

# Comhairle Contae Mhuineacháin Monaghan County Council

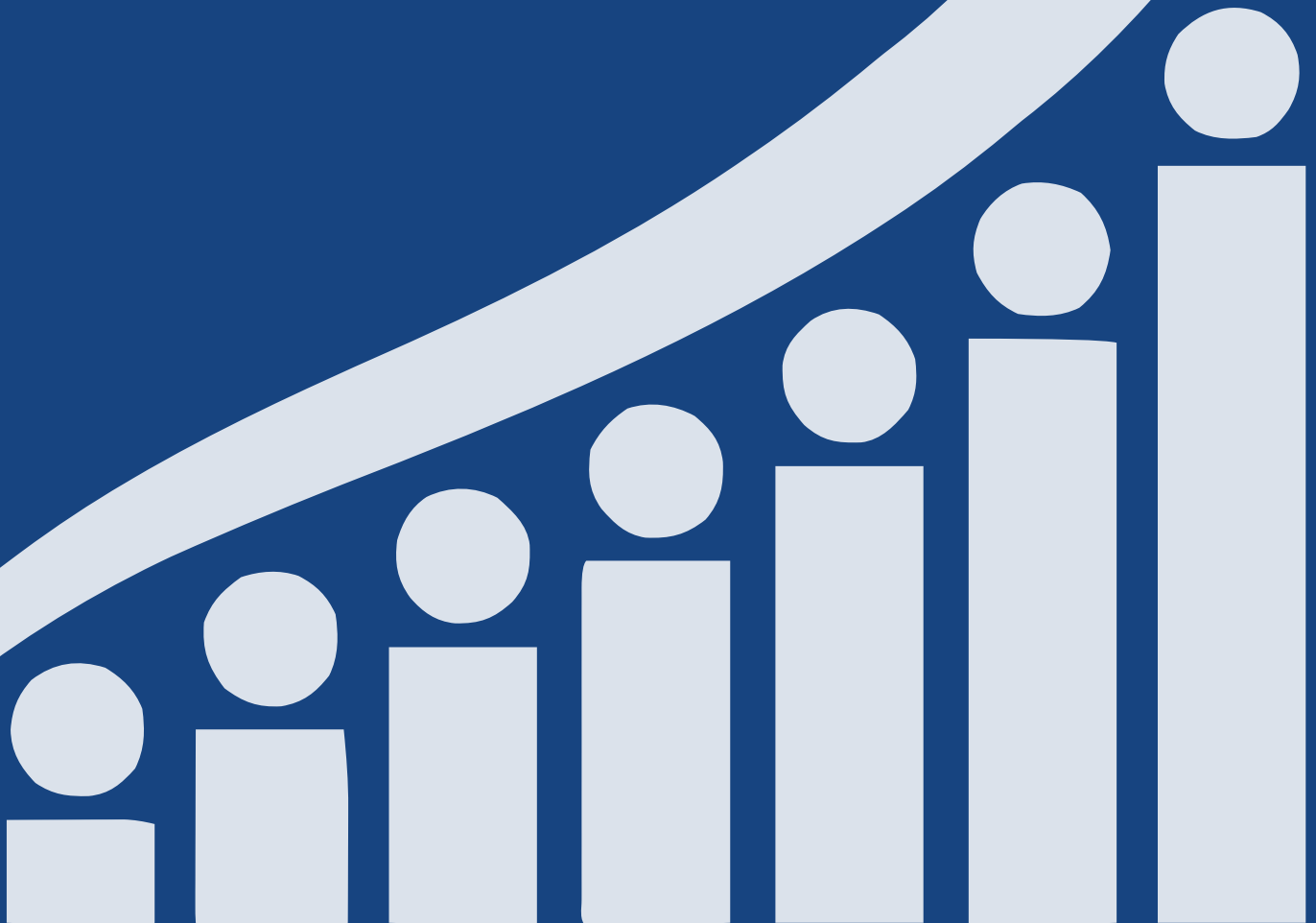


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## Comhairle Contae Mhuineacháin Buiséad Bliantúil

Monaghan County Council  
Annual Budget

# 2026





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# Report of the Chief Executive to the Cathaoirleach and each Member of Monaghan County Council



The Budget for the financial year 2026 is hereby presented to the Members of Monaghan County Council in compliance with the statutory framework, Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) and relevant regulations. The Budget Report, and tables therein, outline the investment the Council will make in the operation and delivery of services to our citizens, and support to the sustainable development of our communities. As ever, the focus of our budget is on maintaining a balance between progressive investment in services and projects and responsible financial management.

The Monaghan County Council Annual Budget for 2026 is €97,619,169. This represents an increase of 4% (€3.86m) to income and expenditure compared to annual budget for 2025. This additional funding is allocated across a range of service areas, including Retained Fire Officer costs of €0.25m, Peace Campus additional running costs of €0.15m, other additional staff costs of €1.99m, new housing planned maintenance costs of €0.2m, additional road maintenance investment of €0.15m and additional pension costs of €0.4m.

Monaghan County Council has 2,384 rated properties in the county, that between them will generate a total rates income of €18,009,071 for budget 2026.

Of the total number of properties, 91% pay less than €10,000 per annum (total €4.9m), 81% pay less than €5,000 per annum (total €3.4m) and 77% pay less than €3,000 per annum (total €2.8m). The 15 highest rated properties generate income of €6.5m which represents 38% of the total Rates income.

The proposed Annual Rate on Valuation (ARV) for 2026 is 0.2594. This represents an increase of 3% on the 2025 ARV.

In October 2025, there were 395 vacant properties in the county. In an effort to address the level of vacant properties in urban areas, the Elected Members adopted a resolution at the Budget 2025, 2024 and 2023 meetings to reduce the Rates write off on commercial properties from 100% to 80%. Since the introduction of the reduction of this Rates write off, 184 properties have been delisted and numerous properties have been re-let, converted for domestic use or are undergoing refurbishment.

The preparation of the Annual Budget 2026 has been challenging but the proposed expenditure of €97,619,169 in 2026, together with our capital programme spend, represents a considerable investment in social, economic and cultural development and the delivery of high-quality services throughout the County.

The Annual Budget 2026 is reflected in the statutory tables as detailed herein and presented to Members for adoption at the Annual Statutory Budget Meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

The Budget has been prepared with an objective of providing funds for the continuation of existing service levels despite the challenges of rising costs, combined with an ongoing focus on providing high quality public services, maintaining our roads, meeting our climate action objectives, supporting social, economic and tourism development and supporting our business communities. There are significant organisation-wide cost increases that must be provided for. The budget, as presented, attempts to strike the correct balance between the multiplicity of demands across the range of services delivered by the Council.

In meeting this challenge for 2026 there are choices to be faced in that we must continue to provide our services, provide help and support to our towns, villages and communities, while at the same time ensuring that we prudently manage our finances and do not undermine our financial capacity for future years. Budget 2026 has been framed in the context of balancing and overcoming these challenges in the interests of our fellow citizens.

The Annual Budget 2026 reflects Monaghan County Council's continued commitment to investing in our people and services. It supports the delivery of our Corporate Plan 2025–2029 and our Strategic Workforce Plan that will ensure we have the right skills, structures and capacity to meet evolving community needs and national priorities.

This year's budget provides for increased pay provisions and targeted recruitment across key areas, including tourism, economic, rural and community development, emergency services and social inclusion. These investments will strengthen service delivery and support a more agile, collaborative and future-ready organisation.

Our staff remain central to our success. We will continue to foster a workplace culture that values, supports and empowers every team member to thrive and grow.

Given the overall tight budgetary position and the financial outlook for the coming period, it will be necessary to ensure very careful budgetary management across all departments and service delivery areas in 2026, together with a continued focus on economy and efficiency measures throughout the organisation. Initiatives such as the review of the management and operation of our vehicle fleet which is underway will be supplemented by the review of other areas of activity in the coming period.

I would like to thank the Elected Members of Monaghan County Council for their continued support throughout the year and look forward to continuing to work in partnership with them on the delivery of excellent public services for the citizens of the County.

I wish to acknowledge the assistance of the Members of the Corporate Policy Group in the consideration of budgetary issues and their invaluable work in helping to shape the Council's Annual Budget for 2026. I would also like to convey my thanks to the Director of Finance, the Directors of Service and their staff for their compilation of budget submissions, coordination of the budget process and their assistance to myself and the Council. I wish to record my appreciation to all Council Staff for their commitment and dedication in the delivery of services for the people and businesses in County Monaghan. Considerable effort has been made by all members of the Council's Management Team and their staff to produce a Budget that will ensure that the Council continues to provide high quality public services and supports the maintenance and development of infrastructure and facilities for the people of County Monaghan.

I recommend the adoption of the Annual Budget 2026 as set out in the accompanying statutory tables and reports.

**Robert Burns**  
**Chief Executive of Monaghan County Council**





## The Local Property Tax (LPT) Allocation

Every Local Authority receives a minimum amount of funding under the LPT allocation process, known as the Baseline. The 2026 baseline for Monaghan County Council has increased by €300,000 to €13,038,572. The baseline allocation for Monaghan County Council will increase for 2026 by €553,976 due to the decision of the Council to increase the base rate of LPT by 15% for the year. This increase was also applied in prior years (Budget 2020 – 2025 inclusive). This discretionary element of the Local Property Tax is allocated directly to the Municipal Districts resulting in an allocation of €319,317 for each MD for 2026. The Local Property Tax allocation for Monaghan County Council for 2026 is therefore €13,592,548.

The calculation of the LPT Allocation for Monaghan County Council received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for 2026 is as follows:

LPT 100% raised locally (prior to adjustment)	3,693,174
Contribution from Exchequer	9,345,398
2026 LPT Baseline	13,038,572
Increased Allocation Arising from Base Rate Adjustment	553,976
<b>Total LPT Funding for 2026</b>	<b>13,592,548</b>

## Impact of retained fire officer cost

The additional net retained fire service costs for 2026 are estimated at approximately €0.25m versus budget 2025. Retained fire officers' additional costs relate to increases in the retainer payable, the drill rates payable, an increase in premium hours payable, an entitlement to annual leave and sickleave along with an additional staff allocation. It has not been confirmed if these additional costs will be offset by a grant from DHLGH and a prudent approach has been adopted in terms of the income estimate input for Budget 2026.

## Additional Rental income and planned maintenance

An additional estimated average 78 housing units to be delivered in 2026 and will result in an increase in rental income. A rent review is also currently underway. Housing rental income is budgeted to increase overall by c.€0.528m.

Planned housing maintenance schedules will be delivered in 2026 which will result in a budget increase in cost of €0.2m.

## Roads resurfacing works 2026

A planned schedule of roads resurfacing works will be delivered in 2026 which will result in a net cost of €0.15m.

## Pension costs

An additional cost to Monaghan County Council of meeting pension and lump sum payments under the Local Government superannuation scheme is expected to rise by €0.38m from 2025 to 2026 with an expected liability in excess of €5.7m for 2026.

## Uisce Eireann – stranded costs

A Memorandum of Understanding was issued during 2023 by DHLGH in relation to payments to Local Authorities for stranded costs arising from the Water Services Transformation programme. The main changes for Monaghan County Council is that Central Management Costs (CMC) relating to Water services are recouped from DHLGH instead of Uisce Eireann as was previously the case. This will result in a reduction in this income stream as the majority of this recoupment will be based on 2022 CMC costs. A number of water services staff have been redeployed to other sections within the Council or have transitioned to Uisce Eireann. Only a minimal number of staff remain chargeable to water services for 2026.

## Peace campus running costs

The Peace Campus running costs have been factored into Budget 2026. It is estimated that the net effect to Budget 2026 will be a cost of c.€649k. The main income streams from the Peace Campus in 2026 will be room rental and licence agreements with anchor tenants.

## Current Financial Position

For 31st December 2024, Monaghan County Councils Revenue account recorded a cumulative surplus of €291,378.

## Summary

The draft budget as circulated to members provides for gross expenditure, income and annual rate on valuation as follows for the local financial year 2026.

	€
Gross Revenue Expenditure	97,619,169
<b>Income</b>	
Grants and Subsidies	51,173,351
Irish Water	1,078,457
Local Property Tax Allocation	13,592,548
Goods and Services	13,765,742
Amount to be Levied	18,009,071
Net Effective Valuation	69,425,868
Annual Rate on Valuation	0.2594

The Resolution will be required to be adopted as follows:

Adopt the budget for the coming year and determine the Annual Rate on Valuation to be levied on commercial properties.

**Olga McConnon**

**Director of Finance, Housing and Culture**

# Division A - Housing and Building

## Housing Capital Projects

Significant achievements in 2025 included the first Affordable Purchase Housing project (10 houses at Station View Monaghan) delivered in County Monaghan and the first Cost Rental Housing project (16 apartments at Park Street Monaghan) delivered in a rural county. We will build on this in 2026 by progressing with Affordable Purchase Housing in Carrickmacross and are consider more Cost Rental Housing opportunities subject to feasibility.

Housing projects in progress in 2025 and completing in phases between 2025 and 2026 include the development of 51 houses at Latlorcan and 22 houses in Ballinode. Projects due to commence in 2026 include 26 houses at Connabury in Castleblayney, 15 houses at Killyfargy Scotshouse and 24 houses at Ard na Gréine Roslea Road Clones subject to Part 8 Planning and final funding approval from the Department of Housing.

A sheltered housing project for older people and people with disabilities in conjunction with North & East Housing Association at the old fire station / machinery yard in Castleblayney submitted for Part 8 Planning in 2025 is now due to commence on site in 2026.

Housing Section is continuing to work on additional potential projects and has procured Design Teams for 15 small projects throughout County Monaghan ranging in scale from 3 houses to 15 houses with the potential for delivery of 100 dwellings in total, in 2026 designs will be developed and applications will be submitted for funding approval.

Housing Section will continue to create new opportunities and initiate new projects to address the housing needs of County Monaghan.

## Voids Programme

Monaghan County Council has no long term vacant social houses and has been proactive for several years to reduce or minimise the average reletting time of void properties. Monaghan County Council have Department funding approval for 23 properties (€253,000) in 2025. In 2024, the average reletting time was 15.96 weeks for 76 properties and it is expected to complete circa 60 properties in 2025. The Voids budget for 2025 is projected to be similar in 2026.



# Division A - Housing and Building

## **Climate Change and Energy Efficiency**

Monaghan County Council Housing department staff are committed to delivering the actions identified in the Monaghan County Council Climate Action Plan (2024-2029) and to reducing the negative effects of Climate Change.

The Social Housing Energy Efficiency Retrofit programme cost over €4.5 Million in 2024, delivering upgrade works to 127 properties. In 2025 an ambitious programme of works was tendered costing over €7.6 million. The tendered works will be delivered on a phased basis and in 2025 it is planned to complete upgrade works to 118 properties at a cost of €4.2 million. The remaining tendered works will be delivered and claimed in early 2026.

It is anticipated 80% of costs will be funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and approx 20% funded by Monaghan County Council.

By the end of 2025 over 443 social houses will have been retrofitted to a Building Energy Rating of B2 or better under this programme and over 47% of social housing units in Monaghan will be rated B2 or better.

The Carbon Emission Saving associated with the Energy Efficiency Retrofit programme 2025 is estimated to be greater than 424 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>/yr and the Energy Consumption Saving is estimated to be greater than 1465 MWh/yr.

The Energy Efficiency Retrofitting upgrades being completed by Monaghan County Council have many health and environmental benefits and creates safer, warmer, more comfortable homes.

## **Planned Maintenance**

In 2025, a budget of €420,000 under the Planned Maintenance Schedule is proposed to improve the quality of existing housing stock. Works have continued throughout the year with a focus on external works including wastewater treatment systems, boundary replacements, concreting works, fascia & soffit repairs, landscaping maintenance and kitchen replacements. The Planned Maintenance budget for 2026 is projected to increase compared to 2025.

## **Response Maintenance**

A budget of €825,000 is being provided in 2025 to reflect the increase in housing stock. The funding is used to attend to the day-to-day maintenance of the housing stock. This includes work such as fixing leaks, boiler repairs, drainage works and repairing kitchen units. 1556 repairs were logged to date in September 2025 and represents an increase of 194 repairs compared to the same period in 2024. 1362 repairs were logged to the same period in September 2024.

# Division A - Housing and Building

## Estate Management

There are 1,054 applicants on Monaghan County Council social housing waiting list as at 25/09/2025. Assessment reports are pending at this date for an additional 82 applications, which will result in a total of 1,136 applicants on the social housing list.

The 1,054 applications are categorised as follows:

<b>Applicant Category</b>	<b>Number</b>
Applicants in receipt of HAP support	430
Applicants in receipt of RAS support	80
Tenant seeking Transfers	71
AHB Tenants seeking Transfers	12
All other applicants – Net Housing Need	461
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1054</b>

Monaghan County Council owns and manages 1,910 housing units which includes 7 properties under the Repair and Lease Scheme and 5 properties which are Short Term Leased.

To date in 2025, 77 Local Authority tenancies have commenced with 17 nominations to AHB properties. It is expected to have a further 14 tenancies by year end (Ballinodde 10 /Tydavnet 4/ Carrickroe 3)

## HAP/RAS

77 Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) applications have been approved to date in 2025. This figure rises to 81 if you include HAP movement tenancies. There are currently 412 applicants approved for assistance through the HAP scheme. Since the commencement of HAP in 2014 to date, 621 HAP supported tenants are recorded as having received a Local Authority tenancy/ tenancy with AHB, with 55 having moved from HAP tenancies in 2025.

There are currently 85 private and 173 AHB tenancies supported by RAS. 25 new Private RAS tenancies have commenced in 2025 and 27 new RAS tenancies commenced for persons accommodated by AHB. 4 RAS supported tenants moved to social housing provided by LA or AHB in 2025

381 Private Rented Inspections have taken place to date in 2025 – 23% achieved compliance on first inspection.

## Homeless Services

Monaghan County Council's Homeless Service falls under the umbrella of the Northeast Region Homeless Action Plan 2024-2026 which provides for the operation of homeless services to be actioned at local level while strategic and administrative obligations are the responsibility of the Regional Homelessness Strategic Management Group.

The key actions of the Plan are the prevention of homelessness; the protection of service users through emergency, accommodation and support services; maximise progression to longer term permanent accommodation; Oversight and governance; Enhance and expand multi agency approach to homelessness; and Public sector duty.

In County Monaghan prevention of homelessness is being targeted through the introduction of a HAP Place Finder service in conjunction with the ongoing Tenancy Sustainment Service and utilisation of the Housing First Model. The engagement of accommodation providers such as Bed and Breakfast operators in addition to agreements with NGO's and coordinated interactions with support services will address service user needs in the short term. The ongoing Local Authority construction programme as well as programmes of Approved Housing Bodies will offer opportunities for longer term accommodation which will be supplemented by opportunities in the Private Rented Sector using any support schemes available to the Local Authority such as the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) and Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS).

All funding for the Homelessness Services is provided by the Department of Housing and is recouped directly by Louth County Council as the lead authority for the Northeast Homelessness Action Plan.



# Division A - Housing and Building

## Housing Grants

The Revised Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with a Disability Scheme came into effect on 1st December 2024. Monaghan County Council has received an allocation from the Department for 2025 in the amount of €1,912,048 which includes a 15% contribution from the Council's own resources.

To date in 2025 Monaghan County Council's Housing Section have at 23rd September 2025

- Received 335 applications.
- Approved 257 applications (some of these applications were received in 2024)
- Paid out on 218 applications (some of these applications were received in 2024)
- Recouped 185 applications in the amount of €1,463,574

There is c.€2.6m at Recommendation/Works /Final Payments/Recoupment Stages made up of approximately 200 grants (includes €690k below)

There is in excess of 150 applications at Registration /OT/Initial stages/ pending registration/processing stages.

