in February 2021. The PARR report will be updated following receipt of the survey results. MCC roads are liaising with Department of Infrastructure (Northern Ireland) to confirm if there are any plans to renew / upgrade the section of the A3 between Clones and this scheme. MCC have tendered for the procurement of a Consultant (from TII Framework) for the design, preparation of tender documents and supervision of the scheme. The closing date is 3rd March 2021.

Future Pavement Scheme (year tbc) – N2 CASTLEBLAYNEY BYPASS (2 +1) - 5.8KM

Donegal NRO have issued a draft PARR Report for 5.8km Pavement Scheme along the N2 Castleblayney Bypass from Tullyvin Roundabout to Cremartin Roundabout which MCC Roads will review. MCC must organise Topographical surveys to be undertaken.

NP/NS Bridge Rehabilitation Programme

N2 Blackwater Bridge: The Contractor (Fox Building & Civil Engineering Ltd) have a list of snags and other outstanding items to address. Repairs to the wearing course surface are planned for Quarter 2 2021.

N53 Ballynacarry Bridge Replacement: MCC Roads have prepared a tender to procure Consultants through the Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) Framework of Bridge Consultants for the design of the scheme. The Request for Tender document is currently being reviewed by TII Bridges.

N54 Park Road (Margaret Skinnider Roundabout) Pedestrian Safety Scheme

The Part 8 Planning Application for the new roundabout was published on 18 February 2021. Observations / submissions can be made up to 1st April 2021.

The tender documents for procurement of main Contractor are being prepared and are expected to be complete by April 2021. It is proposed that Construction of the new roundabout would be carried out in Summer 2021.

N2 Tirnaneil junction

The Tender Assessment for the Contract works is complete, and letters issued to Tenderers. Contract yet to be awarded. The works are planned for March / April 2021, but commencement is dependent on the Government Public Health Measures regarding Covid 19 restrictions on Construction works.

N54 Smithboro Pedestrian Crossing

The Tender documents for the procurement of a Contractor have been received and tender assessment is being carried out. Works are expected to commence April 2021.

NP & NS Maintenance

Fencing Retrofit Programme

NC Plant Hire returned to site in February and have completed fencing retrofit works along the N54 between Smithboro and Clones.

Vehicle Restraint Systems

Lagan Operations & Maintenance Ltd to carry out additional repairs of crash barriers on the National roads due to barrier strikes. MCC Roads are awaiting confirmation of the commencement date.

HGV Restrictions – Monaghan Town

Road Design to publish the HGV proposal for Monaghan Town when the details of the Permit Applications process to allow HGV access in certain situations is confirmed.

N2 Cyclepaths

MCC Roads are preparing Tender documents to procure Consultants to progress the design of the four N2 Cycle path schemes.

Non-National Roads

Restoration Improvement (RI)

The Restoration Improvement programme has been agreed with the 3 Municipal Districts for 2021. DTTAS Allocation of €6,702,000 has been received. The Tender Assessment & Award is due for 15th March 2021 and works are due to commence on 22nd of March 2021. Works are expected to be complete by August 2021. Please note COVID 19 restrictions may affect the works commencement date of 22nd March.

Restoration Maintenance (RM)

The Restoration Maintenance programme for 2021 has been agreed with the 3 Municipal Districts and DTTAS have allocated funding of €1,121,500. Works are to commence in North Monaghan on May 10th, 2021, Clones Area on May 3rd and in the Carrickmacross/ Castleblayney area on the 22nd of June 2021. There is currently no delay envisaged for the delivery of our annual RM programme.

Bridge Rehabilitation Programme 2020

MCC Bridge Rehabilitation Programme for 2021 has received funding of €743,000.

The consultants have issued design proposals for 14 of the 24 Bridges. 3 Bridges have now been identified as requiring Emergency works due to further deterioration. Works are to commence on 11 bridges on 3rd March 2021 & the remaining 10 bridges are planned to commence in the 1st week of April.

Local Improvement Schemes

Monaghan County Council are awaiting the 2021 Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) allocation however, similar funding to 2020 is expected. 15 lanes have been identified and have been measured for works in 2021 subject to funding.

Community Involvement Schemes

Monaghan County Council has received funding of €544,000 for 2021. A list of schemes has been identified with the tender process and works to be completed by May 2021.

Low Cost Safety Schemes

An allocation of €255,800 has been received from DTTAS for 2021 for Low-cost Safety Schemes in 2021.

Specific Improvement Grants

R181 Drumillard to Crossduff:

DTTAS have confirmed funding of €150,000 to progress the R181 Drumillard to Crossduff road realignment scheme.

Brackley Bridge

DTTAS funding of €1,200,000 has been confirmed for 2021 to carry out the construction of the Brackley Bridge Culvert replacement and Junction realignment.

Pilot Schemes 2020 - Budget €1,000,000

CBGM & Reclaimed Asphalt Pilot Scheme

Funding of €500,000 for each pilot scheme has been made available subject to the successful completion and approval of the 2020 Pilot Scheme report by DTTAS. The report will be subject to a peer review process.

Climate Change Adaptation

DTTAS has confirmed funding of €130,775 and this is to be used for bridge repair works.

Active Travel Allocation

DTTAS have confirmed funding of €272,843 to finish projects commenced in 2020. MCC, Roads Section are currently engaging with the National Transport Authority (NTA) regarding the 2021 Active Travel Scheme. An allocation is expected within the coming weeks.

Ulster Canal Greenway

The draft Part 8 Planning documentation for the Monaghan Town to the Border section of the Ulster Canal Greenway has been reviewed by key stakeholders, and a formal Part 8 application for this section will be submitted in the next few weeks. A formal planning application for the border to Middletown section will be submitted to Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Councils before the end February. Separate Part 8 applications for the N2 Spur and the Monaghan to Smithborough sections will be submitted later this year.

Road Safety

The County Monaghan Road Safety Working Together Group met via Microsoft Teams in February. The meeting included a discussion on the review of the current County Monaghan Road Safety Action Plan which is due for expiry. A new plan covering the period 2021 to 2030 is due to be implemented later this year.

All primary schools in the county were notified of the Road Safety Authority's Seatbelt Sheriff Poster competition, with two top prizes of €2,000 each. Monaghan schools were winners in 2019 and 2020. The closing date has been extended to 26th March 2021.