Note: as this is a rolling programme figures include grants carried forward from last year

## Disabled Persons Grants to LA Properties

In 2025 Monaghan County Council received a funding allocation of €195,949 under the Disabled Person Grants Scheme. To date (September 2025), Monaghan County Council has carried out works to 33 properties with an expenditure of €172,941, works ranging from installation of level access showers, stair lifts, ramps and hoists. These works enable tenants to remain to live independently in their homes.

# Division B - Roads, Transport and Safety

## Road Transport and Safety

Expenditure 2025 €39,540,405

Monaghan County Council is responsible for 2,560 Kilometres of road network consisting of 108Km of National, 297Km of Regional and 2,155Km of Local roads.

## Major Schemes

### N2 Clontibret to Border Road Scheme

This project has been in development since 2018. In 2023 it received EU Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) funding, which has supported the Phase 3 Design & Environmental Evaluation process. In April 2024 an 'initial' design was finalised for the project and meetings took place with affected landowners before the design was published on the project website. Three public information days also took place in July 2025. Stakeholder and community feedback was gathered to inform design changes prior to an updated design being published in Q4 2025.

## National Roads

### N54 Tullybryan Road (Minor Scheme).

MCC received approval from TII in April 2025 to commence land & property acquisition. Notice to Treat and Notice to Enter letters were subsequently issued to all affected landowners. Discussions with landowners regarding compensation and accommodation works were ongoing throughout 2025. In addition, new consultants were procured and appointed in June to finalise detail design and prepare tender documents to facilitate procurement of a construction contractor. Enabling Works in the form of archaeological investigations and supplementary Ground Investigation Works to commence in Q4 2025, with main construction expected to commence in Q4 2026.

### N53 Ballynacarry Bridge Replacement

MCC received approval from TII in April 2025 to progress to Statutory Process and advance the preparation of planning documentation for both the ROI and NI jurisdictions. Ecological surveys were completed in order to update environmental reports, as previous surveys were no longer valid. It is anticipated that planning applications will be lodged in Q4 2025.

## National Road Pavement Schemes

In 2025, a total of €3.3 million was expended on renewing and maintaining the national road network. Resurfacing work took place on the N2 Moy to Mullabryan and N12 Liscarney to Coolshannagh Roundabout. Pavement rehabilitation works to isolated sections of the national road networks were also implemented.

## N2 Cycle Paths

The N2 Emyvale Active Travel Scheme was completed in 2025.

A Part 8 planning consent application for the N2 Corlat to Collegiate Active Travel scheme is programmed for Q4 2025, with construction expected in Q2 2026. Extensive site investigatory works were executed at the Coolshannagh Roundabout, to gather data to inform the optimum design for several active travel facilities converging at this location.

## **TII funded Greenways.**

Ulster Canal Greenway (Monaghan to NI Border) – MCC received approval from TII in August 2025 to commence land & property acquisition. Notice to Treat and Notice to Enter letters were subsequently issued to all affected landowners. Discussions with landowners regarding compensation and accommodation works were ongoing throughout 2025. In addition, new consultants were procured and appointed in August to finalise detail design and prepare tender documents to facilitate procurement of a construction contractor. Enabling works in the form of archaeological investigations to commence in Q4 2025, with main construction expected to commence in Q2 2026.

Ulster Canal Greenways (Smithborough to Monaghan) – Flood modelling consultants were procured and the modelling was completed in early 2025. Areas at risk of flooding were identified and alternative construction techniques were explored and presented to TII in Q1 2025, which were subsequently approved. New consultants were procured to complete detailed design. It is anticipated that a Part 8 application will be submitted in Q1 2026, followed by CPO proceedings.

Ulster Canal Greenways (Smithborough to Clones) - Flood modelling has confirmed that 4.1km of the preferred route is at risk of flooding. Alternative construction techniques to provide a flood resilient Greenway were prepared and presented to TII for review.

## **Non-National Roads**

### **Restoration Improvement Grant**

In 2025 the Department of Transport provided an allocation of €8,506,500 under the Restoration Improvement Grant to Monaghan County Council for the rehabilitation of Regional and Local Roads identified as having a PSCI rating of between 1 and 6.

### **Restoration Maintenance**

The Department of Transport allocated grants totalling €1,068,0500 in 2025 for the resealing and restoration of skid resistance on the non-national road network. The funding allocated allowed for the surface dressing of over 80km of Regional and Local Roads in 2025.

### **Specific Improvement Grants**

- Specific Improvement Grant funding for the following schemes was received in 2025:
- Rooskey Access Road €100,000
- L63101 Drumary Bridge Replacement €500,000
- R181 Drummillard to Crossduff €25,000
- R162 Glen Rd Culvert €300,000
- Glen Road Culvert Phase 2 €50,000
- Link Road Design (Old Cross sq./Sli Oige Ui Dhufaigh to N2 to N12) €30,000

# Division B - Roads, Transport and Safety

## **Bridge Rehabilitation**

In 2025, an allocation of €775,000 was received from the Department of Transport for the rehabilitation of bridges on the Non-National Road network. In total, 8 bridges are scheduled to undergo rehabilitation, or replacement works in 2025.

## **Local Improvement Schemes**

An initial funding allocation of €373,479 was received from the Department of Rural and Community Development in May. 10 lanes were completed under this grant. An additional allocation of €588,297 was announced August. It is planned to complete an additional 17 lanes in 2025.

## **Community Involvement Scheme**

An allocation of €432,850 was received from the Department of Transport in 2025, which, together with community contributions, enabled the resurfacing of four roads.

## **Speed Limit Review**

An allocation of €426,000 was received from the Department of Transport in 2025. The initiative for 2025 is the implementation of the Rural Speed Limit signage.

## **RAP Pilot Scheme & Intervention initiatives**

The 2025 RAP scheme was continued on a regional basis, with Monaghan County Council acting as the lead authority in collaboration with Louth and Cavan County Councils. The program involved trialling variations in mix designs to determine the optimal usage of RAP material.

Monaghan county Council has also developed a centralised RAP recycling centre in 2025 and is confident of obtaining NSAI Accreditation for the site. The RAP material will form part of Monaghan County Council's annual road maintenance works from 2026, thus, contributing to a more sustainable and low carbon works programme.

## **Pavement Maintenance Strategy**

Monaghan County Council has developed a comprehensive 5year Road Maintenance Strategy that will optimise investment opportunities for the road network. As part of the strategy development several Low-cost/Low-Carbon interventions were trialled in 2025, these interventions have been included in the strategy which will be rolled out as a pilot from 2026-2030. Increased investment has been sought from the Department of Transport and Monaghan County Council for 2026.

## **Active Travel**

In 2025 Monaghan County Council received an allocation of €3.07 million from NTA for 22 active travel projects throughout the county. This includes pedestrian bridges, greenway enhancement works, shared paths, safety improvements for VRU's including junction tightening, safe routes to school and transport plans for urban settlements. Funding was also provided for improvements to public transport through the Bus Stop Enhancement Programme (BSEP). All public transport bus stops are to be assessed across the county and necessary upgrades introduced to improve infrastructure for users and this includes bus stop pole replacement, hard standing areas, seating where appropriate and bus shelters where feasible.

# Division B - Roads, Transport and Safety

The following active travel projects have been completed in 2025.

- Clones Urban Mobility Plan
- Monaghan Local Transport Plan
- Junction tightening in Inniskeen
- Junction tightening in Castleblayney

Construction works has commenced on a new pedestrian and cycling bridge at Horseshoe Bridge in Monaghan Town.

## **Road Safety**

The actions contained in the second Road Safety Action Plan for County Monaghan continue to be implemented. Phase two which covers the period 2025-2027 are currently under development. The County Monaghan Road Safety Working Together Group provides a multi-agency approach to the co-ordination of the actions at a county level contained therein. The aim of the Co Monaghan plan is to reduce the number of deaths and serious injuries on the county's roads, in line with the national target of 50% over the 10-year period 2011-2020. The plan is the first step in achieving the 2020 Programme for Government commitment of bringing Ireland to 'Vision Zero', which aims to eliminate all road deaths and serious injuries on Irish roads by the year 2050. The Collision Prevention Programme is a national partnership programme that brings Local Authorities and the An Garda Síochána together in a united and sustained effort to identify collision prone locations and taking preventive remedial action, where appropriate. The County Monaghan group continue to meet regularly.

## **Admin**

In 2025 requests for Abnormal load permits, Roads abutting letters and Temporary signage have increased dramatically. We have also seen a considerable rise in Customer Service queries.

## **Priorities 2026**

The priority for the Transportation section in 2026, will be to progress both the Major Schemes and Minor Schemes, improve road safety through various initiatives, to install new Active Travel infrastructure and to commence with the roll-out of our 5year Road Maintenance Strategy to increase the road maintenance output through increased investment and resource optimisation.

# Division C - Rural Water

## **Uisce Éireann**

Uisce Éireann is responsible for the operation and maintenance of public water and wastewater services, including:

- Management of national water and wastewater assets.
- Maintenance of water and wastewater systems.
- Investment and planning.
- Managing capital projects, and
- Customer care and billing.

## **Rural Water Section**

Monaghan County Council is the Water Services Authority in relation to the supervision of group water schemes and small private water supplies under the European Union (Drinking Water) Regulations 2023.

The Rural Water Programme in County Monaghan is administered by Monaghan County Council. This administration includes the payment of subsidies towards the running costs of groups water schemes, grant payments under the Multi Annual Rural Water Programme (MARWP) towards upgrade of infrastructure and assets of group water schemes, private water supplies grants and Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems (DWWTs) grants.

The programme provides measures to address deficiencies in:

- Group Water Schemes
- Group Sewerage Schemes
- Private Water Supplies where no alternative group or public supply is available (Well Grants)
- Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems (subject to terms and conditions)
- Domestic water supply pipes and fittings (lead remediation grant scheme)

## **Subsidies**

Rural water section administers subsidy payments to twelve group water schemes in the county of approximately €4 million (2024) per annum towards the operation and maintenance of the schemes based on eligible expenditure and participation in a DBO contract.

## **Multi Annual Rural Water Programme (MARWP) 2024-2026**

Scheme specific capital grants under the Multi Annual Rural Water Programme (MARWP) are administered to group schemes towards relevant measures including source protection, public health compliance, water conservation and scheme enhancements. Rural Water Section submitted a total of 56 No. funding bids under the MARWP 2024-2026 for consideration to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) under the various measures for source protection, capital replacement, water treatment improvements and upgrades, network infrastructure upgrades, extensions to networks and innovative demonstration projects. In November 2024 the Expert Panel tasked with evaluating the applications completed their work for four of the eight measures in the programme, a total allocation of €685,471 was notified for County Monaghan under this first phase of approvals. This allocation is to assist Group Water Schemes (GWS) with the completion of Safe Yield Assessments of their sources, integrated source protection plans, cryptosporidium risk assessments and to capital replacement works in treatment plants. All projects in relation to this funding allocation are started and some projects are completed.

In July 2025 the Expert Panel completed their work for the following three Measures of the MARWP:

- A4 – Water conservation, leakage reduction and prevention
- A5 - Extensions to existing private GWS and new GWS
- A9 – Innovation demonstration projects

Monaghan County Council has been allocated a total of €2,215,378 under this latest round of approvals from the DHLGH. Rural Water section continues to provide assistance and work with the group water schemes and all stakeholders in the implementation of the funded works and ensure their completion. The expert panel is still reviewing aspects of Measure A2 - Water Treatment Provision, Improvements & Capital Replacement of the MARWP with further approvals and funding announcements awaited under this measure.

## **Well Grants**

The DHLGH issued new Circulars in June 2020 relating to revised grants and terms and conditions towards remedial works or upgrade works approved for wells. The level of a grant is determined by the type of improvement works undertaken and shall not exceed the following amounts:

- 85% of the approved costs for rehabilitation works, subject to a maximum of €3,000.
- 85% of the approved costs for the provision of a new well, subject to a maximum of €5,000 (where the local authority agrees that this is the most appropriate solution).
- 100% of the approved costs for works that, in the opinion of the Local authority, are necessary to treat the water to meet the water quality standards specified in the regulations, subject to a maximum grant of €1,000. (subject to terms and conditions).

# Division C - Rural Water

## Domestic Waste-Water Treatment Systems

In January 2024 the DHLGH issued revised and updated Domestic Wastewater Treatment System (DWWTs) Grant schemes. The grant increased from €5,000 to €12,000 and the qualification criteria changed so homeowners could qualify for a grant even if they had not registered their septic tank by 1st February 2013. The Grant is available to repair, upgrade or replace a DWWTs if required. Grant funding of up to 85% of the cost of the repairs to the system or a new system, up to a maximum of €12,000. There are three different types of septic tanks grant schemes in Ireland, however it is not a universal Grant or demand led, and is subject to the household meeting the relevant criteria of each septic tank grant scheme:

- DWWTS grant under the National Inspection Plan
- DWWTS grant in Prioritised Areas for Action
- DWWTS grant in High Status Objective Catchment Areas

## Drinking Water Compliance

Monaghan County Council have responsibility for sampling and testing private group water schemes and small private supplies, Rural Water Section will continue to deliver its annual private group water sampling programme in the county. Under this program 12 GWSs are subject to sampling and auditing in addition to ten small private water supplies which primarily serve rural pubs, hotels, factories, and service stations within the county. Sample requirements in respect of the number of samples per GWS is determined by the size of the scheme i.e. based on the annual amount of water produced by the scheme and the scale of the population served by the scheme under current the Drinking Water Regulations. The ten small private supplies require two checks and one audit sample per supply annually. The results for 2024 show that the compliance rate was 99.1% out of 1,621 parameters analysed. There were 22 exceedances noted throughout the year and the HSE consulted where required. The main exceedances were for THMs and Manganese. The 22 exceedances were identified through our own sampling program, notified by the laboratory, and then notified to the scheme. The corrective actions taken by Rural Water section to close out exceedances in conjunction with the group water schemes included, repeat sampling to verify compliance, investigations into water treatment plant processes and escalation to a site audit if necessary.

## Asset Transfer

Rural water section also co-operates with the council's planning section and government departments to facilitate the transfer to Uisce Éireann of public water and wastewater infrastructure within private developments. Section 12 of the Water Services (No. 2) Act 2013 provides for the transfer of Water Services assets to Uisce Éireann, that is given effect by Ministerial Order. To date 114 folio numbers have transferred to Uisce Éireann. There are approximately 24 folios yet to be transferred as some assets contain more than one folio.

Detailed work is ongoing preparing supporting material for the transfer of these assets which includes the subdivision of folios and associated mapping, the registration of unregistered sites, the establishment of legal rights of way and the resolution of outstanding title anomalies.

# Division D - Development Management

## 1.0 Development Management

The number of planning applications received in 2025 is slightly higher (1%) than the previous year, but broadly comparable with previous years. To date this year, applications received included 125 applications for single dwellings, 67 for domestic extensions, 35 for agriculture and 35 No multi housing developments. There has, however, been a significant increase in the number of housing developments / apartments granted in 2025 which has almost doubled from the previous year and there are a number of live applications in the system to be decided. It is anticipated that the number and type of applications received will be similar in 2026 and that the number of Housing Developments will continue to increase with demand.

Since going live, in February 2023, with the online Planning Portal, the number of online applications continues to increase. In 2023 approximately 56% of all applications were submitted electronically, 79% in 2024 and we are currently sitting at 84% in 2025. The Planning Authority continues to run a dual system for both online and hard copy applications.

The number of Section 5 applications submitted this year are very similar to 2024, w 116 applications received to date. This high number of applications can largely be attributed to the Croí Conaithe Grants Scheme.

The level of activity in respect of other development management functions (e.g. applications for extension of duration, Extension of Time request, Part VIII's, Section 57 applications, etc) has remained generally consistent with previous years. In 2024, 103 compliance documents were submitted to the Planning Authority, this number has increased to 112 in 2025 up to 9th October 2025. Compliance submissions require a response within a period of 8 weeks.

### No of Planning Applications Received

Year	No Apps Received	Increase
2019	636	
2020	615	-3.3%
2021	754	22.6%
2022	563	-25.3%
2023	611	8.5%
2024	632	3.4%
2025	638*	1%

\*Estimated

The Planning Section continues to operate a public counter, in addition to telephone mornings for queries.

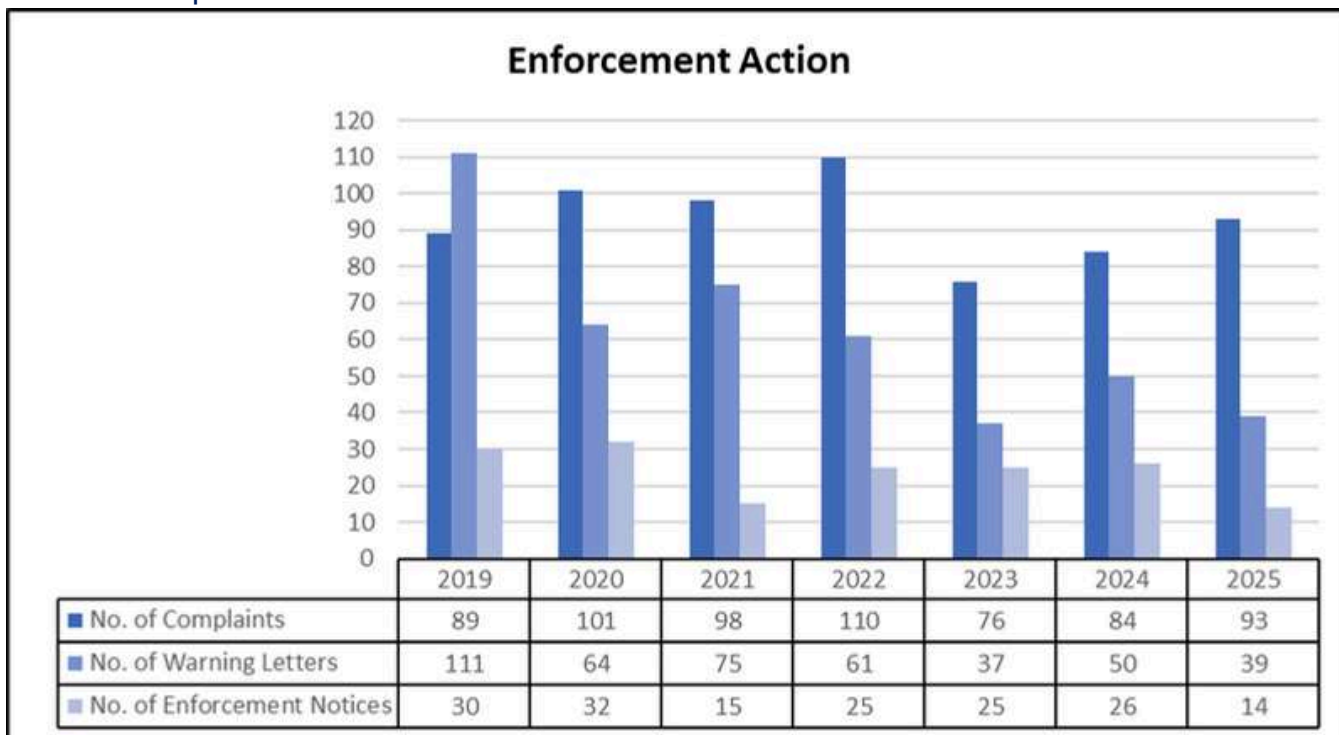
From September 2024 to the end of September 2025, the Planning Authority received 293 planning search requests, in addition to 26 relating to other matters. This level of activity is expected to be maintained into 2026.

# Division D - Development Management

## 2.0 Planning Enforcement

### 2.1 Enforcement

The number of planning enforcement complaints received during 2025 rose by approximately 10% relative to 2024. A significant number of enforcement matters are now proceeding to prosecution, and this has placed an increased demand on resources.



2025 figures up to 30/09/2025

### 2.2 Unfinished Housing Developments / Taking in Charge

Only one unfinished housing development in the County remains.

Approximately twenty-one estates are at various stages in the taking in charge assessment process, a slight increase on 2024 numbers. Five estates were formally taken in charge in 2025.

The Planning Section will continue to progress the Taking in Charge of residential developments throughout the County.

## 3.0 Forward Planning

### 3.1 Monaghan County Development Plan 2025-2031

The Monaghan County Development Plan 2025-2031 was adopted by Elected Members at a special Council Meeting on 26th May 2025 with a small number of amendments, some with modifications, having regard to the recommendations made in Chief Executive's Report and in accordance with resolutions passed by the Elected Members. Monaghan County Development Plan 2025-2031 took effect on the 7th July 2025.

# Division D - Development Management

The Council received two Draft Ministerial Directions in respect of the adopted Plan, a Chief Executive's Report on submissions received with respect to the Draft Ministerial Directions to the Monaghan County Development Plan 2025 -2031 was issued to the Office of the Planning Regulator (OPR) on 22 August 2025. The Minister of State for Local Government and Planning issued a direction to Monaghan County Council regarding the Monaghan County Development Plan 2025 – 2031 on 21st October 2025.

On 29 July 2025, the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage issued Section 28 Guidelines on the implementation of the updated Housing Growth Requirements which are set out in the First Revision of the National Planning Framework (NPF) (April 2025). The Guidelines require Local Authorities to update their Development Plans to reflect the requirements of the NPF in respect of housing. The Planning Authority is currently reviewing the status of zoned residential lands within the towns.

The first variation of the Monaghan County Development Plan 2025-2031 was agreed by Members on the 6th October 2025. In addition, the Members agreed to proceed to public consultation in respect of the deletion of a building from the Record of Protected Structures list.

Monaghan County Development Plan 2025-2031 includes several objectives, one of which is to undertake 3 village plans per year across the county, one in each of the MD areas. Village Plan preparation will commence in 2026.

## **3.2 Residential Zoned Land Tax**

The Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) was introduced in 2022. The objective of the tax is to activate land that is serviced and zoned for residential use, or mixed use which includes residential use, so as to increase housing supply and to ensure the regeneration of vacant and idle lands in urban locations.

The Annual Draft Map for 2026 was published on 1st February 2025, which included land considered to be in scope for the RZLT. Submissions were invited between the 1st of February 2025 and the 1st of April 2025. Monaghan County Council received three submissions during this period.

Determinations in respect of the submissions received seeking the exclusion of lands indicated as being within scope of RZLT on the Annual Draft Map were made in June. Landowners were entitled to appeal the determination of the Local Authority to An Coimisiún Pleanála in 2025, but no appeals were made.

Monaghan County Council also produced a Final Map for 2025 which was published on 1st of February 2025 which included land considered to be in scope for the RZLT. Submissions were invited between the 1st of February 2025 and the 1st of April 2025.

Identification of lands liable for RZLT will be an annual process going forward with a Draft Map and Final Map being published in February of each year.

# Division D - Development Management

As the RZLT was a new taxation measure being applied to existing zoned and serviced lands, provision was made in the legislation for landowners to make submissions to the local authority requesting a change to the current zoning of their lands by way of variation of the Development Plan. Four submissions were received from owners of land identified on the Final Map as being within the scope of RZLT, requesting a change of zoning of their land. These submission requests were acknowledged in April 2025 and a decision on these requests was issued by the Council in June 2025.

Identification of lands liable for RZLT will be an annual process going forward with a Draft Map and Final Map being published in February of each year.

### 3.3 Built Heritage

In 2025 Monaghan County Council administered the Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) and the Historic Structures Fund (HSF) with funding provided by the Department for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, for the repair and conservation of protected structures. Twelve projects across the County received a total of €161,952 from the Department for the repair and conservation of protected structures under the BHIS in 2025.

One project St Macartan's Cathedral was funded over a two-year period (€200k) under the HSF in 2025.

The Planning Section will continue to administer both built heritage funding schemes in 2026.

### Example of Built Heritage Projects 2025



Newbliss Gate Lodge before and after windows replacement.

## Division D - Development Management



St. Laebhan's Church before and after spire and stonework cleaning.



Before photo of Lantern at DBA Accountants, North Road and works complete on Lantern at DBA Accountants.

### 4.0 Lough Muckno and Environs Master plan

In March 2025, Cunnane Stratton Reynolds were appointed to prepare a Master plan for Lough Muckno and its Environs, Castleblayney. The study area consists of the lake and its surrounding lands, including Hope Castle, Annex buildings, park lands, farmlands, and the town area in the vicinity of the lake.

Extensive community/stakeholder consultation and analysis took place in early summer 2025. Emerging Concepts from the initial analysis and consultation have been developed for further community consultation in Q4 2025. A Draft Master plan will be produced in early 2026, which will be subject to environmental assessments prior to a final master plan in summer 2026.

# Local Enterprise Office - Monaghan

## Local Enterprise Development Services

The Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Monaghan plays a vital role in supporting sustainable economic growth and enterprise. Its work forms a key part of Enterprise Ireland's strategy to assist micro-enterprises and foster a pro-enterprise culture at the local level, delivered through Local Authorities under a Service Level Agreement.



*SPRYT National Enterprise of the Year 2025*

LEO Monaghan promotes entrepreneurship, supports business start-ups, and helps existing micro and small businesses to expand, thereby driving job creation. This is achieved in collaboration with key strategic stakeholders, including business and community groups.

LEO Monaghan also delivers economic activities under the Local Economic & Community Development Plan and the County Development Plan, while supporting the Economic & Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee.

In addition, it undertakes a range of initiatives to meet objectives within the Climate Action Plan, such as the Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Cluster programme.

## Enterprise Support Local Enterprise Development Services

Looking ahead to 2026, our focus will be on delivering targeted supports that encourage new start-ups, assist existing businesses to expand, and help enterprises address both the challenges and opportunities of the low-carbon economy, digitalisation, and export development. This will be achieved through programmes that encourage LEAN practices and the development of enterprise clusters.



*AMS Ltd Best Startup 2025 Local Enterprise Awards*

There continues to be strong demand across all categories of grant support available to local businesses. Both new and existing enterprises can access locally approved grants of up to €50,000 under the Priming and Business Expansion schemes. These grants can cover a wide range of business needs, including salaries, capital investment, overheads, and consultancy services.

In the first three quarters of 2025, LEO Monaghan approved €460,000 in grant funding, supporting 21 companies through feasibility, priming, expansion, and export market development supports. This funding is expected to directly generate 26 new full-time positions. Since its establishment, the Local Enterprise Office has provided business expansion funding to 170 local enterprises, which now employ 1,006 people locally.

While most grant aid is directed towards manufacturing and internationally traded services, additional opportunities exist for enterprises in the retail and tourism sectors. These include energy efficiency grants and supports to acquire digital technologies to drive efficiencies under the Digital for Business initiative.

# Local Enterprise Office - Monaghan

## Digitalisation Supports



The Digital for Business programme provides one-to-one consultancy support, offering tailored advice to improve productivity and efficiencies through the adoption of digital practices. On completion, eligible businesses may apply for the Grow Digital Voucher, which provides €5,000 to support the implementation of new digital software and automation processes.

The objective of the Grow Digital Voucher is to help small businesses (with between 1 and 50 employees) leverage digital tools to improve efficiency, expand market reach, and compete more effectively.



*Footy Buckets 2025 "You're the Business" winners*

To further support companies in adopting digital technologies, LEO Monaghan has once again partnered with Google to deliver the "You're the Business" initiative. Through this programme, participants gain access to cutting-edge Google technologies to help transform their enterprises.



### **Climate Action- Green for Business**

LEO Monaghan continues to lead in adaptation planning and in raising awareness of the need for the business sector to respond effectively to climate action, sustainability, and energy challenges. Working closely with colleagues in the Climate Action Team, LEO Monaghan hosts information events highlighting the supports available from state agencies to help enterprises become more sustainable.

Building on the success of the Go Green Network Series, a Monaghan LEO pilot, 21 small and micro-businesses formed an ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) Cluster. This initiative introduced companies to "ESGo", a digital tool that helps businesses track and manage their ESG journey.

These initiatives complement existing supports such as Green for Business and Energy Efficiency Grants, which provide up to €10,000 or 75% of eligible costs.

# Local Enterprise Office - Monaghan

## Entrepreneurship Support Services

Promoting and highlighting enterprise and entrepreneurship continues to be supported by LEO initiatives such as Local Enterprise Week, National Women's Enterprise Day, the Student Enterprise Programme, and the National Enterprise Awards.

## Local Enterprise Week

Local Enterprise Week 2025 (3rd–7th March) was a great success, with more than 250 participants attending events that celebrated innovation and sustainable entrepreneurship within the county.

Over 40 participants attended the launch event, a "Lunch and Learn" session organised by LEO Monaghan. This showcased the range of supports available to budding entrepreneurs and existing enterprises looking to start or expand a business through funding, mentoring, and advisory services.



A number of training events were also delivered online, providing information on sustainability, guidance on starting a business, the benefits of adopting artificial intelligence (AI) to drive daily efficiencies, as well as general tax advice. Building on this success, we aim to increase participation in the 2026 series of events, which will take place in spring



## Monaghan Women in Business Network

National Women's Enterprise Day (NWED), Ireland's largest event dedicated to female entrepreneurship, took place in October 2025. Designed and led by women, this annual initiative plays a central role in promoting, encouraging, and supporting female entrepreneurship across the country.

## Tourism Business Start Up Training

In partnership with Monaghan Integrated Development, LEO Monaghan developed the Tourism Business Start-Up Programme, designed for entrepreneurs who have identified a tourism business opportunity but are unsure how to progress it. The initiative nurtures individuals with a tourism-related idea or those in the early stages of establishing an enterprise.

In 2025, LEO Monaghan also developed similar networks to deliver Age-Friendly Business Training and to further support enterprises in the tourism sector within the county.



# Local Enterprise Office - Monaghan

## Student Enterprise Program 2025 – County Awards

The 2025 Monaghan Student Enterprise Awards were held in February at the Four Seasons Hotel, Monaghan. A total of 595 students from 11 local schools participated in the programme.

This national enterprise education initiative, funded by the Government of Ireland through Enterprise Ireland and delivered by the 31 Local Enterprise Offices across the country, engaged more than 30,000 students from almost 500 secondary schools during the 2024/2025 academic year. Students created, designed, and marketed their own businesses, with the ultimate aim of reaching the National Finals.



*Largy College Senior Category Winner 2025*



*Our Lady's Secondary School Intermediate Winners 2025*

## Other Key Supports for 2025:

**Lean for Micro:** a key tool to enhance productivity and efficiencies within organisations. LEO Monaghan will continue to promote this programme in 2026.

**Mentoring:** the mentor programme continues to operate successfully, with consistently positive feedback from participants. This underlines the importance of non-financial supports for micro-enterprises.

**Training supports 2026:** LEO Monaghan will deliver a wide range of training programmes on topics such as social media for business, eCommerce, sales and marketing, financial management, VAT and tax, and leadership. These will be available both in person and online.

**MFI Loans:** Microfinance Ireland (MFI), in partnership with Local Enterprise Offices, provides government-funded loans to support small businesses. LEO Monaghan will continue to promote this product and assist enterprises in applying for MFI loans in 2026.

## Business Information & Advisory Services

The LEO Network has formal protocols in place with Microfinance Ireland, the Credit Review Office, the Department of Social Protection, the Revenue Commissioners, the National Association of Community Enterprise Centres, Education & Training Boards, and Fáilte Ireland. These protocols govern information sharing, referrals, and inter-agency cooperation.

LEO Monaghan engages with these agencies both formally and informally, working collaboratively to assist and support job creation across the county.

# Tourism

## Tourism & Recreation Forum

The Monaghan Tourism & Recreation Forum, established in April 2024, continued throughout 2025 to work collaboratively to help deliver and progress actions within the county's Tourism Strategy, with a number of quality projects delivered. The Forum meets on a quarterly basis and in July, after 1 year in operation, a new workplan for 2025/26 was agreed by members.



Several actions/projects in the workplan emanated from the County Outdoor Recreation Plan for Monaghan which was developed by the Forum in April.

## Recent Awards

### Church Square Project

The revitalisation of Church Square in Monaghan Town was recognised with the prestigious Royal Institute of Architects Ireland (RIAI) Award for Best Urban Design 2025.



### Rossmore Forest Park

Monaghan County Council was honoured with the 'Supporting Tourism' Award at the Excellence in Local Government Awards, in recognition of the collaborative efforts of the Tourism Unit, Monaghan Municipal District, Coillte and the Town Team in the development of Rossmore Forest Park as an outstanding recreational and tourism amenity.



## Tourism Development Projects

2025 saw significant capital works undertaken to enhance the county's tourism infrastructure. Completed projects included the following:

**Dartrey Forest Enhancements** - €400,000 ORIS funding was secured for recreational enhancements to Dartrey Forest and match funding of €40K was provided by Ballybay-Clones MD. Works included trails upgrade, signage, play equipment and extended car parking.



# Tourism

**Rossmore Playpark Extension** - MCC was awarded €150,000 under the Community Recognition Fund to extend the existing playpark at Rossmore and provide play equipment suitable for older children, additional carparking and accessible seating and picnic tables. Match funding of €5k was also provided by Monaghan MD. The playpark extension and Dartrey Forest projects were officially opened by Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, Dara Calleary on 3rd April 2025.



**Black Island Lough Muckno** - €500,000 ORIS funding was granted to MCC to enhance the recreational facilities on the island. A contribution of €50K was made by Carrickmacross-Castleblayney MD. Works included resurfacing of the existing trails, drainage, new signage, viewing points, seating, bat boxes, bee posts etc. In addition to the above, upgrade works to the access bridge were also undertaken and the development project was completed in October.



## Festivals and Events

Festivals and events across the County continued to benefit from national and local investment in 2025, supporting both cultural activity and visitor engagement.

- **Fáilte Ireland (Regional Festival Funding)** - €5,000 was provided in support of the Big Tom Memorial Weekend, Brehon Brewhouse – The Gathering and Carrickmacross Street Festival.

- **Monaghan County Council Festival Funding** - €10,000 was allocated across eight events, including Muckno Mania Festival, Clan Mc Kenna Event, 25 Years of Community & Tourism in Knockatallon, Clones Development Society (Flea Market etc.), Tales & Tunes Laragh, Hilton Park Event, Castleblayney Agricultural Show and Muckno Santa Experience.

- **Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine** - €9,000 was awarded to support the Summer Street Food Festival and the Christmas Street Food Festival 2025

- **Fáilte Ireland (Festivals & Event Support)** – a further €4,000 was provided for the Long Table Event, held as part of the Summer Street Food Festival.



# Tourism

These combined investments highlight the strong level of cross-agency support for festivals in County Monaghan, recognising their role in celebrating local culture, driving tourism and contributing to the county's economy. All events were promoted widely across our social media channels, further extending their reach and impact.

## Tourism Promotional Activities

In 2025 the Tourism Unit was very active in promoting tourism and delivered a number of successful initiatives including the following:

In 2025 the Tourism Unit was very active in promoting tourism and delivered a number of successful initiatives including the following:

**C'Mon to Monaghan** - A series of unique and quirky videos (9 in total) was developed to showcase the diverse tourism and food offering in county Monaghan, rolled out via social media sites.



## Scenic Sessions

A new initiative launched in 2025, Scenic Sessions saw seven pop-up gigs staged in scenic locations across County Monaghan, showcasing local musicians and the county's beautiful landscapes. Free to attend and promoted through Monaghan Tourism's social media, the performances drove strong public engagement. The campaign was supported by Fáilte Ireland, Creative Monaghan and Monaghan County Council Arts Office.



# Tourism

## Influencer Visits

Throughout 2025, Monaghan Tourism hosted a number of influencer visits which helped to showcase the county's cultural, heritage and experiences to wider audiences. Best of Ireland visited twice, with itineraries highlighting both North and South Monaghan, while travel blogger Stephanie Buckley also explored the county during the summer months. These visits generated strong online visibility and positive coverage for Monaghan as a visitor destination.



## Diaspora

Engaging with our Diaspora is a key action of Monaghan's Tourism Strategy 2023-2028. As part of this, Monaghan Tourism commissioned a four-part short-form video series with TikTok Influencer Helen Drumm. Styled like a mini "Who Do You Think You Are?", the series followed Helen exploring her Monaghan roots, connecting with the county's diaspora story and encouraging others to do the same. In addition, the Tourism Unit has been active in supporting the McKenna, Treanor and Duffy clans in organising their gatherings in 2025 and those planned for 2026.

## Trade Engagement

Facilitating networking and organising tourism trade engagement initiatives to encourage cross-selling and package development was also a key focus of the unit in 2025.

A number of some successful networking events were organised in conjunction with Failte Ireland, including an Ideas Generation Workshop led by the Local Enterprise Office and Irelands Ancient East Champions programme in April. Two familiarisation trips for local front-of-house staff in March provided firsthand experience of County Monaghan's tourism offerings. These initiatives supported stronger industry collaboration and product development.



## Priorities for 2026

A number of the principal capital projects planned for 2026 include:

- **Dromore River Blueway Project** – Planning permission was granted in July 2025 for the Blueway development and funding is in place to deliver this project in 2026.
- **Sliabh Beagh** - €6M awarded under the Shared Island programme – this project with our cross-border partners – Fermanagh Omagh and Mid Ulster District Councils – will be a key focus for the Tourism unit from 2026 onwards.
- **Mullaghmatt Cycle Trails Pre-development** - €50,000 has been secured through the ORIS Project Development Measure to support the pre-development phase of the Mullaghmatt cycle trails, advancing Monaghan’s outdoor recreation infrastructure.
- **Interactive Map** - €36,450 has been secured through ORIS to develop an interactive digital map of Monaghan’s trails and recreational offerings, enhancing visitor engagement and planning.
- **Aires de Service** -in 2025 the Tourism Unit submitted a planning application for a stopover site in Monaghan town and a funding application to cover the proposed works was submitted under the Town and Village renewal programme. If successful, delivery of this project will commence in 2026.
- **Convent Lands** – An ORIS application has been submitted for €500,000 to support recreational enhancements. If successful, the project will commence in 2026.
- **Promotional activity** will continue to be important in 2026, and the Unit intends to deliver promotional campaigns and on-going PR activity to raise the profile of the county as a tourism destination.

# Town and Regeneration

## Monaghan Town Centre First Plan and Reuse of a Heritage Building in Monaghan Town

In May 2024 Monaghan County Council were provided with funding for the development of an integrated regeneration plan for Monaghan Town and to develop an Options Paper for St Louis Convent Lands, Monaghan through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).

John McLaughlin consultants were appointed in July 2024 to lead the development of the Town Centre First Plan for Monaghan Town and an Options paper

Work commenced in August 2024 and the initial engagement process, including online surveys, engagement with the Town Team, targeted groups, elected representatives and sections of the County Council were undertaken.



The draft plan and options paper were prepared in November 2024 and following a second consultation stage the final document was developed.

In February 2025 the final documents were presented to Monaghan Town Team, Monaghan Municipal District Council and Monaghan County Council.

Monaghan Town Centre First Plan:  
25.02.2025



# Town and Regeneration

## Strand 2 THRIVE Application St Louis Convent

Following the work carried out in relation to the Town Centre First Plan Monaghan and the Options paper for the St Louis Lands and Buildings an application was made under Strand 2 THRIVE funding for the re- adaptation of St Louis Chapel, on the St Louis Lands, Monaghan in May 2025.

Following a tender competition Craftstudio Architects were appointed to lead a design team to develop a proposal up to shovel readiness including the preparation of a Part VIII application.

The application was to sensitively transform the currently vacant St Louis Chapel building into a community hub with exhibition spaces, performance space, meeting rooms, toilets including Changing Places facility, and a café. In addition, the proposal incorporates the development of a public realm space that links the lands and building with the town centre. A key element of this is the removal of the boundary wall between the convent grounds and the car park to visually open up this area.



The Part VIII submission was approved, and a formal grant application was submitted to the NWRA for consideration in May 2025. In September 2025 Monaghan County Council were informed that its application was successful and that €7 million had been secured for the development of the project.