Monaghan County Council will be participating in iRadio's national 'Road Safety Oscars' competition. Entrants are asked to submit a Road Safety Song / Rap to be in with the chance to win prizes of €1,000 each.

COMMUNITY

PATRICIA MONAHAN, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

Monaghan Covid 19 Community Response Forum

Monaghan Covid 19 Community Response Forum has continued to meet on a fortnightly basis since the start of the year. Agencies involved have continued to contribute to a community wide response to the crisis and will continue to meet as required.

Community Call Helpline

The Covid 19 Community Call Helpline continues in operation from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday and with monitoring of a voice mail service outside of those hours. To 22nd February a total of 879 calls had been taken and managed by the Helpline since it was set up in April 2020.

Healthy Ireland Keep Well Campaign

The advertising of the Keep Well campaign on Northern Sound continues. The final 4 weeks of the campaign focuses on being creative and switching off. Led out by the library team, guest speakers share information, ideas and examples of initiatives currently being provided by our libraries that can help people do just that.

Also, as part of this programme, Monaghan Sports Partnership worked in collaboration with Cavan Sports Partnership and Healthy Monaghan and Healthy Cavan co-ordinators to facilitate a 4-week radio campaign on Northern Sound FM. This included 8 radio interviews, which varied from health and exercise professionals offering advice and guidance to local champions across the two counties speaking about their own personal experiences and journeys. Podcasts of the interviews are available from the Keep Well page on Monaghan County Council website.

A Healthy Monaghan health and wellbeing events calendar was produced which highlights lots of activities happening locally over the next 2 months, opportunities for all ages to get involved in something positive for their wellbeing. Whether its physical activity, informative webinars or merely being creative, there's lots to choose from. This calendar has been advertised in the Northern Standard and shared widely through our network of partners as well as shared on our social media accounts.

Covid 19 Emergency Fund 2021 – Round 2

In December MCC was allocated €43,137 to support community and voluntary groups to deal with COVID-19. The Fund is being administered by Monaghan LCDC with support from Monaghan County Council. The online application system closed on 1st February with significant oversubscription from groups. Assessment of applications is expected to be completed before the end of February.

LCDC/LAG

The Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)/Local Action Group (LAG) held their monthly meetings on 9th February 2021.

Monaghan LEADER Programme 2014-2020

Position at 18th February 2021

	Allocation of Budget	%	Draw down of Grants	%	No of Projects/Project Claims fully completed
Total LEADER Budget for projects	€5,708,154.74		€5,708,154.74		
Grants awarded as at 18th February 2021	€5,700,913.00	99.87			112
Budget remaining for allocation at 18th February 2021	7,241.74				
Drawn down at 18th February 2021			€2,650,888.62	46.44	44
Budget to be drawn down at 18th February 2021			€3,057,266.12	53.56	

Age Friendly Programme

Age Friendly Keep Well Booklet

Due to demand the Age Friendly Keep Well booklet has been reprinted. Following requests from Cavan and Our Lady of Lourdes hospitals, copies of the booklets were delivered to each hospital for distribution to Monaghan patients being treated in the hospitals. Additional copies are being delivered to shops and retailers across the county on request.

Monaghan Age Friendly Programme Facebook page

RTE Archives catalogue

Monaghan Age Friendly Programme contacted the RTE Archives to request permission to share archives relating to Monaghan on our social media platforms. The archives department at RTE have given permission to Monaghan County Council to share any archive materials from their website at no cost. The vast collection of archives can be accessed at www.rte.ie/archives

HSE – Health and Wellbeing digital supports grant

In December 2020, Monaghan Age Friendly Programme received grant aid from the HSE Health and Wellbeing Department to purchase tablets for nursing homes in the county. One Acorn Tablet specifically designed for use by older people was purchased for each nursing home in the county and Monaghan Garda station arranged delivery of each tablet to the nursing homes across the county.

Mindfulness Partnership with Mental Health Ireland

Monaghan Age Friendly Programme continues its partnership with Mental Health Ireland Monaghan to provide a series of mindfulness and wellbeing video information clips to our older people. In February we have been focusing on mindfulness supports for older people who are caring for a family member.

Public Sector Duty Committee

Equality proofing template and guide

The Social Inclusion Officer is developing a resource booklet to assist staff to identify and address the barriers to accessing information and services that may exist for some members of the community within their current communication and service delivering methods. The resource booklet will include a checklist to identify barriers and guidance on how to make information and service delivery more inclusive and accessible to all members of the community.

Women and Diversity in Local Government funding

Monaghan Women's Assembly launch

Monaghan Women's Assembly, an initiative funded under the Women and Diversity in Local Government Fund will be officially launched on International Women's Day 2021- Monday 8th March @7.30pm. The event will give women living in Monaghan an opportunity to learn about Monaghan Women's Assembly and what it hopes to achieve. The event will also give women living in the county the opportunity to share the impact COVID 19 has had on their life. The event will take place remotely those interested in joining the event can register via Eventbrite.

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/monaghan-womens-assembly-launch-tickets-141671375899?aff=ebdssbeac&keep_tld=1

Cllr. Cathy Bennett has been invited to speak at the National Women's Council event '*Women Doing Politics Differently*' to speak about Monaghan Women's Assembly.

Monaghan Comhairle na nÓg

The 2021 committee members have identified their key action for the year. The group will focus on Drugs & Alcohol through an awareness project targeted at young people. They participated in an online training day during their midterm break. They invited 3 guest speakers to share their experiences and knowledge with them. In attendance was a Sergeant from the Cavan Monaghan Drugs squad, MID which co-ordinates the Don't Pour Your Dreams Away initiative and a Drug awareness campaigner who outlined why she started Alex's Adventure (www.alexsadventure.ie) 5 years ago.

Community Plans

The Lough Egish Community Plan has been published and delivered out to the community. A launch will be organised at a later date, when Covid restrictions are relaxed. The Plan is available on the Community section of the Council's website

Walking & Cycling Strategy

Work on a walking and cycling strategy for the county nears completion. A draft strategy will be presented to the Transportation SPC in March. Its production coincides with the news that the Dept is to increase resources for walking and cycling to smaller local authorities like Monaghan County Council, including the resourcing the delivery of a programme of walking and cycling improvements in the county in the coming years.