# Town and Regeneration

## Ballybay Town Centre First Plan

The Paul Hogarth Company (Ireland) Ltd were appointed in July 2024 and the consultation process commenced in September 2024.

A draft paper was issued in November 2024 to allow the public to have a say on the issues arising in Ballybay and through assistance with the Town team, there was engagement with schools, public representatives and the public to allow the first Town Centre First Plan for Ballybay to be developed.



Following this initial consultation stage a draft plan was developed in February 2025 and after a second consultation stage the final plan was launched in July 2025.



## Vacancy and Dereliction in County Monaghan

Following the development of a strategy to address the County's dereliction and vacancy issue the Town Regeneration Section have continued the programme of focused actions to reduce vacancy and dereliction in the County in 2025.

The proposed strategy consists of collaborating with relevant landowners, seeking in the first instance to address vacancy and dereliction using current available Governmental supports and if not successful, utilising the Council's powers as contained in the 1990 Derelict Sites Act (as amended) to address this issue.

Since the initiation of the programme 214 no Section 8(2) notices (including URDF programme) have been issued by Monaghan County Council.

In 2024/2025 – 71 no Section 8(7) notices have been issued, and these properties have been added to the Derelict Site Register (88 no in total September 2025). This number is expected to increase further by year end.

## **Compulsory acquisition process has commenced on the following properties:**

- Unfinished Housing Estate at Carrickroe – An Coimisiún Pleanála granted approval to Compulsory Purchase the front section of the site. MCC acquired ownership 19th March 2025, the Housing section to develop site.
- Derelict Structure: 13 Old Cross Square, Monaghan – Monaghan County Council secured ownership by 4th October 2024, Sale to private owner complete September 2025
- Derelict Site at 15 Dublin Street, Monaghan – Monaghan County Council acquired ownership 11th January 2025, Housing section and Capital projects team to develop.
- Derelict site at 85 Main Street Ballybay, Co Monaghan A75 RK07 – Monaghan County Council acquired ownership 11th April 2025, Property now at sale agreed stage to private owner.
- Assembly rooms, Dawson Street, Monaghan, Co Monaghan – Monaghan County Council secured ownership 11th April 2025. Property now advertised for sale to public.
- Newtownbutler road, Clones, Co Monaghan H23 YE20 - Monaghan County Council acquired ownership 1st July 2025, Property now at sale agreed stage to private owner.
- The Diamond, Clones, Co Monaghan H23 DY72 - Monaghan County Council secured ownership 9th June 2025, Property now at sale agreed stage to private owner.
- 26 Emmet Street, Carrickmacross, Co Monaghan A81 NF72 - Monaghan County Council secured ownership 2nd May 2025, Property now at sale agreed stage to private owner.
- Church Street, Castleblayney, Co Monaghan A75 VW57 - Monaghan County Council acquired ownership 9th June 2025, Property now at sale agreed stage to private owner.
- Lower Main Street Newbliss, Co Monaghan H18 TE80 – Monaghan County Council secured ownership 15th August 2025, Property now advertised for sale to public.
- Main Street Newbliss, Co Monaghan H18 KH59 – Section 17 issued 22nd September 2025, expected to be in Monaghan County Council Ownership 23rd October 2025
- 35 O'Neill Park, Clones, Co Monaghan H23 RY67 – Section 16 notice issued, An Coimisiún Pleanála to make decision on this site by 16th December 2025
- Site at Muckno Street – Section 16 notice issued, An Coimisiún Pleanála to make decision on this site by Q1 2026

# Town and Regeneration

## Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) Call 3

The Town Regeneration Section is progressing the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) Call 3 for Monaghan Town, and actively engaging with property owners, where possible, to address the long-term vacancy and dereliction in the town.

Initially the Department approved the inclusion of 17 properties on the programme however following the completion of detailed surveys, the Council has now received approval to extend the programme to include a total of 61 properties in Monaghan Town. The Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage have provided a revolving fund of €1.5million to allow for the acquisition of these properties, compulsorily or by agreement, and to place them on the open market for sale to buyers that will bring the properties back into active use. This funding is committed to 2030.

Following this initiative 3 Properties have been returned to use as commercial businesses; 17 long term commercial properties have been advertised for sale; 2 properties have been compulsory acquired by the Council. One has since been sold and the other property has been made available for purchase to the open market. The remaining properties within the programme have been incorporated in the Derelict Sites process with Section 8(2) and 8(7) notices served to date.

## Croí Cónaithe Property Refurbishment Grant Programme

The Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant was launched on 14 July 2022 and benefits those who wish to turn formerly vacant houses or buildings into their principal private residence or making them available to rent. This initiative has impacted significantly on vacancy and dereliction throughout the county as the figures below demonstrate

Municipal District	Number of Applicants	Total Approved Amount	Average Approved Amount
Monaghan MD	135	€5,602,226.50	€60,238.99
Carrickmacross/ Castleblayney MD	157	€7,089,583.31	€62,189.33
Clones/Ballybay MD	126	€5,885,706.06	€63,287.16
Total	418	€18,577,515.87	€61,925.05

To date (17th September 2025) 138 applications have been approved for Croí Cónaithe Property Refurbishment Grant with an average grant of €57,763.86 being approved.

# Town and Regeneration

Examples of properties before and after grant works carried out.



# Town and Regeneration



## Convent Lands Masterplan

Following the identification of the Convent Lands as a priority area in the Carrickmacross TcF Plan Paul Hogarth Associates were engaged in 2024 to develop a Landscape Concept to consider the future of this important area of Carrickmacross. Its aims were to secure the provision of better foot and cycle linkages with the town centre ; the facilitation of the potential expansion of the St Louis Secondary School and to provide clarity on the future role of publicly owned land in the area.

### 04 Landscape Concept Masterplan



A number of options to improve the pedestrian/cycle linkages to the town centre have been developed for consideration. The executive continues to engage with key stakeholders to identify a preferred solution. It is hoped that a preferred solution will be ratified in Q4 2025.

# Town and Regeneration

## Innovation through Regeneration Conference

The Northern and Western Regional Assembly and Monaghan County Council hosted a conference in March 2025 in the PEACE Campus in Monaghan Town to provide innovators, and experts in the field of sustainable regeneration a forum for evaluating the latest innovative regeneration projects across the island of Ireland. Over two days, regeneration practitioners and guest speakers from Ireland and Europe explored the role of innovation in regeneration.



## Proposals for 2026

Subject to available funding, the Town Regeneration unit proposes to develop Town Centre First plans for Clones and Castleblayney. The unit will progress the implementation of the THRIVE 2 development of the St Louis Chapel and campus development in conjunction with the Municipal District and other sections of the Council. Following completion of the Town Centre First Plans for Carrickmacross, Monaghan Town and Ballybay it will facilitate the implementation of projects identified in those documents.

It will continue to advance the Monaghan Towns URDF Call 3 project and in the wider County context will engage with property owners to bring vacant and derelict properties into reuse. Where necessary the Council's powers as outlined on the 1990 Derelicts Act (as amended) will be used to address problematic sites.

The unit will continue to apply for funding, where other opportunities arise implement projects that arise from successful applications.

# Heritage

County Monaghan has a very rich natural, cultural, and built heritage including archaeological monuments, historic architecture, canals, railways, wetlands, waterways, traditions, folklore and much more. Many of our natural and historic sites are protected by legislation such as the Planning and Development Act, National Monuments Acts, Habitats and Birds Directives, and the Wildlife Act and our work is guided by local and national policy such as Heritage Ireland 2030.

## Funding

The Heritage Council supports the activities of the Heritage Section through part funding of the post of Heritage Officer as well as funding of up to €37,500 towards the implementation of actions contained within the County Heritage Plan including training and outreach, awareness support and coordination of the National Heritage Week event.

The Heritage Section administers the Community Monuments Fund on behalf of the National Monuments Service in the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The fund is for the care, conservation, maintenance, protection, and promotion of archaeological monuments. Up to €100,000 euro is available for successful applications.

## Monaghan County Heritage Strategy 2026-2030

The next five-year Monaghan County Heritage Strategy will be finalised and launched in 2026. This document will set out the strategic vision, mission and strategic objectives for the management and protection of heritage in the county. It will guide the work of the Section for 2026 and beyond. In 2025, a report on the implementation of the Biodiversity and Heritage Strategic Plan 2020-2025 was produced for the Heritage Forum and a pre-draft public consultation was undertaken with an online survey, submissions and in person information sessions in libraries as well as a SWOT workshop for the Heritage Forum. All the submissions have been collated and a consultation report was produced and shared with the Heritage Forum. The draft strategy is now being developed with a view to finalising and launching the Final Strategy in early 2026.

The Heritage Strategy and associated action plans will ensure that the Heritage Act 1995 and national and regional heritage policy are translated to local actions and address local needs in a coordinated and effective way. Up to 20k has been set aside in 2025 and 2026 to allow for consultation costs, appropriate assessment, Irish language translation, design, print and consultant costs associated with the development of the strategy.

## County Heritage Plan Implementation

Through the County Heritage Plan funding, the Heritage Section have been able to deliver several projects including the hugely successful and award winning Heritage Week programme and our Heritage Week Event Grant Scheme, The Monaghan Field Names Project, Launch of the third volume of the Heritage Series- 'The Holy Wells of County Monaghan' Book and recording and publishing the sixth series of Heritage Podcasts as well as carrying out awareness and community outreach. In 2026 all of these will continue with the podcasts, heritage series of books, heritage week grant scheme and the field names project subject to funding.

# Heritage

## **Architectural Conservation Officer**

Approval and part funding has been granted for the appointment of an Architectural Conservation Officer post. This appointment which will be on a three-year basis is critical to ensure compliance with planning legislation and policy in respect of architectural heritage and conservation. The ACO will also undertake a review of RPS and ACAs and manage Built Heritage Conservation Grants Schemes and supervise associated conservation works. This strengthening of Heritage Services is a positive move to enable greater capacity for collaboration and embedding heritage considerations in all the work we do. We have requested an additional 10k to provide some funds for the new postholder in carrying out their duties whether that be running events, workshops or carrying out surveys.

## **Monaghan Heritage Forum**

The Monaghan Heritage Forum is a non-statutory advisory group comprised of representatives of local and national groups and individuals engaged with heritage. The forum advises and steers the development of the County Heritage Strategy and its implementation. The Heritage Section provides a secretariat function and ensures the smooth running of this group.

## **Heritage Week Grant Scheme**

In 2024 and 2025 the Heritage Section has offered a Heritage Week Event Grant Scheme to assist community groups holding their own Heritage Week events. This has been very successful and has resulted in a growing number and quality of events. However, there is demand for modest amounts of money to assist community groups in doing minor projects and in 2026 we would like to offer small grants for a few projects alongside the event grants. This will require up to 5k of additional funding. This should be enough to fund up to 3 Local Community Heritage projects as a pilot in 2026.

## **Field Names Project**

In 2024 the pilot project collected over 2000 minor place names and field names and in 2025 we have continued to expand to new areas in the county and included a schools project modelled on the Schools' Folklore Projects from the 1930s. Due to its success and huge interest in the project it is planned to continue this important work in 2026 and again continue to expand it out to other groups as well as prepare for the publication of a book highlighting many of the fantastic findings.

## **Heritage Podcasts and Heritage Series**

This sixth series of Heritage at the Heart podcasts was recorded onsite in 2025- and are available on our website. They capture different aspects of Monaghan's Heritage people and places. A further series will be recorded in 2026. It is also hoped to produce another volume of the Heritage Series volume of books.

## **Community Monuments Fund**

This year 3 projects were funded in Monaghan through the Community Monuments Fund.

# Heritage

## Old Errigal Truagh

20k was awarded for an ecological survey, removal of overgrowth from the Singleton and Anketell burial enclosures and for the Archaeological oversight and provision of Methodology and Specifications for the repair of the enclosures by a Conservation Architect. This work was completed in early 2025.

## Killeevan Abbey

Up to 20k was awarded for Killeevan Abbey towards the procurement of an Arborist report, for the resulting recommended tree works and for the repair of a small section of boundary wall.

## St Patrick's Well, Clonfad

30k was awarded for a research, access and interpretation project for this little known early Christian site near Scotshouse. Working with the Killeevan Heritage Group, the Heritage Section has undertaken geophysics, reconstruction drawings, vegetation clearance, access works and installation of signage as well as local outreach to school groups to rejuvenate this place of pilgrimage and veneration and ignite a passion in the younger members of the locality in preserving the site and its traditions.

## Heritage Spending Priorities for 2026

We have requested an increase of €10,000 in the Heritage budget to reflect the expansion of this team to include an Architectural Conservation Officer in 2026. This post will be fully funded by the Heritage Council in its first year and on a sliding scale for 3 years. Both the Heritage Officer and the Architectural Conservation Officer will have large programmes of work and need match funding and running costs as well as funds to run workshops, training and events.

Ongoing reliance on external funding will not provide the consistency or focus needed to address the increasing demands of heritage management. The requested minor increase in budget will ensure that the initiatives outlined are adequately resourced, enabling Monaghan County Council to engage with local communities effectively. The projected budget ensures more comprehensive coverage of all aspects of heritage management. Some key work that will be undertaken in 2026 includes:

- Public consultation on the Draft Monaghan Strategic Heritage Plan 2026-2030 aiming to launch Final Plan in Q2.
- Administration of the Community Monuments Fund and delivery of a programme of works to conserve Monaghan's rich archaeological heritage.
- Public Awareness and outreach, including full programmes of workshops and events during Heritage Week
- Proposed expansion of Heritage Week Event Grant Scheme to include small community projects.
- Continuing the series of Heritage at the Heart podcasts and the Heritage Series of books subject to funding.
- Continuing expansion of the very successful Field Names project subject to funding.
- Community workshops, survey and recording of historic burial grounds.

# Biodiversity

In 2026 the Biodiversity Officer will continue to work in collaboration with colleagues across the organisation to coordinate the Council's response to the challenge of the global biodiversity crisis for the county and embed biodiversity considerations across all council activities. The Monaghan Biodiversity Action Plan 2026-2031 is currently being drafted and will be launched in Q1 2026. A main objective of the work plan in 2025 was the establishment of a Biodiversity Working Group, a forum of stakeholders under the already well-established Heritage Forum. The group is a mix of internal and external stakeholders whose function is to support the creation and implementation of the Biodiversity Action Plan. In July, the inaugural meeting was held, with quarterly meetings going forward.

## Funding

The Biodiversity Officer operates on a budget of €100k secured in a competitive process from the National Parks and Wildlife Service under the Local Biodiversity Action Fund. There is a match funding requirement from Monaghan County Council of 15%. This fund covers surveys and data analyses on habitats and species of importance in the county; biodiversity initiatives and awareness such as the annual Biodiversity Conference. Funding has been received from the Heritage Council to assist with the initial delivery of the draft Biodiversity Action Plan (€20k with 25% match funding required). Funding of €30k from MCC budget covers engagement with Green Schools initiative; support for Tidy Towns, community groups, NGO's and partners; talks and training sessions to increase biodiversity awareness and engagement around the county.

## Inaugural meeting of Monaghan's Biodiversity Working Group July 2025



Over 30 completely free events were facilitated by the Biodiversity Office as part of Biodiversity Week in May. Attendance and feedback was exceptional.

# Community Development

The profile of the Community Development team changed significantly during 2025, with three new Community Development Support Workers recruited. This greatly increased the mentoring supports being provided to community groups.

The new staff have begun work with communities on Community Plans in the following areas:

- Emyvale
- Smithborough
- Scotstown
- Scotshouse
- Magheracloone
- Aughnamullen
- Inniskeen

Dedicated support to the community sector across the County by this team will remain a priority in 2026.

## Play and Recreation



The Council was awarded a grant of €3,000 from the Department of Children, Disability and Equality to run activities to mark National Play Day in July.

Funding of €18,887 was received from the Department towards the provision of a new play facility in the Luí na Gréine housing estate in Scotstown. The amenity should be completed before the end of the year.

Funding of €125,000 has also been secured from the Department to create a safe space for teens in Clones. A further €60,000 has been allocated in the Monaghan PEACE Plus Action Plan for the project.

The project will be delivered in phases. Phase One will include a socialising hub, an interactive zone, planting, seating, walkways a climbing wall and a mini games court.

## Healthy Ireland

In 2025, significant progress was made by project delivery partners working across both HI outcome areas. In total, approx. 4500 participants engaged in HI funded initiatives across the county.

2025 also seen the launch of the HI funded Cavan-Monaghan Connects website which provides mental health information, training and supports. Round 4 of the HI programme has been extended to the end of 2026 and will enable a review of the Healthy Ireland Framework, which will help inform future HI programmes.

# Community Development

## Monaghan Comhairle na nÓg

In 2025, Monaghan Comhairle na nÓg worked diligently on the key topic of 'Youth Mental Health'. In April, students attended the National Showcase at Dublin Castle and displayed their work to Government officials including the Taoiseach and the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality.

Monaghan Comhairle members worked closely with the Hello, How Are You? campaign and ran an event in Monaghan town in August entitled 'Bridging the Gap'. The aim was to help to foster mutual understanding and empathy across generations.

The members participated in several consultations and played a key part in the successful 'Making Places for and with Teenagers' funding application.

## PeacePlus

In April 2025 Monaghan County Council together with the Monaghan LCDC PEACEPLUS Partnership Board officially launched the county's Co-designed Local Community Peace Action Plan. The Plan secured €4,573,046 in funding to deliver peacebuilding projects across Monaghan on the following themes:

- Community Regeneration and Transformation
- Thriving and Peaceful Communities
- Celebrating Cultures & Diversity

4,573 participants will directly benefit from Projects supported by Monaghan's Action Plan, that will contribute to increased levels of social inclusion, cross community integration, and incorporate increased levels of sustained contact between those from different communities, cultural and political backgrounds.



# Community Development

## Monaghan Public Participation Network (PPN)

19 new groups registered in 2025 bringing the total number of registrations to 687. Several targeted training events occurred throughout 2025. Members also participated in a Circular Economy Workshop visit to the Rediscovery Centre and Workshops for a Wilder World in Knocknagrave Environmental Centre.



The main priority for 2026 will be to develop a new 2026-2029 Strategic Plan which will set out the key training and community development supports to be provided to our members.

## Monaghan Women's Assembly (MWA)

The Assembly continues to go from strength to strength. Events held in 2025 included a trip to Stormont and a "Women Beyond the Dail" Seminar in the Council Chambers.

Our key priority for 2026 is to engage with women from migrant and minority groups.

## Ukrainian Emergency Response

In November 2022 the government introduced the 'Offer a Home' initiative to house Ukrainian refugees. Under the Offer a Home scheme in 2025, the Council currently have 142 Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection in 47 pledged accommodations. There are currently 66 Ukrainian Refugees in emergency in 4 accommodation centres in Co Monaghan.

## Monaghan Local Community Safety Partnership

The Local Community Safety Partnership was established under the Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024 and the Safety Partnership Regulations 2025. This initiative brings together representatives from local authorities, An Garda Síochána, the HSE, Tusla, and community stakeholders to work collaboratively in addressing safety concerns and promote a safer Monaghan for all.

# Community Development

## Pride of Place

Monaghan County Council put forward four groups to represent their community and the Council for Pride of Place Awards in 2025. Carrickroe Community Development in the Population 0-300 category, Doohamlet Community Development in the Community Wellbeing Category, Friends of Rossmore Park in the Creative Communities category and Carrickmacross Tidy Towns in the Biodiversity/Climate category. The competition results will be announced at a gala awards ceremony in November hosted by Limerick County Council.



## Community Funding Schemes

Significant progress was made in 2025 in supporting communities across County Monaghan. With the assistance of funding from Department of Rural and Community and The Gaeltacht, Monaghan County Council delivered targeted investment through funding streams such as CLÁR, Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS), the Town & Village Renewal Scheme (TRVS) and the Community Recognition Fund. Monaghan County Council secured €796,450 in funding under these national programmes, with several further applications still awaiting Departmental approval.

One example of the impact of this funding is the newly built and opened community centre in Ballinode village. See picture below.



# Community Development

## Community Recognition Fund (CRF)

This fund enables us to deliver projects such as a multi-use community centre, extensions to playgrounds, improving facilities for families and creating inclusive spaces.



Looking ahead to 2026, our priority will be to continue to target funding for projects with the greatest impact for our citizens. Through these funding streams, Monaghan County Council will continue to deliver for our communities.

## Monaghan Sports Partnership (MSP)

Monaghan Sports Partnership delivered and subsidised a wide-ranging and diverse programme of sport and physical activity initiatives across the County in 2025. MSP ensure that all ages, genders and abilities are catered for with over 5,500 individuals participating in these bespoke activities. The Pop-Up Pool in Carrickmacross has catered for special population groups and primary school children. Education and Training is always a priority with courses delivered on safeguarding, coaching children and first aid.

Priority actions for 2026 will be to develop Monaghan County Council Local Sports Plan and to utilise all funding opportunities to ensure that everyone has equal access to MSP activities.

## Monaghan Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT) and Community Integration Forum

Monaghan Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT) was established in April 2024. The strategic layer, Monaghan Community Integration Forum, was established in June 2024 and meet regularly as a collaborative network and working group for supports and services provided.

In 2025, Monaghan LAIT responded to over 1000 requests for support from individuals and families and are on track to double this figure in 2026. The team has established support clinics across the county and an office in Carrickmacross Workhouse. Monaghan LAIT is committed to maintaining and building on this success in 2026.

## **Social Inclusion**

Age Friendly activities in 2025 included the launch of the Directory of Services for Older People. This booklet provides important information for older people and their families. The Beech Hill Intergenerational Project now has the support of volunteers who will edit and produce the project while the students are on holidays ensuring that the new broadcast reaches the nursing homes each week

Monaghan General Hospital received Age Friendly Hospital Accreditation in 2025. Monaghan Age Friendly and Older Persons Council supported the HSE throughout the process. This project has been shortlisted for the National Age Friendly Awards 2025. In 2026, Monaghan Age Friendly Alliance will adopt their Monaghan Age Friendly Strategy 2026-2030.

Social Integration remains a priority for the Community Section of Monaghan County Council. The Monaghan Migrant Integration Strategy 2026-2031 once adopted will focus on making Monaghan a welcoming place for migrants and help new communities understand Irish culture and traditions.

# Division E - Environmental Services

## Waste and Air Regulation

During 2026 the work of our air and waste enforcement teams will continue in line with the national environmental enforcement priorities. The current National Environmental Enforcement Priorities include the following:

- Tackling illegal waste and sites of concern
- Dealing with construction and demolition waste.
- Dealing with end-of-life vehicles and metals.
- Household and commercial waste.
- Solid Fuel Regulations
- Investigating Waste and Air Complaints.

In 2025 four full-time enforcement officers will be employed in this work area. A sizeable portion of our waste enforcement staffing costs are recoupable through a funding program administered by the Department of Climate Energy and the Environment. This funding for 2026 is expected to be in the region of €192,000.

Waste Permitting and regulation is a key area of work delivered by the waste enforcement team. Such applications fees range from €600 to €2,000 depending on the permit type and annually Environmental Services also receives a further €10,000 approximately in inspection fees. During 2026 we are likely to see a drop-off in permit applications for Soil and Stone sites in 2026, but the reduced income may possibly be offset because of the introduction of the next phase of the Waste Recovery Levy regulations in Spring 2026.

The illegal dumping of diesel wash continues to be a significant issue in the south of the county and 2025 saw an increase in the number of incidents over recent years. Based on costs incurred in 2025 recent years we can expect disposal/recovery costs to be more than €150,000 for 2026. To date Monaghan County Council has recouped all costs associated with diesel laundering since 2003 and as in previous years it is hoped that these costs can be fully recouped from the Department of Environment Climate and Communications in 2026.



*Diesel Waste stored at Council Compound.*

# Division E - Environmental Services

## Anti-Dumping Initiative (ADI)

During 2026 it is expected that funding will again be made available under the Anti-Dumping Initiative program to deliver a range of Environmental Projects. Among the projects delivered in recent years include the following:

- Cleanup projects in the Municipal Districts.
- Household waste awareness projects.
- IT upgrade to enhance enforcement work.
- Subsidised bulky goods collection at the Recycling centres.
- Agricultural hazardous waste collection days at Scotch Corner.
- Erection of fencing at problematic sites to minimise illegal dumping activities

It is expected that funding will again be made available under the ADI during 2026, and the Council will again be making an application for the maximum level of funding for a range of projects which is likely to be in the region of €100K.



## Scotch Corner Landfill Facility

In 2017 the landfilling of waste at the Scotch Corner landfill facility ceased and since then Monaghan County Council has completed all required engineering landfill capping and gas infrastructure works as required under the EPA licence. However, there are still significant monitoring and sampling works required each year to ensure compliance with the licence.

For 2026, the landfill maintenance expenditure is expected to be approximately €550k. As in previous years, the main costs will include leachate transport and treatment, EPA monitoring as part of licence requirements, sampling of leachate and waters, flare maintenance, plant hire, energy usage, payroll, as well as any additional compliance investigation works directed by the EPA.

## Historical Landfills

Closed landfill sites are classified as facilities that were operated by the local authorities during the period 1977 – 1997, prior to the introduction of waste licensing requirements under the Waste Management Act 1996.

During 2026 it is hoped that remedial works will commence on site at the Killycronaghan closed landfill. It is planned to progress the appointment of a consultant to progress design works at the Killycard closed landfill outside of Castleblayney and to progress with the EPA the authorisation of the closed landfill sites at Scotch Corner, Corkeeran, and Tiragarvan.

The progression of all closed landfill work in 2026 is very much dependent on receiving the necessary authorisations and approvals from the EPA and of for the respective sites.

To date our investigations on our closed landfills, indicate that significant remedial works will be required on these facilities, at significant cost. All costs associated with the licensing and remediation of closed landfills have to date been funded by Departmental funding and it is expected that funding will remain in place going forward.

# Division E - Environmental Services

## Recycling Centres and Bring Sites.

The Recycling Centres at Scotch Corner and Carrickmacross operate under a concession agreement, which generates a significant financial benefit to the Council, in contrast to most local authorities nationally, who incur significant costs in the operation and management of their recycling centres. The income helps minimise the overall costs associated with the maintenance and operation of the overall Scotch Corner facility. During 2026, Environmental Services will be progressing a concessions procurement competition to appoint a contractor to operate both the Carrickmacross and Scotch Corner Recycling Centres.

The Bring Sites in the county are serviced under contract with Glassco Recycling Ltd. During 2026 the value of this contract will continue to be determined by the volume of material collected at the bring sites but based on the collection figures to date, the cost of operating this service is expected to be approximately €30,000 in 2026.

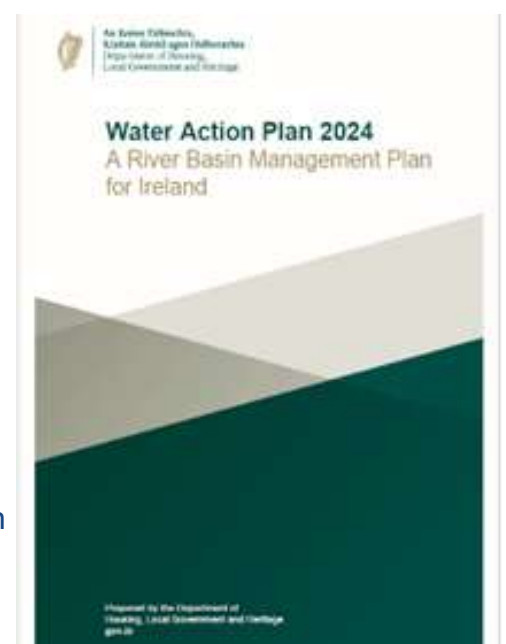
## Water Protection

The work of the Environmental Services water quality team is critical as Monaghan County Council strives to play a leading role in both protecting and improving water quality, and helping our rivers, lakes, groundwater, and coastal water to achieve a healthy state, or 'good ecological status.'

Water quality sampling, enforcement and monitoring will continue to represent a challenge for Monaghan County Council going into 2026 and beyond. The aim for Monaghan County Council and all agencies involved in water quality is to reverse the trends in nutrient discharges by identifying and implementing the right targeted measures in the right place. The national plan titled 'Water Action Plan 2024 - A River Basin Management Plan for Ireland' sets out the actions planned for implementation between now and the end of 2027.

This plan focuses on protecting and restoring water quality by preventing and reducing pollution, by restoring the natural ecosystem functions of rivers and by continuing to invest in water infrastructure. Taking cognisance of the new Water Action Plan, staff in 2026 will again be targeting specific waterbodies with a view to seeking improvements in water quality and to continue to protect waterbodies where quality is presently good.

Our RMCEI work plan for 2026 will continue to be prepared and implemented in line with the national environmental enforcement priorities for the year ahead which are confirmed by the EPA each December.



# Division E - Environmental Services

During 2026 Monaghan County Council will be availing of Departmental funding to fund staff engaged in agricultural inspections. This funding will be in the region of €150K. The focus in 2026 will be on targeted Agricultural inspections with an emphasis on high-risk farming activity and areas where agriculture has been identified as a significant water quality pressure throughout the county. The EPA have an enhanced role in the oversight and planning of farm inspections through the National Agricultural Inspection Programme (NAIP)

Monaghan County Council is required to license discharges of effluent to groundwaters and surface waters under the Water Pollution Act. During 2026 these facilities will continue to be monitored, and the Council will again aim to improve compliance amongst existing licence holders and continue to identify additional facilities that require authorisation under legislation. In addition, water quality staff will continue to deliver a comprehensive programme of sampling of rivers, lakes, discharge licensed facilities, and pollution incidents as they arise. Sampling is conducted in liaison with the EPA and assists the EPA in classifying the quality status and assessing improvement or dis-improvement of a waterbody. The cost of conducting such sampling in 2026 is approximately €60,000.

Overall, in the 2026 budget approximately €600k has been proposed to deliver water quality work across the National Enforcement Priority areas for water which includes staff costs for our water quality team.

## Litter Management

During 2026 work in this area will be in line with the new Litter Management Plan. Projected expenditure on litter management continues to be significant in 2026 for activities including scavenging, employment of a litter patrol warden, awareness activities and the Spring and Autumn clean ups.



## Environmental Awareness

In 2026, the Environmental Awareness Officer (EAO) will continue promoting, supporting, funding, and raising awareness of new and existing environmental initiatives with Tidy Towns, schools, community groups, and other stakeholders. Our EAO will continue this work in 2026 with continued support for the campaigns below:

**ReLove Fashion** through the Green Schools Programme - This innovative and curriculum-aligned competition, developed in response to the growing environmental and social impacts of the fashion industry, challenges students to use their **creative design skills** to create a sustainable and **re-wearable** outfit, while undertaking research into the fashion industry.

# Division E - Environmental Services

**Co Monaghan Green Business Hub** - The aim, to increase participation in commercial waste segregation resulting in an expanded network of businesses using the Commercial Waste Resources Toolkit (CWRT), which was produced by MyWaste. The toolkit will assist businesses to improve their waste management practices, resulting in increasing waste segregation and reducing contamination rates.



Some projects completed to date include:

- Supports and promotion to both primary and secondary schools of the Green Schools Programme.
- Provision of litter pickers, bags and skips to community groups.
- Participation and promotion of clean up events e.g., World Clean Up Day and Spring / Autumn Clean-Ups.
- Financial supports via the Environment Fund.

## Implementation of Monaghan County Council's Climate Action Plan (2024-2029)



*Climate Action Team visit to Drumlins Park Windfarm.*

Monaghan County Council has made climate action a corporate priority, embedding ambitious targets into every aspect of our work. By 2030 we are committed to:

- Achieving a 50% improvement in energy efficiency across council operations.
- Delivering a 51% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.
- Building a climate-resilient county capable of adapting to future risks.
- Engaging and empowering our communities to take climate action.

### **Progress and Governance**

The first progress report of the Monaghan County Council Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 was presented to members at the April 2025 Council Meeting. The progress report reflected the plan implementation period from January 2024 to February 2025, in line with the annual milestone of the adoption of the plan by elected members of Monaghan County Council. Since the adoption of the Plan, steady progress has been made. Of the 153 actions identified, more than 70% are either completed or underway, reflecting strong collaboration across all directorates. The cross-departmental Climate Action Team and Steering group meets quarterly to ensure delivery, monitor progress, and address emerging opportunities. Annual reporting continues to elected members and also nationally through SEAI energy performance returns and the Local Government Management Agency Key Performance Indicator return, ensuring transparency and accountability.

# Climate Action Unit

## Key Strategic Initiatives for 2026

**District Heating Feasibility:** AECOM are advancing a transition roadmap for Monaghan Town, the county's designated Decarbonisation Zone. This study explores opportunities to utilise local low-carbon heat sources — such as waste heat recovery, large-scale heat pumps, and bioenergy — to establish Ireland's first rural town district heating network. Funding has been secured from the SEAI Pathfinder Programme to support the feasibility stage of this project.

**Sustainable Energy Communities (SECs):** Building on work with Latton Social Services CLG, 2026 will see an expansion of support for community groups to develop Energy Master Plans under the SEAI SEC programme. Under the programme Monaghan County Council can provide bridging finance for community groups to develop Energy Master Plans which the council then recoups from the SEAI.

**Public Bike Scheme (Pilot):** It is proposed to develop an e-bike and pedal bike share scheme in Monaghan Town, complementing active travel investments and promoting sustainable transport choices.

**SuDS Training Programme:** A training initiative in 2026 will enhance local capacity to design and manage sustainable drainage systems.

**Community Garden & Allotments Strategy:** The development of a countywide plan will encourage food resilience, biodiversity, and community wellbeing.

**Community Climate Action Fund:** Following successful delivery of €790,000 in funding across local and cross-border projects in Phase 1, preparations are in place to maximise participation in Phase 2, opening late 2025. The Community Climate Action Programme is funded The Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment.

## Engagement and Awareness

Through initiatives such as Climate Action Week, public events, workshops, and ongoing outreach, the Climate Action Unit will continue to build awareness, participation, and show leadership in delivery of MCC's Climate Action Plan.



# Climate Action Unit

## **Central Government funding for Climate Specialist Resources**

Central Government funding is provided for specialist resources within each local authority to assist with implementation of the Climate Action Plan. The Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment fund the positions of Climate Action Coordinator and Climate Action Officer while the Community Climate Action Officer is funded under the Community Climate Action Programme. These dedicated staff resources are critical to fuelling ambition and driving investment across the full range of local authority services towards achieving transformative and measurable impact on climate action.

## **Summary**

The 2026 Budget will enable Monaghan County Council to consolidate early progress under the Climate Action Plan and accelerate delivery of key projects that drive both emissions reduction and community resilience. Budget priorities for the year ahead include advancing the Monaghan Town District Heating Study and rolling out the pilot Public Bike Scheme pilot. The budget will also support the Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) Training Programme, equipping staff and practitioners with the skills to plan and deliver nature-based solutions that manage surface water sustainably, and the development of a Community Garden & Allotment Strategy, which will promote local food growing, enhance biodiversity, and strengthen community wellbeing.

Together, these initiatives will continue to build the capacity, innovation, and local partnerships needed to achieve the vision of a low-carbon, climate-resilient Monaghan, where every community plays an active part in shaping a sustainable future.

# Fire & Civil Protection

Monaghan Fire & Civil Protection's (MFCP) primary objectives encompass the delivery of functions including, Fire & Rescue Service, Fire Prevention, Building Control and Civil Defence. In addition to fulfilling our primary objectives, Monaghan Fire Service delivered on key implementation objectives associated with national policy.



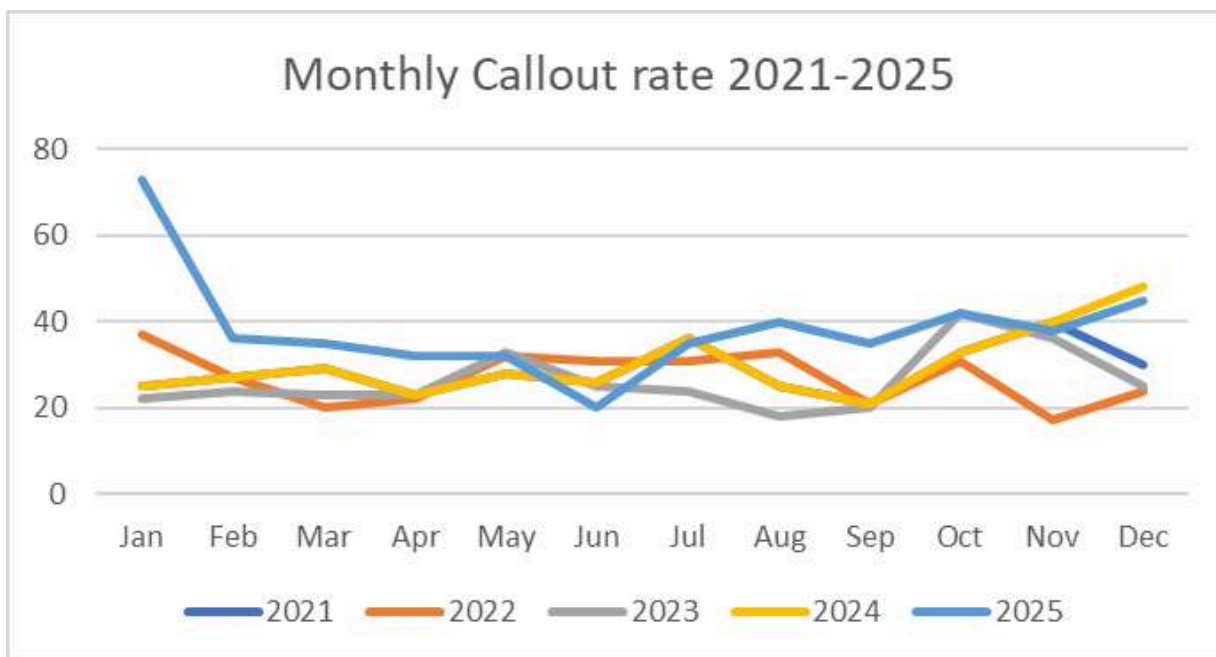
QQI Transportation Class September 2025

The budgeted expenditure for Monaghan Fire & Civil Protection in 2026 will be circa €4.9m. The increase on 2025 relates primarily to National Public Sector Pay Agreement, Fire-fighter retainer, and additional crewing levels. The majority of overall expenditure will relate to salaries and wages of officers, retained fire-fighters and administrative staff. Other operational costs relate to communications, training, health & safety, fleet and equipment (including PPE replacement), all of which are included in the forecast for 2026.

Income is collected from activity in the form of Fire Safety Cert applications, Disability Access Certifications & Commencement Notices, charging for services and the hire of training facilities. Fire Service Operational Fees are also collected for certain incident types attended.

## Fire Operations

**Expenditure:** The WRC (Fire Service) Agreement 2023 will continue to impact on expenditure for 2026 due to an increase in the Retainer, Pay Scales, Premium Hours, and an increase in the number of Retained Fire-Fighters. The payment of wages is determined on the number of calls attended. The estimated number of callouts for 2026 has been based on the average callouts over the last 5 years and has increased due to the high level of callouts attended in 2025.



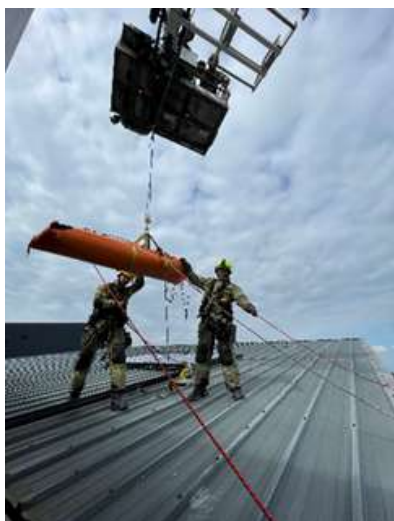
The number of callouts per month (Note: Sept-Dec 2025 projected) from 2021-2025.