Monaghan Public Participation Network

Monaghan PPN has been selected as one of ten PPN's to participate in PPN Climate Conversations as part of a series of conversations happening across the country. These talks are connected to the Government's National Dialogue on Climate Action and the development of its 2021 Climate Action Plan. The dialogue is led by the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications with support from the Environmental Protection Agency.

The aim of the conversation is to gain insight on local concerns, priorities and aspirations for climate action drawing on relevant aspects of Monaghan PPN Community Wellbeing Vision Statement. It will also inform actions from the 2021 Climate Action Plan making it easier for local community led action. Monaghan PPN will receive support during the workshop from relevant staff from Monaghan County Council Environment Section. The workshop is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 16th March at 7.30p.m.

Monaghan Sports Partnership (MSP)

Let's Get Active 2021

MSP have extended all online class activities for teenagers and adults for a further 2-week period to coincide with level 5 restrictions up to the 5th of March.

Playground Marking Stencils

At the beginning of February MSP delivered the playground marking stencil kit to St. Enda's National School Scotshouse where upgrades on playground activities are commencing.

Sports Capital Grant Workshop

Monaghan Sports Partnership collaborated with our partners in Cavan, Louth and Leitrim Sports Partnerships to facilitate an online workshop for clubs those who were wishing to apply for a Sports Capital Grant issued by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.

The workshop was held on Tuesday 9th February and there were 100 participants in attendance. This included 24 representatives from Monaghan, ranging from GAA clubs to swimming clubs to primary school principals.

PLANNING

PAUL CLIFFORD, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

Development Management

Although the Planning Office remains closed to public access due to current COVID – 19 restrictions, all planning services are still functioning, and a drop-box at the Glen Road Offices is available for submission of applications. Applications and submissions can also be posted to the Planning Office in Dublin Street. The Planning staff are still working in two teams and the Planners are working remotely and engaging with agents, public and members by phone/video conference.

A Part VIII proposal to renovate and restore the former Council Offices in Main Street, Newbliss which is a Protected Structure, for use as an Enterprise and Digital Hub was presented to and approved by the elected members at the February Council meeting.

	Number Received in January
Planning Permission Applications	39
Extension of Durations Applications	2
Exempt Development Applications	3
Total Applications Received	44

Forward Planning

The period for comments and submissions on the proposed deletion of 10 Dublin Street, Monaghan (Charles Gavan Duffy Building) from the Record of Protected Structures closed on 25th February 2021. Three submissions were received and the contents of these submissions will be addressed in a report to the elected members for their consideration.

Work also continued on preparing the Chief Executive's Report on the Two Year Progress Review on securing the objectives within the County Development Plan.

Built Heritage

The period for submission of applications for funding in respect of Built Heritage Grants in 2021 from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage closed on 24th of February 2021. A total of 36 Built Heritage Grant applications were received, but as 7 applicants applied under both schemes, they can only be eligible for funding under one scheme. The closing date for the shortlist of schemes recommended for funding to the Department is the 12th of March 2021.

Brexit

As part of the €28 million Economic Stimulus Package for the Stimulus Region, the LEO's in the Border County have been allocated €3m to deliver the following management development programmes, aimed at building resilience, lean and competitiveness.

LEO Capability Building Programmes (€3m)

Focus of the Funds :

- Development of business capability of Irish companies in the border region to support these companies through the Brexit transition period and to drive the Future Jobs Strategy

Programme delivery:

- Training Workshops and intensive one to one mentoring

Target audience:

- General focus of the interventions will be towards LEO portfolio clients
- Engagement with other all businesses and sectors through a number competitive programmes

Detail on the individual programmes is being finalised. Programmes will be delivered throughout 2020

- Financial Capability Programme
- Scaling Programme
- Exporting Programme
- Green Programme
- Retail Programme
- Innovation Audit

Recruitment commenced in December for the Export programme and 15 Co. Monaghan businesses are currently taking part.



Significant efforts have been put in to recruit for the Retail programme, which has been hampered by shops been physically closed and unable to get face to face communication with owner/managers. To bolster recruitment Monaghan LEO met with the Co. Monaghan town teams and executed several marketing campaigns. Additionally, Monaghan LEO designed and led a regional

partnership with LEO's Louth and Cavan, to build upon the earlier #shoplocal #lookforlocal campaigns undertaken by the LA's in December and to bolster support for the sector The keynote speaker at the event was Gillian Maxwell ex Tiger Copenhagen stores who encouraged businesses the develop capacity by embracing focused training and support initiatives. Over 40 retailers from the region attended.

Enterprise Support Services

Training: The following training programmes have been delivered:

Date	Details	Attended
20 th Jan	Export programme NE	15
21 st Jan	Trading Online Voucher Seminar	10
27 th Jan	SYOB	10
3 rd Feb	Sage accounts post Brexit	12
11 th Feb	Regional Food Starter	25
16 th Feb	Regional Retail Event	40
17 th Feb	Instagram	8

Mentoring

Demand for Mentoring has dropped somewhat from early January when there was a strong demand for Brexit/Customs related assistance. We have approved 12 Mentoring assignments so far this year.

Trading Online Voucher

As the grant has now been reduced from 90% to 50%, demand to date, is not just as high for this support. A substantial number of enquiries are being received by the LEO office, which will inevitably evolve into grant applications later. We continue to process applications that were received in late Dec for the 90% grant rate.

Entrepreneurship Support Services

Secondary School programme

The Student Enterprise Programme continues, albeit to a lesser extent than previous years. Although we offer this programme remotely, it has been challenging getting schools to embrace the programme as they have other, more obvious, priorities. We will be hosting a virtual awards ceremony on 25th of March for the finalists.

Tourism Business Network

A successful pilot initiative ran in 2020 with 16 Co. Monaghan craft and tourism businesses. The network acted as a cohesive forum for businesses to build links and increase innovation with a view to undertake collective commercial activity. One of the outputs of the pilot was the establishment of a collaboration between the Patrick Kavanagh Center and 3 Co. Monaghan craft designers. Support will continue into 2021 for this unique collaboration, which will be very much focused on collective commercial activity and the creation of unique and bespoke pieces. It is anticipated that this will lead to many positive financial and social impacts for the 4 businesses concerned.

Monaghan Women in Business

The 2021 programme of activity is currently being revised by the coordinator.

Local Enterprise Development Services

Meeting held with Procurement Officer

A meeting was held in Feb with a view to hosting a Procurement Conference/Seminar for the Micro and SME's of Co. Monaghan.