# Fire & Civil Protection

**Callouts:** Road Traffic Collisions continue to dominate the highest callout category for 2025 at 19%, representing a 2% decrease compared to 2024. 'Monitoring/False Alarms' represented 13% of callouts where a fire has not occurred, but an alarm has been raised.

**Training:** Monaghan Fire & Civil Protection is obligated under both, the Fire Services Acts 1981 & 2003, and the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005, to ensure that their fire-fighters and officers are adequately trained and competent to deal with tasks and varying roles they may encounter in the performance of their duties. Personnel also require appropriate refresher training in fire-fighting courses to ensure they are competent to carry out allocated tasks.

Our training obligations and commitments for 2026 will reflect those of previous years and include development of additional personnel in each station.



*Working at heights training and basic confined space rescue training: May 2025*

**Brigade Running Costs:** Monaghan Fire & Civil Protection maintains fire appliances in 5 stations throughout the county. There are a variety of different types of appliances in operation, and appliances are serviced on an annual basis, with remedial works carried out by the brigade mechanic. The investment in our fleet is a priority in ensuring that we have a modern, safe, and efficient fleet. In addition, Monaghan Fire & Civil Protection utilises a broad range of specialist equipment in the delivery of its operational rescue service.



*Little Blue Heros' Clones August 2025*

# Fire & Civil Protection

**General Maintenance & Capital Projects:** Monaghan Fire & Civil Protection has been greatly assisted by the National Directorate for Fire & Emergency Management in enhancing the provision of Fire Service facilities throughout the county. In addition to training equipment of circa €130,000 secured in 2025, MFCP also secured capital funding of circa €1,100,000 for the provision of a High-Capacity Pump which will enable a regional response to flooding incidents.

Construction was completed on a new Fire Station in Ballybay and now provides a training tower & yard, 2 x appliance bay, training room and welfare facilities for fire personnel.



*New Ballybay Fire Station Sept 2025*

In 2019, MFCP completed a comprehensive review of its personal protective equipment (PPE) and upgraded structural firefighting garment. The upgrade package included a dedicated care and maintenance program, and each firefighter received two full sets of PPE. The current PPE package is reaching its end of life. The projected cost in 2026 for the replacement and upgrade of firefighting PPE is estimated at €247,230.

**Communications:** Maintenance and upkeep of our mobilisation capacity was ongoing in 2025 with the enhanced provision of additional security and back-up arrangements during spate conditions. Monaghan Fire & Civil Protection will continue in 2026 with its existing agreement with Dublin County Council, under Section 85 of the Local Government Act, 2001 for the provision of a mobilisation facility for Fire Services in County Monaghan. The estimated cost for availing of this service in 2026 has increased by circa 10% to €67,500. In addition, the continued contract with the National Digital Radio Service (TETRA) to enhance Command & Control and integrated communication capabilities has been estimated to cost circa €43,000 in 2026.

**Health & Safety:** The Safety, Health & Welfare at Work Act, 2005 imposes certain duties on both employers and employees. The safety and health of all Monaghan Fire & Civil Protection employees is an important objective of our organisation. MFCP will progress in 2026 with the recertification of ISO45001 Occupational Health & Safety, which will involve a detailed re-assessment audit by NSAI. The findings of this process will form the basis of activity in 2026.

Monaghan Fire & Civil Protection has retained optimum crewing levels in recent times which has enabled personnel to have a work life balance, the new crew levels under the WRC agreement will further enhance flexibility and much-improve working arrangements. The budget for 2026 has considered these challenges to ensure the safety and wellbeing of fire personnel.

# Fire & Civil Protection

**Emergency Planning:** As part of our preparedness for emergency management events, a major emergency plan is in place and covers various risks that have been identified within Co. Monaghan. The planning for such events has involved exercising procedures, conducting pre-Incident Plan inspections of high-risk premises, along with maintaining preparation for severe weather events.

**Severe Weather Event Management System (SWEMS):** Monaghan County Council continue to participate in an Inter-County Exercise to pilot the development of a national Severe Weather Event Management System (SWEMS) based on ArcGIS. Our current system allows pre-emptive actions, weather incidents and road closures to be recorded, displayed and managed in real-time. This information can be viewed against a background of risk information and external agency information to support effective decision making. In Monaghan the road closure and weather warning information are also linked automatically to MapAlerter and social media platforms.

**Storm Eowyn:** Preparation for Storm Eowyn involved collaborating with Principal Response Agencies to ensure a collective response, issuing warning and safety messages, equipment and welfare checks, and securing appropriate provisions. Prior to the Red Warning period fire crews were placed on standby one hour in advance in each station in Monaghan to ensure a safe and controlled emergency response.



*Monaghan Fire Service response during Storm Éowyn Feb 2025*

During the Red Warning period fire crews were deployed to deal with fallen trees, to ensure primary emergency routes were clear for critical life-saving emergency services and attended a domestic house fire.

**Personal & Community Resilience Booklet:** Every household and premises in County Monaghan received a Personal & Community Resilience booklet in May 2025. The aim of the booklet is to promote a safe, sustainable, and resilient community, through practical planning guidance. The Booklet has been a collaborative project involving HSE, AGS and various Voluntary Groups, with the aim to provide the public with advice, contact details and practical tips on how to be prepared in the event of an emergency.



*Community Resilience Booklet May 2025*

## Building Control & Fire Prevention

The Building Control budgeted expenditure for 2026 primarily attributed to salaries and the additional fee associated with the National Building Control & Market Surveillance Office. Activities in 2026 will include the delivery of Annual Inspection Plan, and engagement with building service practitioners.

Building Control Regulation Applications for last 6 years are outlined below:

BCAR Application	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Fire Safety Certificate	45	79	69	98	91	88
Disabled Access Certificate	17	35	47	52	56	36
Commencement Notice	212	297	210	212	307	190

**Note\* Projected number of applications for 2025**

Monaghan Fire & Building Control Authority continued with robust regulatory site inspections in 2025, and this will continue in 2026 with an integrated (Fire & Building Control) inspection and oversight regime of construction within County Monaghan.

Fire Prevention and Community Fire Safety in 2026 will continue to focus on the vulnerable people of our community, this will include an increase in hours associated with 'Fire Safety Week', extending the 'Home Fire Safety' programme & smoke alarm installations, a further focus on vulnerable people, additional school visits, and the rollout of the Bfiresafe programme in 2026.

# Fire & Civil Protection

## Civil Defence

Monaghan Civil Defence's primary objective for 2025 has been to ensure and maintain continued delivery of vital public safety support within our community, with attendance at various events and undertaking duties such as transportation, First Aid, etc.

Tasks Civil Defence volunteers have undertaken in 2025 included:

- Providing humanitarian support during storms
- Medical cover at race and fun run events & festivals
- Ambulance duties at GAA games
- Blood transfusion Service



*Civil Defence Volunteers delivering bottled water to HSE and Nursing Home facilities during the recovery period of Storm Eowyn*

Other notable events during the year included Monaghan Civil Defence members assisting with the return of the Monaghan Country Music festival, the Ulster Rally and GAA National Football League. Civil Defence Volunteers continue to make preparation for the provision and maintenance of critical services during spate conditions and severe weather events.

**Training:** Training incorporates all aspects of Civil Defence. All new members attend Induction Training, Manual Handling, Cardiac First Responder and Occupational First Aider courses. Civil Defence classes are held in the Civil Defence HQ Monaghan Town, Carrickmacross Fire Station & Civil Defence Centre Clones. In 2025 an 'Introduction to First Aid' was held in a number of schools & community groups in Monaghan and the Boat Unit continued to provide assistance to Monaghan County Council and An Garda Síochána. In addition, Monaghan Civil Defence continue to assist and participate in an 'Evacuation Centre' training exercise to test established capabilities.

**Priorities in 2026:** The key focus for Monaghan Civil Defence in 2026 will be to maintain existing Volunteer Numbers, and develop and initiate a recruitment programme, to optimise resources and to manage and maintain service delivery in accordance with statutory obligations. A review of the Monaghan Civil Defence Plan will be undertaken in 2026, this will incorporate consultation at local and national level, and the complementation of roles and responsibilities as outlined in the Civil Defence Act 2023.

# Division F - Recreation and Amenity

## Project Children is Coming to Monaghan County Museum

Monaghan County Museum are delighted to announce the forthcoming exhibition this October to celebrate the Project Children archive arriving at its new home at the Peace Campus.

Project Children was started by Irish born brothers Denis and Patrick Mulcahy and others in the United States in 1975. Project Children offered children from both Catholic and Protestant backgrounds to escape the Troubles in Northern Ireland by taking them for a seven-week stay with host families across the US.



*Project Children boarding an Aer Lingus flight to the USA.*

These summer reprieves from Northern Ireland also allowed children from the different religious traditions to mix together in a way denied most of them back home.

From October 7th – 11th a series of events will take place to mark this anniversary of Project Children including the official launch of the archive at Monaghan Peace Campus and its accompanying exhibition.

## Museum Events

### International Women's Day Celebrated at the Museum

This March, the museum was delighted to host International Women's Day in collaboration with the Women's Collective Ireland - Monaghan - Dochas for Women.



# Museum

## Museum Workshops

Easter was celebrated in the museum with a basket-making workshop for all ages. Led out by Anann's Arch Artists, participants were offered the chance to learn the ancient craft of basket weaving using items easily found or recycled from material found around the home. Great fun was had and each participant got to take their own Easter basket masterpiece home.



*Participants weaving Easter baskets at the museum's workshop*

## Museum Visitors to Bordering Realities Exhibition

Our Bordering Realities - Monaghan People & Stories Exhibition continues to attract many visitors from varied places and all walks of life. From school visits, group tours and individual visitors, we would like to share some images of our guests enjoying their visits to the museum at the Monaghan Peace Campus.



*Pupils from Scoil Phádraig, Garron, Tyholland on a visit to the museum.*



*The Toplink Group from the Rural Health Partnership enjoying their visit.*

# Museum

## School Workshops

At Monaghan Peace Campus, St Tiarnach's School, Clones participates in a fun filled Physical Theatre Workshop led out by visual artists Annan's Arch.



## Archaeology Summer Camp

In collaboration with Monaghan Heritage Office, and the Irish School of Archaeology, Monaghan County Museum facilitated a four-day hands on workshop at the Peace Campus, including a field trip to Rossmore Park.



## Live Broadcast from the Museum

Museum staff supported Deric Hartigan, TV presenter and Ireland AM weatherman, during his live morning broadcast from the museum galleries.



## **Budget 2026**

Monaghan County Museum's new strategic management plan which is linked to the objects of the Council's Corporate Plan was launched in 2025 and outlines a broad series of initiatives that we intend to deliver in 2026. As we look towards 2026, and the ever-expanding remit of the museum service in its new home at the Peace Campus we have several innovative and high-profile projects that will see the visitor base to the museum widen once again to encompass more sectors of our community.

We will be hosting a series of events and programmes that will reflect the broader scope of the museum's service provision. Burns Night will be celebrated in collaboration with our partners in the Ulster Scots Agency. We will be the host of the national Irish Museums Association conference, which will see almost 200 museum professionals from Ireland, the UK and further afield visit the museum. The theme of the conference is in keeping with our main exhibition 'Bordering Realities – Monaghan People and Stories' exploring how museums can reflect and engage on the theme of borders be they cultural, social, economic or political.

Our legacy events in connection to the cultural partnership with Project Children will begin in 2026 with the installation of a long-term display on the remarkable story of this life changing project. One that spanned over 50 years and helped to begin and influence the peace programme in Northern Ireland. We also plan to host the launch of the Project Children book later in the year.

The Museum will be working with its partners in the Peace Campus to bring delivery of the peace programme, which was the driving force behind the development of the building. This is a series of over 30 different projects and events that will be rolled out by the Peace Campus over the next five years.

We will also explore a social return on investment model that will be using peer reviewed and industry tested algorithms to develop a much more detailed picture of the positive impact the service has on the community's economic, social, cultural wellbeing.

Monaghan County Museum services the entire county of Monaghan and we'll be moving out around the county with a programme of outreach exhibitions as well as further developing our Monaghan Murals project.

The museum's collection is at the core of the service. It is what defines the museum as an institution which holds, protects and displays the material heritage of the county. As we continue to settle into our new home and begin to realise the true potential of the building, we will also continue to build on the ongoing work of caring for and conserving our collections and devising projects that allow better access to the huge amount of work that goes on behind the scenes at Monaghan County Museum.

# Library & Cultural Services

## Creative Ireland Programme 2025

The objective of the programme is to provide opportunities for everyone to engage in creativity, supporting social and economic development.

For 2025, it is estimated we will receive funding of €380,000 to deliver 30 projects across the county.

## Creative Monaghan hosts new festival: Create!

The stunning grounds of Hilton Park, Clones, came alive on Saturday, 9 August, as hundreds gathered to celebrate the vibrant spirit of creativity at CREATE! Festival of Creativity. Hosted in the heart of the border region, the festival brought together artists, makers, performers, and community members for a day of imagination, inspiration, and connection. This one-day event offered attendees the chance to sample and experience a range of creative activities. More than 400 people enjoyed a series of creative workshops, live performances, a spoken word corner, ukelele jam, yoga sessions, a Plein Air festival, tours of Hilton Park and much more. Also on-site was the Green Sustainable Market, which offered tasty food and great coffee from local producers and suppliers. Feedback has been extremely positive with attendees enjoying the opportunity to immerse themselves in creativity and chill out in the beautiful surroundings of the Monaghan countryside. Plans have commenced for 2026 Festival!



## International Opera Award

Monaghan's own Michael Gallen, musician composer from Castleblayney won the FEDORA Opera Prize 2025 - the world's top opera award! His groundbreaking work, *The Curing Line*, has earned €100,000 at the prestigious Vienna State Opera ceremony. Supported by Creative Monaghan and the Arts Council of Ireland, *The Curing Line* beautifully weaves Ireland's rich traditions with powerful themes of healing, cultural heritage, and environmental change.

# Library & Cultural Services

## SCRAP – New Sewing and Upcycling Hubs at Libraries

Serving the wider public, these hubs will offer accessible spaces for clothes repair, upcycling, and creative reuse, promoting slow fashion and environmental awareness. Call out to creatives to help setup and run the hubs, delivering public workshops, drop-in sessions by supporting the community in learning practical skills for sustainable fashion.



## Culture Night 2025

This was the 11th year for the County Council to coordinate Culture Night, an annual all-island public event that celebrates culture, creativity, and the arts. This year, it took place on Friday 19th September with 30 unique events. Thanks to the vibrant rich cultural community in County Monaghan, we were able to present a blended programme for everyone to enjoy. The County Council received €10,000 funding from the Arts Council. Total expenditure for 2025 is €26,000.

## Commemorations Programme

Following on from the success of Decade of Centenaries programme, the Department has with consultation with local authority Coordinators agreed to continue supporting local authorities in developing and supporting community-led commemorative initiatives to mark the centenaries of locally significant historical events in 1925 and in the early years of the State. In Monaghan, the programme includes history talks, creative historical workshops, One Book One County initiative and continuation of the Deep Ravine project.



## Patrick Kavanagh Centre

We continued to develop the Patrick Kavanagh Centre, with its tourist offerings as well as community and cultural programming at local level. Additional staff were employed to assist with developing the centre and the revival of the July Weekend Festival was coordinated by the centre.

A series of events took place throughout the year in collaboration with cultural and community partners, with new audiences attending.

# Library & Cultural Services

Public libraries have been transforming into vibrant community hubs, adapting to modern societal needs. To meet these needs, we commenced a comprehensive review of our processes and service delivery in line with our new library development plan and national library plan in 2025. For this year, we focused on the following key areas:

## Staff development and change management

We are leading the team through a process of change with new buildings, new team members, new workflows, strategies and programmes. We are prioritising training for line managers, and we are developing and implementing an annual training plan for all branch teams.

## Local history collections

We commenced a comprehensive review of the local history services and collections with a view to developing and implementing a strategy and action plan for 2026. This will include an audit of collections, storage and management and the identification of items suitable for digitisation.

## Additions to the Collection in 2025

Death Notices & Obituaries in The Northern Standard 1964 – 1970

Down Memory Lane Books – A collection of old newspaper clippings and photographs from local newspapers.

Our booklet “How to Trace Your Ancestors in County Monaghan” has been updated and is now available in all County Monaghan branch libraries. This booklet has proven to be very popular with people at home and abroad and an excellent resource for genealogy.



# Library & Cultural Services

## Library Centenary programme

We commenced the preparatory work for the delivery of the library centenary programme for 2028, which will be a year-long programme celebrates the 100th anniversary of Monaghan County Libraries.



## Schools programme

We commenced a comprehensive review of services to schools and are working develop a plan of action for collection development, targeted outreach to schools and improvements to the current mobile library service. We have procured a new library van which will be by end of Q1 2026.

## Enhancing our communications capacity

We are continuing to develop our marketing and promotion plan. We are designing structured ways to capture and respond to feedback from library members about our services and we are setting up an evaluation process of our events/initiatives.

## Outreach programming

Recognizing the growing issue of social isolation among older individuals, Monaghan County Libraries are progressing with targeted outreach programs. Among these, the introduction of 'Creative Cafes' has emerged as an innovative approach, providing a safe and welcoming environment for older and socially isolated people to engage in creative activities and foster social connections.

The Café's began in 2023 in collaboration with Social Prescribing Officers with a view to providing opportunities for those availing of the Social Prescribing service to engage in their local community and discover the benefits this has for their mental health.

Such was the demand for the Creative Cafes, additional funding was sought and granted through the Healthy Monaghan and Creative Ireland Programmes. We have been successful in obtaining funding though the Shared Island initiative to extend the programme with partners in County Fermanagh. The project was winner of the Age Friendly Community Innovative Award at end of 2024, which had 180 applicants.



# Library & Cultural Services

## Cultural Companions

Building on the success of the Creative Cafes programme, we have developed a new way to connect people who have passion for cultural experiences but may not always have a companion who shares the same interests. Our Cultural Companions programme gives people the opportunity to meet with like-minded people at local cultural events. More than 100 people have signed up to the programme. Events are selected by Monaghan County Libraries, the Cultural Companions gather before each event for a relaxed chat over coffee or tea and together they enjoy amazing performances, exhibitions, and cultural experiences. No more missing out on events because you don't want to go alone!



Explore Arts & Culture with new connections.  
Whats App 087 1971263 to register your interest.



Libraries make lives better



## Castleblayney Library launches new sensory room/services

On Tuesday, 29th April Castleblayney Library held a grand opening of its new Sensory Room, a purpose-built environment designed to support individuals with sensory needs. Practitioners, support services and caregivers were invited to explore the space and resources. Library staff were on-hand to demonstrate the resources and explain how the room can be booked and used.

The Sensory Room offers a calm, inclusive environment where visitors can regulate their sensory input in a safe and supportive setting. It is equipped with specialised resources designed to accommodate various sensory preferences and needs.

Key features of the Sensory Room include:

- Adjustable lighting options
- Sensory tools and resources
- Tovertafle
- Bookable sessions for private use

The Sensory Room will be available free of charge and can be booked for individual or small group sessions. It aims to make the library more accessible to those with sensory processing differences and anyone who may benefit from a sensory environment.

# Library & Cultural Services

## Monaghan Town Library celebrates one year in the Peace Campus

On 13 May, Monaghan Town Library celebrated their first anniversary at their new library in the Peace Campus. In that time, we welcome more than 180,000 people to the library, which was an 127% increase on 2023/2024.

We hosted 908 events, which we attended by more than 20,000 people. We welcome more than 6,000 students to the library with 176 school visits.



## Our Branch Libraries

Our branch libraries continue to develop and provide a diverse programme offering from Chess Clubs, Knitting & Crochet Clubs, Book Clubs, Crossword Clubs and more monthly.

**CIORCAL COMHRA**  
**CARRICKMACROSS LIBRARY**  
 RETURNS  
 WEDNESDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER  
 6.30 - 7.30PM  
 ALL LEVELS WELCOME  
 TO REGISTER CALL 042-9661148



**CARRICKMACROSS LIBRARY**  
**CROSSWORDS AND CROISSANTS**  
 EVERY MONDAY @ 11AM

Tea & Coffee provided along with pastries.  
 Irish Times Crosswords & Sudoku with answers available.

**MARCH AT CASTLEPLAINNEY LIBRARY**

<b>FRIDAY 1ST</b> 10.15AM - 11.15AM DEPTOON/EVERY LINE BAGS AND PAGES NO NEED TO BOOK FIRST BREAKFAST FROM MONEY	<b>THURSDAY 7TH</b> 11AM - 12.30PM CROSSWORDS AND CROISSANTS OPEN TO ALL NO NEED TO BOOK FIRST BREAKFAST FROM MONEY	<b>THURSDAY 6TH MARCH</b> 2PM - 5PM TECHNOLOGY CHECK OUT SYSTEM TO ENHANCE YOUR DIGITAL SKILLS BOOKING REQUIRED MARCH - APRIL
<b>THURSDAY 14TH</b> 11AM - 12.30PM LOCAL HISTORY TALK OPEN TO ALL NO NEED TO BOOK SECOND BREAKFAST FROM MONEY	<b>WEDNESDAY 20TH</b> 3PM - 5PM QUIZ STARS SHINE NO NEED TO BOOK JUST TUCK IN AT 2PM BOOKING REQUIRED TELL US AT 2PM	<b>THURSDAY 15TH</b> 11AM - 12.30PM MONEY, ABILITY COOKING BOOKING REQUIRED FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH

**BABY BOOK CLUB**  
 SUITABLE FOR BABIES WHO ARE NOT YET WALKING  
**NEXT SESSION: 5TH APRIL**  
 10.15AM - 11.15AM  
 THE FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH  
 STORY/SONGS FOLLOWED BY SENSORY PLAYTIME  
 Tea/coffee  
 No need to book

**Local History Talk**  
 BY MICHAEL BURNS  
 THE HOPE DEMESNE  
 (DIAMONDS, ISLANDS AND LEGENDS)

**Thursday 12th September, 11am**  
 Castleblayney Library

All welcome  
 No booking necessary  
 Tea/Coffee

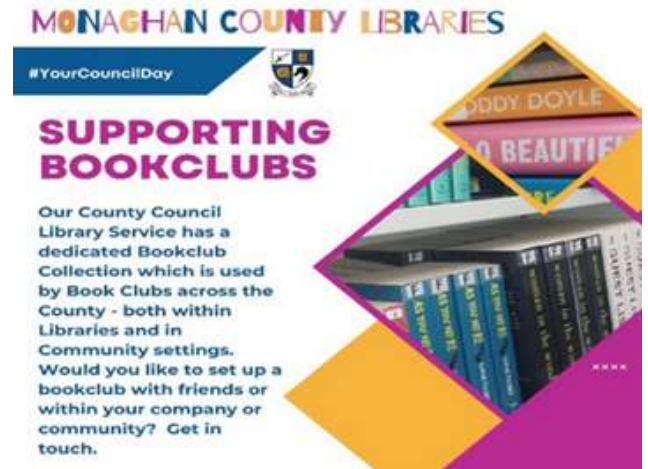
**Tummy, Toddler and Tea Time**  
 at  
**Monaghan Town Library**  
 Every Monday 11am-12pm  
 Suitable for babies/toddlers  
 Connect with other parents and bring your little one for stories, songs, nursery rhymes and play.  
 Tea/Coffee provided  
 No need to book

**MONAGHAN COUNTY LIBRARIES**  
 Right to Read at your Library

# Library & Cultural Services

## Book club in the Community

In 2023 we piloted a 'Bookclub in the Community' initiative. This has grown from strength to strength with new 'community' based clubs being established during 2025. Across the county, library staff coordinates 30 clubs on an ongoing basis and continues to grow.



## ALL Strategy – Adult Literacy for Life

Adult Literacy for Life (ALL) is a 10 year, whole-of-government and society strategy dedicated to make this happen because literacy changes lives. A programme is being rolled out in partnership with CMETB. For 2025, we continue our 'TechKnow' programme and a new programme 'Byte and Brew' social smartphone classes.



## STEAM Services & Science Festival

We continue to develop this programme which includes Engineers Week, weekly tech labs to Science Festival. We are very fortunate to have the ongoing excellent relationship with Research Ireland (formally Science Foundation Ireland) who part funds the festival.

A year-round programme has been coordinated in collaboration with partners, reaching out to the community in this service delivery.



## EUROPE DIRECT Clones

EUROPE DIRECT Clones is a source of information and advice about the EU and, in particular about the rights of EU citizens, the EU's priorities, legislations, policies, programmes and funding opportunities. It is part of a network of eight EUROPE DIRECT centres in Ireland.

EUROPE DIRECT Clones serves the Cavan/Monaghan/Louth region. We have been allocated €42,000 from the European Commission to deliver these services and programmes.



Working with our project partners, a programme has been designed with a series of workshops ongoing that will help young people learn more about democracy and civic engagement. We have now delivered the 'My Voice' workshop to more than 150 young people across Monaghan and Cavan. The 'My Voice' workshop aims to help young people recognise the value of their vote and consider issues of importance to their lives. Programme has included day trip to the Houses of the Oireachtas and the European Parliament Liaison Office in Dublin, to see how parliament works.

Celebrating the 2004 enlargement of the European Union

**Photographic exhibition in Clones Library  
May 2025**

Barbara Golec-Regiec, a Polish-born and Monaghan-based photographer, captures personal stories behind the 2004 enlargement of the EU by photographing individuals who journeyed from the new member states to make Ireland their home.

This exhibition was curated by EUROPE DIRECT Clones and Creative Monaghan, funded by the European Commission through EUROPE DIRECT Clones.

EUROPE DIRECT Clones logo  
Creative Monaghan logo  
Clones Library logo  
Other partner logos

## European Project on democracy and civic engagement (FUTU4U)

Monaghan County Libraries are continuing to work on a European project (named FUTU4U) with partners in Finland, Slovenia and Italy. The project aims to help young adults get involved in the democratic process and make sure their voices are heard.

## **Cultural Services 2026 Priorities**

### **Cultural Development and Supports**

A budget required to support new areas of cultural development and enhance others which are not currently being supported.

### **Festivals & Events Policy – Implementation/Review**

Led by Cultural section across the local authority, to implement and ongoing review of this new policy, streamlining processes, providing advice/assistance and reporting on council's support to developing festivals/events.

### **Creative Ireland Programme**

Monaghan County Council Culture and Creativity Strategy is based on a collaborative and partnership-based programme, which will enable greater awareness of and participation in the cultural life of the County. It is anticipated that a grant of no less than €194,170 will be allocated to Monaghan County Council to support the 2026 programme, with additional funding opportunities for thematic projects.

### **Commemorations Programme**

The Dept has provided €15,000 for 2025 to support a programme and we anticipate same level of support for 2026. However, due to the interest and want from the community to build on the previous 10 years of programming, we require additional funding to match the Dept grant.

### **Culture Night**

A budget of €20,000 will be required along with grant of €10,000 from the Department of Culture, Heritage, and Gaeltacht to deliver this very successful and engaging programme of events promoting and highlighting the creative and cultural sector of County Monaghan, which is developing each year.

# Library & Cultural Services

## Library 2026 Priorities

### Library Development Plan 2024

Launched in December 2024, this new strategy will shape the growth and development of the service over the next five years. For 2025, in collaboration with key partners adequate budget is required for same. However, we will proactively identify funding opportunities to deliver collaborative programming.

### Library Centenary programme

We will finalise plans for the centenary programme 2028. For 2026, we will focus on enabling background research from which the story of the centenary will be informed.

### Development of Programming at Libraries

Our new libraries will require additional funding for the maintenance, upkeep of the buildings with an enhanced library programme of activities will be developed to meet the needs of the communities they serve.

### New Schools Mobile & Development of Service

A new schools mobile van will be on the road during 2026, which will assist us in further development of this key service to rural preschools and primary schools.

### Ballybay Library

We will progress the plans for Market House, with the tendering and appointment of contractors to commence works.

### Archives Services

We have been successful in securing funding to employ an Archivist and commence a programme of works on our Archives.

### Reader Development Budget

The Monaghan County Library Right to Read Action Plan for 2026 will continue its focus from Children's Literacy to develop a full Adult Literacy and Readers Development Programme aligned to the national Adult Literacy for Life strategy. This will provide a coordinated framework of literacy support and development throughout the county.

### FUTU4U

We will continue to work through phases 2 and 3 of FUTU4U European project on democracy and civic engagement, bringing our workshops to policy makers and multipliers in the sector.

# Library & Cultural Services

## **EUROPE DIRECT Clones**

We will continue to provide a source of information and advice about the EU and host a range of events and activities across the region to communicate the work of the European Union locally. These will include digital skills training, biodiversity and sustainability initiative under the European Green Deal. Ireland will hold the Presidency of the European Union from July to December 2026, which will bring more opportunities for communicating the work of the European Union locally.

## **Local history collections and digitisation of cultural heritage**

We will continue our work to develop and deliver quality, standards-based digitisation programmes for priority areas of our local history collections. Our aims will be to preserve cultural items in a second format and extend the life of the collections; make documents more accessible by allowing users to search the full text of the documents or to serve users in remote locations; enhance the profile of Monaghan County Libraries and increase user engagement.

## **Science Festival/STEAM Programme Budget**

From the establishment of the festival in 2016, it is now a yearlong programme of STEAM engagement. We apply each year for the Science Festival funding from Research Ireland and anticipate support of €40,000 in 2026, with support of €28,000 from our own resources to deliver an extensive annual STEAM programme for the council. We will continue to investigate the employment of a dedicated STEAM officer within the library service who will work collaboratively with all sections of the council, local agencies and communities to deliver an annual programme, while seeking opportunities for additional funding.

## **Patrick Kavanagh Centre 2026 Priorities**

### **Resources**

We will seek to invest in specialised workforce at the centre, to support the ongoing cultural, tourism and economic developments.

### **Strategy & Programming Development**

We will launch a new strategy which will look at the short to long terms key priorities for developing centre as a cultural and tourism offering. Key is the development of outreach programming and marketing, requiring investment.

### **Infrastructure Development**

Key areas include the requirement to update or enhance the exhibition offering, office and storage capacity and due to nature of heritage building, ongoing works to protect same. We will endeavour to seek funding opportunities.

# The Arts

## Principle activities in 2025

Our principal objectives in our spend for 2025 was to follow suit over the last few years in aligning our actions to our framework agreement with the Arts Council 2020-2027.

We increased our investment in the goals as outlined in our three shared Strategic Actions(below).

We fulfilled our mandate in delivering a new Arts Strategy 2025 -2031 this year, which was adopted at the July Council meeting.

Embedded in this strategy is our commitment in investing in the Arts over the duration of this timeframe. In the Council's commitment and delivery of the Arts in the County we can be assured that any investment into the lifetime of this new strategy will be delivered in a sustainable, measured and decisive model, while maintaining our commitment our 3 strategic goals.

The three key objectives as outlined below are the cornerstone of our spend while maintaining & sustaining a vital role for the arts in our civic society of Monaghan.

Some of the updates in our 2025 delivery are as follows:

### 1. Supporting the Artist:

Value and support the work of artists and extend the range of opportunities for artists to develop their practice.

- The Council awarded Bursaries directly to 20 Artists through our Artist Support Scheme of **€18,000** (an increase of €3K from 2024)
- We assisted 3 Artists with extra funding through our Value-added Scheme as they had been successful in garnering bursaries from The Arts Council total **€3K**.
- 6 Artists from the county were successful in being awarded a residency at the Tyrone Guthrie Centre were supported with a one-week payment towards their stay total **€3K**
- We maintained our support & resource Clones Artists' Studios throughout the year; some upgrade and works carried out to repair wood rot added to extra costs incurred.
- The Council continues to subsidise the Workplace artist studio in Market square, Carrickmacross.

### 2. Young people and the Arts.

opportunities for children and young people to create, access and participate in great art.

- Our largest investment through this objective is our continued investment in Music Generation empowering children and young people to realise their full potential through access to, and participation in, high quality performance music education. Total **€30K**.
- Our Local Arts in Education Partnership (LAEP) continues to invest & deliver Bursaries, outreach programme and training modules focusing on combining community organisation along with our partners Cavan CC & CMETB we invested €10,000 through this initiative.
- We delivered 4 Arts Bursaries with our national Partners the National Youth Council of Ireland (NYCI) in association with youth focused groups in the county with **€9,000**.
- We enhanced our extra stipend to the Arts Councils Creative Schools Programme by responding to specific elements of their delivery that may gain from extra resources, Total **€4K**. 20 schools in County Monaghan have now benefited from this Arts Council initiative.
- A long-term commitment has been made in supporting **Tradoodle Festival**, Ireland's only traditional arts festival dedicated to children and families. Tradoodle 2025 takes place each October in venues and settings in county monaghan. **€8K**

## 3. Creating Capacity

Investing in the professional development of venues, festivals and organisations providing high-quality arts experiences

- We awarded 7 partnership funding in the county for those who deliver elements of these objective totalling **€75K**

- 2 key partners under this scheme managed to secure extra funding from the Arts Council thus triggering our added increase to them

The Garage Theatre, Íontas Arts Centre, Castleblayney Drama Festival, Clones Film Festival Féile Patrick Byrne, Muckno Mania, N/East Musical & Dramatic Society.

- A continued investment by the Arts office is the funding and support we allocate to the Patrick Kavanagh centre especially through their Kavanagh weekend with **€25K**.

- We partnered with the Tourism and Creative Monaghan sections in supporting the new initiative of Scenic sessions **€3K**.

- We invested **€5K** towards Michael Gallens newest venture especially as he was the recipient of the largest Operatic prize in Europe for 2025 (he received €100K)

- The Market House is an important resource which is made available to numerous groups in the county as a rehearsal, Performance and exhibition venue **€20K**

- We have for the 1st time and in the history of both venues committed to co-producing the most recent work of the celebrated dramatist John McArdle, A Twilight Dream to be stage in March of 2026 **€10K**

**Spending Priorities for 2026**, in line with some commitments made in our new Arts Strategy, we shall be increasing our:

- Arts Partners Grant scheme to increase by €10K to **€85K**
- The Artist Support Scheme will increase by €3K to **€21K**
- Increased Creating capacity investment, & new projects **€10K**
- Increase of Music Generation investment **€10K**
- A producers Forum by Rough Magic Theatre Company in association with Garage **€15K**
- The Final co-productions costs of John & Tommy McArdles play **€22K** in March performed in both the Garage Theatre & Iontas

## Division G - Agriculture, Health and Welfare

In 2026 Monaghan County Council will continue to provide dog and horse control services within the county. This includes the provision of Pound facilities for detaining dogs and horses, and registration and inspection of Dog Breeding Establishments in the county.

The provision and operation of the Dog Pound facility is contracted by the Council to a third party. Income from dog licencing and dog control activities continues to perform well and is among the highest per capita compared to other local authorities around the country.

# Division H - Miscellaneous Services

## **Corporate Services**

Corporate Services provides support to Senior Management, the Cathaoirleach and Elected members. It is also responsible for the organising and managing of monthly Council Meetings, Corporate Policy Group Meetings, Statutory Budget and Annual meetings. The section also co-ordinates the preparation of the Corporate Plan, Annual Report, Annual Service Delivery Plans, Customer Care Plan, NOAC Performance Indicators and the review of the Risk Register.

In addition, the Section has a significant role in terms of governance, ensuring the Council is compliant with the Ethics Framework, General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), Freedom of Information and Access to Information on the Environment.

Corporate Services supports the role and function of the independent Audit Committee. The Audit Committee is part of the governance framework, tasked with considering and advising the organisations internal control systems and providing assurance to the management team and the elected members of the Council regarding the suitability of governance systems.

## **The Register of Electors**

Corporate Services are responsible for the management of the Register of Electors, which includes processing applications for entry onto the Register and for update of details on the Register.

At the beginning of 2025, our primary focus was on clearing the backlog of applications following the General Election held in November 2024, as well as processing undelivered polling cards. This resulted in the removal of over 1,000 names from the Register.

The most significant body of work involved delivering Phase I of the Local Government Electoral Registration System (LGERS) Project. The project aims to enhance the quality of electoral data ahead of migration to a centrally managed system in 2026, as mandated by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

This phase required extensive standardisation of the Register data, including technical preparedness, field standardisation, implementing set out conventions, Irish translation of townland names and all reference data, identification and elimination of migration blockers (such as incomplete or inconsistent data, invalid character, unused or duplicated data etc.), and ensuring overall data quality (such as completeness and accuracy). This was an intensive and resource-heavy process, completed well in advance of the September 2025 deadline.

Following publication of the Electoral Commission's first Annual Report on the Registers of Electors, attention shifted towards improving accuracy indicators. Letters were issued to nearly 7,000 electors missing a date of birth or Eircode. Over 40% responded, updating their records, leaving just over 4,000 electors without these key details - a strong engagement outcome. These efforts addressed concerns raised by the Electoral Commission regarding duplicate and redundant entries in our Register.

# Corporate Services

Phase II of the LGERS Project commenced in July with a focus on managing duplicate records nationally. Approximately 30% of our identified lead duplications have been resolved, with completion expected by the end of November 2025.

In September, Register Field Workers visited secondary schools to register and pre-register students in 6th Year (aged 16–18). Presentations on voting participation encouraged students to promote registration awareness among their families via checktheregister.ie. This initiative generated over 600 new registrations and pre-registrations. We have been recognised by the Electoral Commission in their Report as one of the counties with the highest pre-registration rates.

With the Presidential Election 2025 underway, significant increases in applications and updates have been managed in preparation for polling day on 24th October 2025. Post-election maintenance, such as clearing the back log of applications received after the latest date for receipt of applications and processing of returned polling cards, will be carried out before the end of 2025.

Our overall progress in improvement of data quality, as demonstrated in the figures provided below:

	<i>Year End Figures 2024</i>		<i>Current Figures October 2025</i>	
<i>Total Electorate</i>	<i>53,272</i>		<i>51,917</i>	
<i>Electors with DOB</i>	<i>41,770</i>	<i>78.4 %</i>	<i>43,570</i>	<i>83.92 %</i>
<i>Electors with Eircode</i>	<i>27,977</i>	<i>52.52 %</i>	<i>32,241</i>	<i>62.10 %</i>
<i>Electors with DOB &amp; Eircode</i>	<i>24,061</i>	<i>45.17 %</i>	<i>28,069</i>	<i>54.06 %</i>
<i>Electors with PPSN</i>	<i>9,605</i>	<i>18.03 %</i>	<i>13,115</i>	<i>25.26 %</i>

## Key Projects for 2026

### 1. Migration to the Central Database (LGERS Project)

Work will continue to meet the October 2026 deadline for migration to the national electoral database, in line with the LGERS Project requirements.

### 2. Data Cleanse

Efforts will focus on improving accuracy indicators and addressing over-registration, as highlighted by the Electoral Commission. Building on the success of the 2025 correspondence campaign, targeted letters, supported by IT-generated reports, will again be issued. This process is resource-intensive, requiring significant staffing, postage costs, as up to three documented contact attempts are required before any removal from the Register, as required by law.

### 3. Polling Scheme Review

The last polling scheme review occurred in 2015. It is a statutory requirement under Section 28 of the Electoral Act 1992 to review the polling scheme at least once every 10 years. This review will evaluate current division of electors into polling districts, the suitability of polling places in terms of convenience and geographical distances, and the capacity of polling stations. Close collaboration with the County Registrar and Court Services will be necessary and public consultation and approval from the Council will be essential for any proposed changes.