TOURISM

PAUL CLIFFORD, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

Trade Workshop

Two further trade workshops took place virtually on 2nd and 16th February and there was excellent participation. These formed part of the South Monaghan cluster training programme which was funded by Failte Ireland.

Rossmore Forest Park

As part of the continuing work to promote Rossmore Forest Park, a newly created visitor leaflet for the park will shortly be going to print, featuring an *illustrated map*, a brief history to the Rossmore estate and additional information on visitor facilities available on site.

In addition, a new Trails App has been developed and can be downloaded for free via the App Store and Google Play/Android. Experiences include the Nature Trail, Lakes Trail, Castle Trail and Family Cycle Trail (opening September 2021). Each route consists of a mapped guide, audio, quiz, history and much more. It blends a detailed description of the trail routes, along with various points of historical interest and significance to be discovered along the way.

Destination Town's Project - Monaghan

The Architect-led Design Team for the above Failte Ireland funded project (€498K) are at the design stage for the Outdoor Events Space at the preferred site in front of the Courthouse. Liaison is on-going with Planning, Tourism, Arts and MD sections.

Sliabh Beagh ORIS Application

In December, an application for developing tourism infrastructure on Sliabh Beagh was submitted under Measure 2. The focus is on low impact, sensitively designed interventions to enhance the outdoor experience, particularly walking and cycling, in the area surrounding Knockatallon. The total project costs are €197,696 with grant aid of €177,926 sought. In February, additional Information was requested by the Department in relation to the application and this has now been provided.

Rossmore Family Cycle Trail

The final tender documents and pre-tender estimate are now being prepared for the ORIS funded family cycle trail in Rossmore. It is anticipated that the tender will be advertised in March.

FIRE & CIVIL PROTECTION

PAUL CLIFFORD, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

Fire Operations

Operational Callouts: Monaghan Fire and Civil Protection (MFCP) attended 25 emergency calls during January 2021 equivalent to same period in 2020. Call types attended during this period predominantly included Domestic House, Chimney Fires, Monitoring alarm calls, Diesel wash incidents and 2 No. Road Traffic Collisions.

Training: All training and drills had been suspended during the current level 5 restrictions and due to recommence in March with a new revised programme to ensure fire personnel safety. Communication during this period has been maintained with crews via regular Microsoft Teams to provide up-to-date information on emergency and operational response procedures.

Severe Weather: The National Directorate for Fire & Emergency Management (NDFEM) Crisis Management Team held a series of Met Éireann briefings during the recent cold weather spell in early February.

H&S: An RSA audit has been successfully completed and CVRT rating has increased to 86% following a % reduction caused by Covid-19 restrictions. Following our MFCP management review report for 2020 a Health and Safety program for 2021 has commenced and will be subjected to review during the ISO 450001 audit by NSAI planned this month.

Fleet: The delivery of a new Class B Fire Appliance is due this month. The new chassis for the water tanker is currently in transit.

Fire Prevention & Building Control

Building Control activity in to date in 2021 included the processing of 9 No. Fire Safety Certificates (FSC's), 6 No. Planning referrals, 22 No. Commencement Notices, 6 No. Licencing applications along with the inspection of 46 units under construction. Building Control have also processed 17 No. Certificate of Compliance on Completion (CCC) applications.

The issuance of an advice note in January to Construction Practitioners on post-Brexit implications has generated significant interest, primarily with construction product manufacturers to ensure compliance with the Construction Product Regulations (CPR). In the context of marketing of construction products, the UKCA (UK Conformity Assessed) marking is a new UK marking that is used for products (including construction products) being placed on the market in Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland).

Fire Safety Inspections have been conducted during the current restrictions were possible in a virtual format. Fire Safety activity has involved the development of the 'bfiresafe@school project' with secondary schools. The project is a new teacher lead fire safety education resource for post primary students.

Civil Defence

Civil Defence activities in 2021 continue to focus on supporting the HSE, the Community Hotline and local communities during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Tasks coordinated and undertaken by Civil Defence volunteers to date in 2021 include:

- 35 No. Transportation duties that include patient transfers to hospitals,
- 4 days assisting Irish Blood Transfusion Service at Blood Clinic in Tyholland
- Severe weather HSE transportation assistance



Civil Defence Volunteers transporting public to Covid-19 test centre and during the recent cold weather.

Essential training and duties completed:

- Development of online training teams
- Emergency & Cardiac First Responder online
- Weekly Check all medical supplies and equipment in CD Vehicles,
- Decontamination of vehicle, equipment and re-stock PPE after each duty/event

CLIMATE CHANGE & ENVIRONMENT

ADGE KING, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

Climate Action

In February the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications has confirmed that Monaghan PPN has been selected as one of the 10 PPNs nationally to participate in the Community Climate Dialogue Conversations. Under this program PPNs are being asked to host an online community conversation about their hopes, concerns, and ideas for local climate action. This proposal is part of the National Dialogue on Climate Action (NDCA) which is a Government initiative that has the aim of creating an effective process by which the national objective of transitioning to climate neutrality by 2050 is communicated in a manner that enables climate action across all of society and the economy. The key objectives of the NDCA are to:

- Create awareness, understanding and engagement on climate change.
- Empower citizens to have conversations on climate action and to inform policy responses.
- Motivate and enable climate action at the level of communities and citizens.

The Monaghan PPN is scheduled to host the Climate Conversation workshop on Tuesday 16th March at 7.30p.m.

Annual Environmental Inspection Plan

Environmental Services has submitted their Annual Environmental Inspection Plan to the EPA. As part of the plan there will be regular reviews of progress and members will be kept up to date on the progress of the National Enforcement Priorities through the CE report.

Litter Management

Section 10 (3) requires a local authority to prepare a report for consideration by the Council indicating the measures taken by the local authority in the previous calendar year in relation to the prevention and control of litter.

Litter Management has three relevant NOAC indicators and are addressed in this report

E2: % Environmental pollution complaints closed

E3: % LA area within the 5 levels of litter pollution

E4: % of schools that have been awarded green flag status

1. Total net spend on litter related activities in County Monaghan in 2020 was € 1,017,755 (includes litter warden, admin payroll and costs, spring clean, litter awareness and street scavenging)
2. Total spend on street cleansing in 2020 was €758,754 which was a slight increase on 2019 spend (€749,995)
3. In addition to the above spend a further €109,784 was received under the Anti-Dumping initiative 2020. Projects funded included:
 - a. Clean up of large-scale illegal dumping sites
 - b. Preventative and abatement projects
 - c. Subsidised bulky good disposal at Scotch Corner and Carrickmacross Recycling Centres.
4. Use of CCTV as a deterrent to litter continued with intensive monitoring of bottle banks during the year.
5. 200 on the spot litter fines were issued in 2020, 147 of which were paid. This reflects having good CCTV evidence with the fines. Environmental Services has also started issuing warning letters for minor breaches of the Litter Pollution Act instead of fines.
6. Environmental Services investigated 376 waste and litter related complaints during 2020. This was a reduction of 14% on 2019. Therefore, despite some media commentary there was a decrease in illegal dumping in County Monaghan during the year.
7. The Environmental Patrol Warden completed 228 litter surveys as part of the National Litter Monitoring Programme. These surveys are required for NOAC indicator E3: % LA area within the 5 levels of litter pollution

Anti-Dumping Initiative 2021

It is expected that this funding will become available shortly. If any elected members has any ideas for possible projects to be included in the submission please make contact with noconnor@monaghancoco.ie. Typical projects include clean-up of litter black spots and abatement measures at litter blackspots such as fencing and lighting.

Dog Control

2020 saw a dramatic drop in the number of dogs admitted to the Dog Pound – a total of 197. This is the lowest number of dogs impounded in a single year by the Council since records began and is approximately half the number impounded in 2019. While the lockdown partly explains this reduction, there has been a steady decrease in the numbers of dogs admitted to the Council Dog Pound for over 10 years now. Almost all of these dogs were either reclaimed or rehomed to members of the public or dog rescues. 6 dogs were put to sleep, 3 due to severe injuries that had occurred before admission to the Pound. 1 further dog had been killed in a road traffic accident before being brought to the Pound. The Dog Control service was significantly curtailed by pandemic restrictions during 2020, but the Dog Warden collected all stray dogs reported and attended to all complaints received.

The number of dogs licenced in Monaghan in 2020 was 6,137, a slight drop on the number licenced in 2019. The number of licences bought online increased from 20% in 2019 to 30% of total licences in 2020. The number of people buying lifetime licences for their dogs increased from 65 in 2019 to 81 in 2020. The Council distributed its information leaflet on dog owners' responsibilities, when possible.

Sheep Worrying Advertisements

The Council is currently placing advertisements fortnightly in the Northern Standard to highlight the danger straying dogs present to sheep and lambs at this time of year. The advertisements highlight the damage dogs can do to flocks of sheep and will continue until early May.

Horse Control Service

The Council employs the services of Hungry Horse Outside, a horse charity based in Longford, to collect stray horses in the county. No stray horses were seized in 2020. This is the first year since 2011 that no stray horses were seized in Co. Monaghan. There were a number of complaints of stray horses dealt with during the year, but seizure of the horses was not necessary. The Council also investigated a number of complaints about horse welfare.

Slurry Spreading

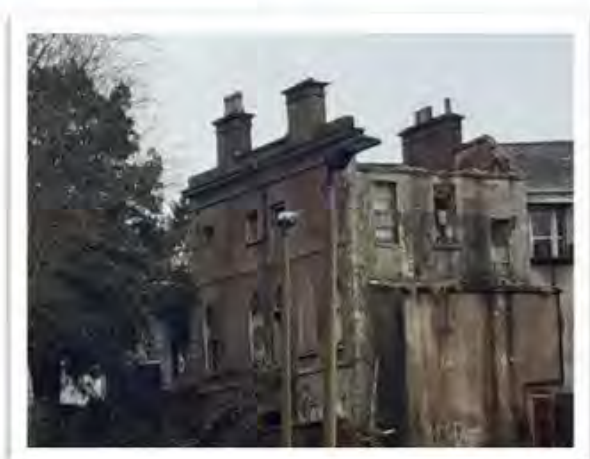
Monaghan County Council has recently responded to a number of complaints in relation to poor slurry spreading practices. To help address this issue Monaghan County Council has initiated an campaign to increase awareness in this area. During February a media campaign to remind farmers and agricultural contractors to follow good practice when spreading slurry has been initiated. This campaign will involve will see adverts placed in the Northern Standard and on Northern Sound and also on the county Council's social media platforms.

Historical Landfill Funding

During February, Environmental Services received confirmation from the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications that €92,000 funding was being made available to Monaghan County Council to progress works to regulate the historic landfills in the County previously operated by the council. Under the Waste Management (Certification of Historic Unlicensed Waste Disposal and Recovery Activity) Regulations 2008, local authorities are required to carry out an environmental assessment of closed landfills that were previously operated by local authorities during the period 1977 to 1997 and to seek authorisations from the EPA for these sites. The funding received will be used to progress the regulation of the historic sites at Killycard, Killycronaghan, and Scotch Corner subject to the issuing of certificates of authorisations for the three sites by the Environmental Protection Agency. Part of the funding is to be used to complete sites investigation works at the old Ballybay historic landfill site at Corkeeran.

CORPORATE SERVICES

CATHAL FLYNN, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES



Castleblayney Market Square Regeneration Phase I – Gate Lodge 2 Library & Public Realm

Broomfield Construction Ltd commenced contract works for the library development and public realm elements in November 2020. General site clearance works, removal of vegetation from building facade and stripping of the old roof structure was completed in December 2020. Construction works were suspended on the 8th January 2021 in line with Covid-19 restrictions, works are scheduled to recommence once restrictions on non-essential construction are lifted.



Castleblayney Market Square Regeneration Phase II – Castleblayney Market House/Courthouse

The Council engaged AP&E Consultants in November 2020 to carry out a public consultation and stakeholder engagement exercise to determine potential future uses of the Market House. In December 2020 the consultants completed an online public consultation survey and held workshops with various community/stakeholder groups. The consultants have completed an analysis of the consultation submissions and are currently progressing scenario planning for the building to evaluate potential future uses having regard to the importance of sustainable and viable options.



4/5 Mill Street – Emergency Stabilisation Works

Following a structural assessment of the property in November 2020, McGuigan Builders were engaged in December 2020 to execute emergency stabilisation works to the building in the interest of public safety. The emergency works completed to date includes removal of old roof structure, clear out of internal debris and installation of temporary stability bracing. The new roof structure will be installed in the coming weeks and all associated stabilisation works to the building are scheduled for completion in March 2021.



Dublin Street & Roosky Land – Urban Regeneration

South Dublin & Backlands Regeneration Scheme

Preliminary designs for various elements within the regeneration scheme area were progressed by RPS Design Consultants throughout 2020. Some of the major works completed in 2020 were Ecological/Archaeological Surveys, Traffic Modelling Report, Architectural Heritage Impact Assessment of Gavan Duffy Building and an Environmental Impact Assessment Screening. An Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report was submitted to An Bord Pleanála in December 2020 and the consultants are currently awaiting feedback on the report. Detailed designs of the various scheme elements are currently underway and will be progressed during 2021. Tender documents are currently being prepared for site investigation works and it is anticipated that a formal planning application for the scheme will be submitted to An Bord Pleanála by the end of Q2 2021.

North Dublin & Backlands Regeneration & Roosky Land – Masterplans

Sheridan Woods Urban Planning Consultants progressed regeneration proposals and masterplanning concepts for both North Dublin Street and the Roosky Lands during 2020. It is anticipated that the final draft of regeneration master plans will be completed in March 2021 and following this it is proposed to arrange presentations to the Elected Members and hold public consultation regarding the masterplan proposals.

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**CATHAL FLYNN, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES****Staff Appointments**

Ms. Olga McConnon was appointed Financial Management Accountant with effect from the 1st February 2021.

Local Authority Performance Indicator Report 2019

The national average percentage rate of paid workdays lost through medically certified paid sick leave for the sector in 2019 was at 3.71% which was a reduction from 2018 when it was at 3.78%. Monaghan County Council's had 3.21% of paid workdays lost through medically certified paid sick leave.

The percentage of self-certified sick leave remained low with a national mean of 0.36%. Monaghan County Council had the lowest rate at 0.17%.

Training Programme –January, February & March 2021

Name of Course	Dates	Duration	Numbers to be trained
Manual Handling	Ongoing	Online (1 hour)	
High Risk Emergency & Rescue Confined Spaces	11 th 12 th 13 th & 14 th January 2021 To be rescheduled	4 days	3 Staff Cancelled due to Covid Restrictions
Safe Pass	25 th & 26 th January 2021 To be rescheduled	1 day	16 staff Cancelled due to Covid Restrictions
Online Climate Action Training	Mid-January – End February Climate Action Teams, Grade 7 & Equivalent	3 hours	36 staff
Podcast Training on New Equipment	12 th February, 2020	½ day	9 Staff
IOSH Refresher	25 th & 26 th February 2021	2 days	8 Staff
Certificate in GDPR	3rd 10th and 24th March 2021	3 days	5 Staff
Temporary Traffic Management Design – Level 1 & 2	1st – 3rd and 8th – 9th March 2021	5 x ½ days	1 Staff
Gaelculthúr Classes	3 rd March 2021	½ day	13 Staff

Raymond Logue, RIP

It is with great sadness that we learnt of the sad and untimely passing of our work colleague and friend, Raymond Logue on Thursday, 11th February 2021 after an illness bravely borne. Raymond was appointed General Operative in 1997 to the Clones Area Office and later the Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones. Raymond was a great character and a very popular member of staff and his contribution will be greatly missed by all his colleagues in the Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones and the wider organisation.

Our deepest sympathies are offered to his wife, Edel, his daughter Aoife, son Ciaran and Raymond's extended family at this difficult time.

May his gentle soul rest in peace.

**Mickey Kelly, RIP**

It is with great sadness that we learnt of the sad and untimely passing of our work colleague and friend, Mickey Kelly on Sunday, 14th February 2021 after a short illness bravely borne. Mickey was appointed Dog Warden, Environment Section in 2011. Mickey was a very popular member of staff. He was a diligent and extremely competent worker, and his enthusiasm and communication skills made a difficult job look easy. His contribution will be greatly missed by all his colleagues in the Environment Section and the wider organisation.

Our deepest sympathies are offered to his wife, Deirdre, son Luke and extended family at this difficult time.

May his gentle soul rest in peace.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Eamoin O'Sullivan'.

Eamoin O'Sullivan
Chief Executive
Monaghan County Council

Carmel Thornton

194

From: Office of the Sinn Féin Vice President <vp@sinnfein.ie>
Sent: 01 March 2021 15:03
To: Carmel Thornton
Subject: Fwd: FW: Letter from Monaghan County Council
Attachments: MCC letter - M. O'Neill, MLA.pdf

Thank you for your letter to Michelle which she has asked me to answer on her behalf.

As you will be aware, Sinn Féin believes that the North/South Interconnector should be under-grounded, a position we have promoted and campaigned for over many years.

You will also, I am sure, be aware that Ministers in the north are part of a mandatory power-sharing Executive and, therefore, enjoy ministerial autonomy on most decisions under the arrangements established by the Good Friday Agreement.

In line with these arrangements, the Infrastructure Minister Nichola Mallon, the SDLP-nominated member of the Executive, made the decision to approve the interconnector.

We do not agree with this decision and we have already used Assembly mechanisms to highlight our concerns on the floor of the chamber.

However, Sinn Féin cannot compel the Minister to overturn her decision but a ministerial decision can, of course, be legally challenged if there is any suggestion that it was not properly taken.

Once again, I thank you for your correspondence and I hope this letter has helped clarify the position.

Is mise le meas,

Donna Mullin

Carmel Thornton

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From: Heather Humphreys <Heather.Humphreys@olreachtas.ie>
Sent: 01 March 2021 18:18
To: Carmel Thornton
Subject: RE: Resolutions from Monaghan County Council - North South Interconnector

Dear Carmel,

Thank you for your email of February 26th.

I have raised the concerns expressed by the Council members directly with the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications, Eamon Ryan TD.

Kind regards,

Heather

Heather Humphreys TD
Minister for Social Protection and Rural & Community Development

Cavan / Monaghan Constituency
Monaghan Office:
Unit 2, Mall Road
Monaghan, Co Monaghan
Tel: 047 71911 / Fax 047 71912

Cootehill Office:
79 Market Street
Cootehill, Co Cavan
Tel: 049 5555501

heather.humphreys@oir.ie
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www.facebook.com/heatherhumphreysfg

Carmel Thornton

From: Robbie Gallagher <Robbie.Gallagher@oireachtas.ie>
Sent: 02 March 2021 10:51
To: Carmel Thornton
Cc: Robbie Gallagher
Subject: FW: Senator Robbie Gallagher/ Monaghan County Council-- Eirgrid & North South Interconnector

Carmel a chara,

Hope all is well at present.

Please see acknowledgement of correspondence from Minister Ryan.

I will keep you informed of any communication in this.

Keep well and stay safe.

Many thanks,

Robbie




SENATOR
Robbie Gallagher
SEANAD SPORTSPERSON FOR JUSTICE
 PROFESSIONAL MEMBER OF THE SENATE

Email: robbie.gallagher@oir.ie
086-8161929

Monaghan Office,
 18 Glaslough Street,
 Monaghan,
 Co. Monaghan.
 ☎ 047 75050
 087-2873511

FIANNA Fáil
 THE REPUBLICAN PARTY
 CAVAN - MONAGHAN

Seanad
 Éireann

From: Ministers Office <MinisterRyan@cloud.gov.ie>
Sent: 02 March 2021 05:40
To: Robbie Gallagher <Robbie.Gallagher@oireachtas.ie>
Subject: Re: Senator Robbie Gallagher/ Monaghan County Council-- Eirgrid & North South Interconnector

Ref: CCAE-MO-01158-2021

2nd March 2021

Dear Senator Gallagher,

On behalf of Mr Eamon Ryan, TD, Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications, I wish to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence dated 1st March 2021.

I will ensure your correspondence is brought to the Minister's attention.

Yours sincerely,

Dean Maher

QUESTIONS

MARCH 2021

Clr A. Campbell will ask:

1. When Irish Water were upgrading the old leaking lead pipes in the centre of Castleblayney, there was a number of areas that was not finished. These leaking pipes are still causing a problem.
 - (a) what plans have Irish Water to finish off this work and replace and upgrade the unfinished works.
 - (b) when is envisaged that this work will now commence?
2. Regarding the awarding of contracts since the UK has left the EU and now Brexit is now a reality for local businesses and the difficulty that is now being encountered by these businesses. With the Local Enterprise Office now to organize workshops/training to both Micro and SME business in Monaghan on the preparation of tenders for public contracts.
 - (a) When is this training due to commence?
 - (b) How will it be rolled out?
 - (c) How will this be advertised to SMEs and small businesses and in particular new SMEs and businesses that have not engaged with LEO in the past.
 - (d) What are the different amounts of contracts is this training geared towards?
3. With the current pandemic lasting so long and with so much shopping being moved on line. What is the update on the trading online voucher scheme? What follow up processes is in place to help existing participants?
4. Regarding the Market House in Castleblayney.
 - (a) What is the update on the survey/public consultation about the regeneration of the building which has been carried out recently by architectural consultants AP+E?
 - (b) What is the next stage of this process?
 - (c) What is the time line process for these stages?
5. With the recent announcement from the Government of over €400,000 for the Retrofitting Programme for Social Housing which targets the energy efficiency of homes and is one of the many targets to reduce carbon emission.
 - (a) What is the actual scope of work which will be carried out in each house?
 - (b) When this work is complete what will the energy rating of houses be compared to what they are now?
 - (c) What is the projected savings in terms of running costs of these homes and carbon footprint?
 - (d) Recognizing that with Covid-19 only certain essential works can continue. What is the proposed timescale for these upgrades?

Cllr N. Keelan will ask:

6. What is the up-to-date position in relation to the publication of the community plans for the villages throughout the county; what is the next step for those villages that have had their community plans already published?
7. In relation to the scourge of illegal dumping and recent media reports indicating that in some counties illegal dumping is up by 20% - 30%, what is the overall situation in county Monaghan; what enhancement measures, if any, are being taken to combat and catch those responsible?
8. What is the up-to-date position in relation to the roll out of an affordable housing scheme for county Monaghan given that so many individuals and young couples are locked out of secure rental and home ownership?
9. In advance of the upgrading of the N2, which is many years away, what enhanced safety measures will the Council, in conjunction with the TII, put in place including the provision of average speed cameras similar to those used in the port tunnel?
10. In order to rejuvenate our deflated economy
 - (a) What assistance has been forthcoming from the local enterprise office, enterprise Ireland and other agencies to support the SME sector
 - (b) What incentives are available for new start-ups that will encourage the uptake of vacant premises/retail units in our towns.?

Cllr P. Connolly will ask:

11. To ask Monaghan County Council for
 - (a) An update in relation to the unfinished development, Chapel Court, Carrickroe and
 - (b) What developments/progress has there been in relation to the proposed CPO of the derelict portion of this site?

Cllr S. Conlon will ask:

12. With €218 million budgeted through the Department of Housing effort at tackling homelessness by way of the 'Housing First Model', what amount of this fund, and related support measures are allocated for Monaghan County Council for 2021?
13. With the declaration by Minister for Housing Darragh O'Brien TD that the 2021 budget allocation "is the very definition of housing for all", what amount of the €50 million dedicated to the 'Serviced Sites Fund' is allocated for much needed social and private housing for County Monaghan.
14. What number of houses have been acquired by Monaghan County Council over the past three years for social housing units through Part V obligations from private developers in housing developments in excess of nine or more units, with a breakdown of these numbers and locations

within each Municipal District area? At these locations have the social houses been clustered or dispersed throughout the developments?

15. Please provide an update on what progress has been made with my proposal below, agreed at the February 2020 meeting: "That for the purpose of ensuring issues of accessibility are addressed on a regular basis, that a quarterly inspection is undertaken by designated Council staff persons with the requisite skill set, and that follow up remediation measures are taken to ensure optimum conditions exist in our towns and villages for those citizens faced with mobility challenges".

Cllr C. Carthy will ask:

16. Using currently active developments/sites in Co. Monaghan, what is the number of units that will, or are expected to, be made available for social housing for the remainder of 2021 with a breakdown of size and location; as well as expected delivery dates?
17. What is the total length of road network serviced by Monaghan County Council, in KM, and what percentage of this network is in need of repair (rated between 1-4): Can the road section give a breakdown as per Municipal District?

Cllr S. Coyle will ask:

18. Can Monaghan County Council give a detailed update on Local Improvement Scheme (LIS), which have greatly benefited many families in County Monaghan, but many families/businesses and landowners are awaiting to have access to their properties improved under this scheme-
 - (a) How many applications are on the current scheme and awaiting an offer of works to be carried out?
 - (b) How many applications have Monaghan County Council accepted prior to the closure of acceptance are awaiting assessment and when do the County Council expect to undertake this process?
 - (c) In each of the past 5 years (2016,'17,'18,'19,'20), how much monies have County Monaghan received and how many lanes in each year have been completed?
 - (d) When do Monaghan County Council expect to re-open the LIS to new applications?
19. How many roads in County Monaghan have had works carried out, including complete Restoration under the Community Involvement Scheme (CIS), in each of the years since the County began participation and how much has been allocated to the County in each of those years?
20. Can Monaghan County Council outline the stage at this point of the proposed housing units at Church Street, Ballybay, when works are expected to commence and be completed, with the details of the size of dwelling etc?

Monaghan County Council Accessible Streetscapes Checklist

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Introduction

Monaghan County Council is committed to the implementation of the UN Convention on the rights of people with a disability – UNCRPD. Regarding Article 9 of this convention – *Accessibility*, Monaghan County Council will take appropriate measures to ensure persons with a disability access on an equal basis the built environment throughout the county. Our commitment to accessibility will include the identification and elimination of barriers to accessibility within aspects of the built environment under the remit of Monaghan County Council.

Commitment to Accessibility

For the purpose of ensuring issues of accessibility are identified and addressed on a regular basis, Monaghan County Council is committed to undertaking quarterly accessibility inspections, and follow up remedial measures to ensure optimum conditions exist in our towns, villages for people with mobility and sensory challenges and or impairments.

Accessibility checklist

This accessibility checklist will be used as a tool to identify any barriers to accessibility on the streetscapes of the county, identify actions to remove any barriers identified and review progress on the remedial actions identified.

Format of checklist

This checklist will focus on accessibility of the physical environment of the towns and villages of county Monaghan and will include:

- Footpaths
- Pedestrian crossings
- Designated accessible parking

Monaghan County Council Accessible Streetscapes Checklist

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1. Footpaths

Accessibility	Comment	Follow up required
1.1 The footpath has a clear path of travel extending from any property line to kerb.		
1.2 Footpath surface is firm, even, non-slip and consistent throughout path of travel.		
1.3 Footpath is clear from signs, banners, vegetation and other overhead obstructions.		
1.4 Drainage systems are operating sufficiently to all safe discharge of rainwater without rendering surface wet or slippery?		
1.5 Street lighting is in working order along the travel path.		
1.6 Dished kerbs are aligned on both sides of the road and are clearly marked.		

Monaghan County Council Accessible Streetscapes Checklist

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2. Pedestrian Crossings

Accessibility	Comment	Follow up required
2.1 Approaches to pedestrian crossings are clearly indicated with the appropriate tactile paving.		
2.2 Kerbs at pedestrian crossing points are flush with the road without hazard and are slip resistant.		
2.3 Kerbs at pedestrian crossings are dished on both sides of the crossing.		
2.4 Sufficient crossing times are in place at pedestrian crossings to allow people with mobility difficulties and sensory impairments to cross safely.		
2.5 Pedestrian crossings have audio signals switched on and are operating correctly.		
2.6 Pedestrian crossings have visual signals switched on and are operating correctly.		
2.7 Control buttons for pedestrian crossing are operating correctly and can safely be reached by wheelchair users without hazard.		

Monaghan County Council Accessible Streetscapes Checklist

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3. Designated accessible parking

Accessibility	Comment	Follow up required
3.1 Designated accessible parking bays are within recommended dimensions, with smooth and slip resistant surfaces.		
3.2 Designated accessible parking bays provide sufficient room for safe exit from a vehicle for both driver and passenger.		
3.3 Designated accessible parking bays provide sufficient room to allow s removal of a wheelchair from the rear of the vehicle.		
3.4 All kerbs adjacent to designated accessible parking bays are dished and flush with footpath.		
3.5 Dished kerb surfaces are smooth and slip resistant.		
3.6 All designated accessible parking bays are clearly marked and visible from a distance.		
3.7 All designated accessible parking bays are clearly signposted and information on penalties for illegal use clearly displayed.		

Monaghan County Council Accessible Streetscapes Checklist

Accessible Streetscape Checklist

Location	
Date	
Completed by	

NOTICES OF MOTION

MARCH 2021

Cllrs Bennett, Carthy, Keelan, McKenna, P. Treanor will move:

1. Can Monaghan County Council support the Beef Plan Movement association in their call for an Independent Meat Regulator. We further support their request that said Meat Regulator will have statutory and legislative powers to investigate anti-competitive behaviour by meat processors, meat traders, bodies associated with the trade of meat, trade of meat bi-products and/or trade by retailers who operate along the meat supply chain.

Cllr S. Conlon will move:

2. That this Council records it's support for the World Health Organisation's plea for the equitable global distribution of all vaccines, treatments and therapies developed to combat the coronavirus scourge, and further notes:
 - that some 130 countries across the world have yet to receive a single vaccine;
 - that some countries have made arrangements for the delivery of vaccines far in excess of their populations need;
 - that multiple voices have raised concern that some of the world's poorest countries are unlikely to receive an adequate delivery of vaccines to meet their populations need until late 2023 or even into 2024;
 - the failure of the pharmaceutical companies behind the current batch of developed vaccines to share their research and findings with equally competent pharmaceutical manufacturers across the world to help speed up the production and distribution of vaccines and thereby the defeat of this global pandemic;
 - the European Commission's approval of an application by concerned citizens to secure one million signatures of EU citizens to compel the Commission to consider the steps it can take, including legislation, to address this global inequality;

That this Council encourages all citizens to sign the EU hosted petition through Google Chrome on www.noprofitonpandemic.eu thereby helping to reach the one million signatures target at the earliest date possible.

That this motion is circulated to all County and City councils in this State and all local authorities north of the border seeking their support and adoption.

Cllr P. Connolly will move:

3. That Monaghan County Council prepare a comprehensive report relating to its role and involvement in relation to the provision of services for mothers and babies from 1920-1970 and that this report together with archive material be placed on council records, available and accessible to families seeking such information now and in the future.