## **Funding from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)**

The Department has provided funding to enhance Register data quality, primarily supporting additional resources for the Franchise Section and covering associated costs such as postage.

Monaghan County Council has also received funding from DHLGH to recruit two Clerical Officers on 18-month contracts to manage increased workloads and meet the requirements of managing a modern electoral register. This reflects an overdue shift in prioritisation of the Register, both nationally, by the DHLGH and the CCMA, and locally, by Senior Management and the Elected Members.

Data cleansing will continue beyond the migration onto the central database with an Accuracy Audit to international standards scheduled to be carried out within one year of transfer to the central database in 2026. Findings will guide further improvements to ensure a complete and accurate Register ahead of the 2029 Local Elections.

It is anticipated that this funding is going to be provided on a multi-annual basis by the DHLGH to support the proper and effective management of the Register, accuracy audits and delivery of action plans to satisfactorily address the concerns raised in the Electoral Commissions Report.



## **Data Protection and GDPR**

In accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018, Monaghan County Council remains committed to upholding the fundamental rights of individuals to privacy and the protection of their personal data. As a public sector body and designated Data Controller, we are legally obligated to ensure that all personal data under our stewardship is processed lawfully, fairly, and transparently.

In 2025, Monaghan County Council continued to develop best practice to ensure compliance and demonstrate accountability under GDPR and data protection. This work included developing and implementing the necessary policies, procedures, and protocols, processing personal data in an open and transparent manner, and delivering staff awareness raising and training.

Failure to comply with GDPR can result in significant reputational damage and financial penalties. Therefore, this budget includes provisions to strengthen our data governance framework and enhance staff training, reflecting our ongoing commitment to the protection of citizen data in all aspects of service delivery.

# Corporate Services

## Corporate Policy Group (CPG)

The Corporate Policy Group is chaired by the Cathaoirleach and is comprised of the Chairpersons of the Council's Strategic Policy Committees. Essentially the CPG fulfils the important role of a 'cabinet' of the Council. It has a central role to play in all matters of policy coming before the Council for consideration and adoption. It also has a major role in the preparation of the annual budget.

## Strategic Policy Committee (SPC)

The Strategy Policy Committees are designed to strengthen the policy development role of the elected members and are supported by the executive. Each SPC has six elected members and six sectoral representatives. The SPC's Chairpersons are as follows:

SPC for Housing - Cllr Colm Carthy

SPC for Transport - Cllr Raymond Aughey

SPC for Economic Development and Enterprise - Cllr Sean Gilliland

SPC for Climate Change and Environment - Cllr Richard Truell

SPC for Tourism, Rural & Community Development;

An Ghaeilge & Cultural Services - Cllr Sean Conlon

## Coiste Gaeilge

Tá na tosaíochtaí seo a leanas ag Coiste Gaeilge na bliana 2026:

- Scéim Scoláireachtaí Gaeltachta a leithdháileadh
- Eagrú imeachtaí sa Chontae as Gaeilge,
- Tacú a tabhairt do grúpaí áitiúla chun páirt a ghlacadh i Seachtain na Gaeilge
- Scéim Teanga a fheidhmiú
- A chinntiú go gcomhlíontar Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla, arna leasú, agus go háirithe forálacha faoi Alt 10A maidir le fógraí

The Coiste Gaeilge have the following priorities for 2026:

- Allocate annual Gaeltacht Scholarship Scheme
- Host events in the County as Gaeilge
- Support local groups to participate in Seachtain na Gaeilge
- Implement Scéim Teanga
- Ensure compliance with Official Languages act as amended and in particular, provisions under Section 10A regarding advertisements.



*Gaeltacht Scholarship 2025 Awards Night in the Peace Campus*

## **Communications, Brand & Innovation**

This is an emerging and increasingly strategic function within Monaghan County Council. It plays a vital role in shaping the Council's identity, enhancing public engagement, and driving forward-thinking initiatives. As the organisation evolves, this function will continue to foster cross-departmental collaboration, champion innovation, and ensure that the Council's values and vision are clearly communicated both internally and externally.

The function also holds responsibility for overseeing all internal and external communications tools — ensuring consistency, accessibility, and alignment across platforms, channels, and audiences. In 2026, the Council will launch a place brand identity — a key milestone in building a compelling narrative that positions County Monaghan as a great place to live, visit, work, and do business. This place brand will work in synergy with our corporate brand to strengthen recognition and pride in the county.

Following this, a comprehensive communications strategy will be developed, setting out a five-year framework for how Monaghan County Council communicates with its stakeholders, ensuring consistency, transparency, and impact across all channels.

## **Procurement**

Monaghan County Council's procurements are governed by EU and National rules which include the principles of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, namely transparency, mutual recognition, equal treatment of tenderers, non-discrimination, and proportionality. Monaghan County Council continued to develop best practice to ensure compliance and demonstrate accountability with these rules. This work included developing and implementing the necessary policies, procedures, and protocols and providing staff training on procurement best practice.

In 2026 Monaghan County Council will develop and commence the roll out of a ProcRef system ensuring that no goods/services or works are bought and paid for unless proper procurement procedures are complied with.

The Procurement Unit provides an overarching service to all departments to guide and support staff members in their procurement requirements and ensuring that corporate procurement compliance is adhered to.

## Health & Safety

The Health and Safety Section's primary objective for 2026 is to provide and maintain the Health and Safety Management System and to continue to provide advice and assistance on matters of health and safety. Over the past number of years the section has purchased and installed defibrillators throughout the county. The unit maintains these defibrillators and replaces a number of parts each year that that are either used or through vandalism.

The HSU budget covers the following areas:

- Salary and Expenses
- First Aid Supplies
- Stationery and Sundries
- Defibrillator Maintenance - additional provision of 8K for purchase of new coded defibrillator boxes in 2026.
- Additional 2K provision for Monaghan County Council hosting the Regional Local Authority Safety Officers Group (LASOG) in Sept 2026.

## Corporate Services Budget 2025 vs 2026

Corporate Services expenditure in 2025 was €1,841,465. Budget 2026 will largely be in line with budget 2025 with some increased expenditure on Register of Electors Data Cleanse and the migration to the single national voter.ie register.

# Human Resources

Human Resources plays a central role in enabling Monaghan Council deliver on its statutory responsibilities and strategic objectives. As the workforce is the organisations most valuable resource, HR provides the framework for effective recruitment, development and retention of staff while ensuring compliance with national policy and employment legislation. Human Resources has increasingly focused on Workforce Planning, staff engagement and promotion of a positive and inclusive workplace culture.

Human Resources continues to support the Council in adapting to evolving service demands through initiatives in learning and development, digital transformation of HR processes, staff wellbeing initiatives, management of pay, pension, industrial relations and workforce data.

Our 2025 budget of €1,250,153 was provided to resource the HR function. While this allocation enables the continuation of services, it remains constrained in the context of growing workforce demands and increasing emphasis on staff development and wellbeing.

## Staff Headcount

The staff complement for Monaghan County Council as at 30th September 2025 was:

Core Staff	Number	Whole Time Equivalent
Managerial	5	5
Clerical/Administrative	222	210.8
Professional/Technical	97	95.6
Outdoor	128	121.5
<b>Total Core Staff</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>432.9</b>
<b>Other Staff</b>		
Contract Posts	17	15.66
Temporary/Seasonal	8	8
Retained Firefighters	60	N/A
Non DHP&LG	2	N/A
Apprentices	5	5
<b>Total Other Posts</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>28.66</b>

# Human Resources

## **Strategic Workforce Planning**

Monaghan County Council's Strategic Workforce Plan has been finalised and submitted to the Department in advance of the deadline of the 30th June 2025. The Strategic Workforce Plan sets out our vision and our continued commitment to maintain and build a skilled, resilient, diverse, and agile workforce capable of meeting the evolving needs of Monaghan communities and the national policy agenda.

At the heart of this plan is a proposed new structure – designed not simply to improve how we work by supporting efficient and effective service delivery, but to unlock potential synergies, promote collaboration, and support staff development and progression. This structure is intended to make our Council more responsive, innovative, and sustainable.

The new structure reflects our priorities: supporting our rural and urban communities, the highest standards of governance, supporting our Elected Members, the importance of preserving and promoting our culture, heritage and the Irish language, the need to support economic and tourism development and town and village regeneration, recognising the Council's role in emergency management, our ethos of innovation, and our climate action commitments.

## **Recruitment**

To date in 2025, the Human Resource Management Section has successfully conducted 30 recruitment competitions. As a result of these processes:

36 new staff members have been appointed to positions across the Council.

23 internal promotions have been facilitated, supporting career progression and talent retention within the organisation.

## **HR Payroll and Superannuation System (Core)**

In June 2025 the HPSS Programme Board considered and approved a business case for the provision of online payslips for wages staff, elected members and pensioners.

Planning details of the project are being finalised with the pilot site.

An update with full details and rollout schedule will be provided in 2026.

## **Gender Pay Gap Reporting**

In 2025 the Gender Pay Gap report must be published in November: 5 months after the snapshot date in June (6 months was allowed previous to this).

In 2025 Monaghan County Council was a pilot site to test updates on the Gender Pay Gap dashboards. Testing and the validation of data was completed mid-September and the updated dashboards have been rolled out to the sector.

# Human Resources

## Training and Development 2025

A total of 123 Training courses (Face to Face/Online), Seminars, Webinars and Conferences were attended by various staff in Monaghan County Council from 1st January 2025 to date.

This figure includes a total of 39 In-house training courses outlined below.

Induction Training was delivered to 36 New Entrants from 1st January 2025 to date.

In-house courses delivered in 2025

Course Title
Abrasive Wheels Training
Age Friendly Housing and Public Realm
Basic Road Opening & Reinstatement
Bridge Inventory Survey
Chainsaw Training - Refresher
Commercial Rates Law Training
Commercial Vehicle Road Worthiness training
CSCS H & S at Roadworks
Defib-CPR Training
Driver CPC - Module 4
Effective Competency Based Interviewer Training
Fire Warden Training
First Aid Training
Front Loading Shovel Training
GDPR Training
IAT Training
Interviewer Competency Based Training
Interviewee Competency Based Training
IOSH Safety Health & Environment for Construction Site Managers
Line Manager & Leadership Training
Line Manager Training
Location of Underground Services - Refresher
Lunch & Learn - Cold-mix RAP technologies, and Abnormal Loads
Managing Aggressive Behaviour
Mandatory Training programme for Data Protection Liaison Officers
Manual Handling
Lunch & Learn Pension Information Update
Playground Training - Routine Inspection
PMDS Training

## Third Level/Further Education

A total of 23 staff members were provided with financial assistance to pursue courses of further education which demonstrates a willingness by Management to support a culture of continuous learning and development in the organisation.

# Human Resources

## Staff Awareness Day

The Staff Awareness Day took place on the 2nd April 2025 in the Carrickmacross Civic Offices. The event included presentations from Robert Burns, Chief Executive, Carmel O'Hare, Directors of Service, Frances Matthews, Wellbeing Officer and Damien Thornton Coordinator of Municipal District of Carrickmacross-Castleblayney.

Following the presentations, there was a walking tour to the Dog Park, Pop-Up Pool and C-Tek II, followed by lunch at the Civic Offices and a tour of the Workhouse.

Feedback from attendees has been very positive.



## Line Manager and Leadership Development Programme

Monaghan County Council launched its new in-house Line Manager and Leadership Development Programme on 17th September 2025 in the Peace Campus. This first module brought together line managers from Administration, Engineering, Technical and Outdoor Services for a day of leadership reflection and development.

The programme featured a “fireside chat” with Cathaoirleach Cllr. PJ O’Hanlon and Chief Executive Robert Burns, facilitated by Irwin Turbitt, alongside interactive group activities and contributions from HR.

This launch marks the beginning of a multi-module programme that will run over the course of the year designed to support, develop and empower line managers as a vital part of building organisational capacity and delivering excellence in local government.



# Human Resources

## Health & Wellbeing Report

Monaghan County Council is committed to fostering a supportive and healthy workplace for all our staff through a range of ongoing and future wellbeing initiatives.

We continue to partner with Spectrum.Life, which provides comprehensive digital health and wellness services, including the Employee Assistance Programme (EAP). This service offers a confidential helpline via freephone or text for all staff and their families. In 2025, the Council took advantage of three webinars provided by Spectrum.Life:

- Optimise Your Mental Wellbeing
- Caring for Yourself, Caring for Elderly Family Members
- The Psychology of Healthy Eating

A key milestone for staff wellbeing was the establishment of a new Wellbeing Committee and the launch of the Council's first Staff Wellbeing Strategy on National Workplace Wellbeing Day, 30th April 2025.

The Wellbeing Committee organised a series of successful events throughout the year, including:

- National Workplace Wellbeing Walk
- Bring Back the Buzz Canteen Boxes
- Wellness on Water event
- Step Up to Stamp Out Stigma – Shine's Green Ribbon Campaign
- Walktober Challenge
- Lunchtime Pension Information Sessions
- Eileen Burke Functional Nutritionist Talk (part of Cavan Monaghan Science Week)

Additionally, the Wellbeing Committee promoted several corporate initiatives, including special staff rates for Coral Leisure gym, pool, and class memberships, as well as financial talks and a variety of health and wellbeing podcasts and resources.



# Human Resources

## Sick leave

Monaghan County Council was placed well below the national average for 2024 of 3.71 % for the rate of paid workdays lost through medically certified paid sick leave.

• **Table: Sick leave Performance Indicators for 2024**

Authority	Total Number of Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) Staff in LA at 31/12/2024	Percentage of paid working days lost to medically certified sickness absence	Percentage of paid working days lost to self-certified sickness absence
Monaghan County	453.19	2.70	0.12

Summary Sick-Leave Statistics 2019 - 2024							
Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through medically certified leave		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
	Monaghan		3.47	2.27	2.66	3.03	3.59
<b>Average</b>		<b>3.71</b>	<b>3.01</b>		<b>3.58</b>	<b>3.77</b>	<b>3.71%</b>
Percentage of paid working days lost to sickness absence through self-certified leave		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
	Monaghan		.17	0.7	.08	0.12	0.11
<b>Average</b>		<b>0.41</b>	<b>0.20</b>	<b>0.19</b>	<b>0.32</b>	<b>0.32</b>	<b>0.34</b>

# Capital Projects

## Castleblayney Market Square Regeneration Phase II

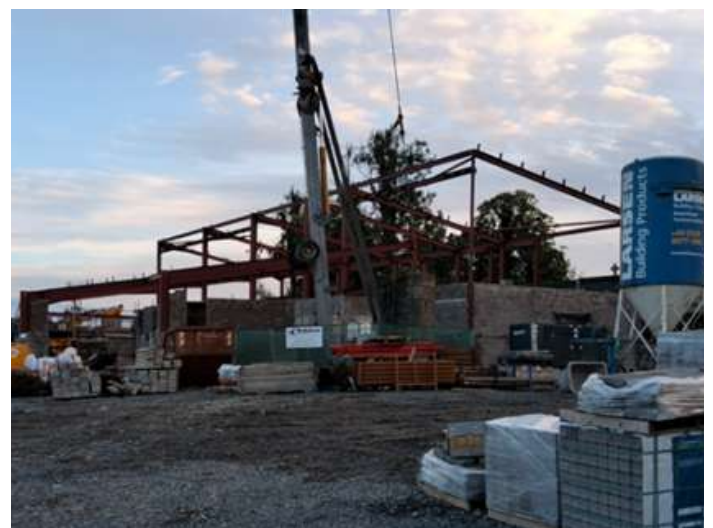
The Castleblayney Market Square Regeneration Phase II project comprises of the refurbishment of the Market House to a mixed-use community facility and public realm enhancements to the surrounding Market Square area. The Stage 2 Tender process was completed in September 2025. Monaghan Co. Council has lodged a submission with the DRCDG funding Department in October 2025, under Decision Gate 3 – Approval to Proceed. Subject to DRCDG approval to award the construction contract, it is expected that construction works may commence in late 2025/early 2026.



*Architectural Images of Market House Refurbishment Proposals*

## Blackwater Valley Rural Enterprise and Digital Hub. (BV RED Hub)

The Blackwater Valley Rural Enterprise and Digital Hub project, with McKelvey Construction Ltd as the main contractor and Craftstudio Architecture Ltd as the Employer's Representative, commenced in March 2025. The project is on track to achieve its key 2025 objectives: achieving a roofed and weatherproof structure by year-end. The contractor's current target date for Substantial Completion remains June 2026. Post-completion, MCC will work alongside Truagh Spirit to manage the final fit-out and building handover towards the end of 2026.



# Capital Projects

## Newbliss RRDF Enterprise and Digital Hub

Lowry Construction Ltd successfully achieved substantial completion of the Newbliss Enterprise and Digital Hub in March 2025. Following the completion of the fit-out, the protected structure has now been fully restored. The project has not only preserved a key piece of local heritage but has also delivered a modern, functional workspace.

In September 2025, the Monaghan County Enterprise Fund, which manages the facility, confirmed that the building has reached full capacity, with all rental space currently occupied. This rapid uptake validates the demand for high-quality enterprise space in the area.

The restoration of this building is strategically important. It is anticipated that the fully occupied Hub will serve as a catalyst for the broader rejuvenation of the village of Newbliss, driving economic activity and community renewal.



# Capital Projects

## **Proposed Swimming Pool and Leisure Complex in Carrickmacross Town**

Consultants S3 Solutions completed the Feasibility Study and Strategic Assessment Report for a proposed Swimming Pool and Leisure Complex in Q1 2025. Throughout the year, the consultants have been progressing the selection and assessment of potential sites for the proposed complex.



*Conceptual Image of Proposed Swimming Pool and Leisure Complex*

It is envisaged that the site evaluation process will be completed before the end of 2025. Subject to the findings of the site selection recommendation, it is intended that the project will be progressed in 2026 to the next stage of the project lifecycle and the preliminary business case development.

## **Rockcorry Community Centre**

A design team, led by Hall BlackDouglas Architects, was appointed in September 2024 to manage the design and oversee construction of this project.

Working closely with the Rockcorry Community Group and Monaghan County Council, planning permission for the Community Centre was secured in April 2025, the Detailed Design is complete and the necessary Works Requirements have been prepared and the project is now ready to proceed to public tendering.

A formal request has been submitted to the DRCDG seeking permission to proceed to public tender. Subject to approval the Council will proceed to public procurement competition with construction to follow. It is estimated that construction of the building will take approximately 15 months.

## **Fermanagh St, Business Hub, Clones, Co. Monaghan**

Following the successful public procurement competition for the Fermanagh St. Business Hub, the DRCDG formally confirmed approval to proceed to construction in June 2025.

MCC is currently in the pre-commencement phase, engaging with the Most Economically Advantageous Tenderer to finalise all necessary contractual conditions before the contract is formally awarded.

Simultaneously, the Contractor is performing condition surveys of adjacent properties. The project start date will be agreed upon once these final conditions and surveys are complete. It is anticipated that works will commence in early Q4 2025. Construction will be ongoing throughout 2026, with construction estimated to take 18 months from the start date.

# Capital Projects

## **Monaghan County Council New Civic Office Headquarters**

The Design Team have progressed the preparation of the contract documents for Monaghan County Council Civic Office HQ throughout 2025. Detailed design is complete; the Bill of Quantities has been prepared, and Tender documents have been drawn up for Tender advertisement in October 2025. The project Steering Committee continue to meet at key stages as the project progresses including pre-tender advertisement.

A report on Tender and PSC (Public Spending Code) Final Business Case will then be prepared and presented to the Elected Members early in 2026 to decide if the project should proceed to construction.



*Civic Office in Roosky Monaghan, Computer-Generated Impression*

## **Dublin Street Regeneration**

The Dublin Street Regeneration scheme is a proactive and innovative regeneration project for the Dublin Street area that will lead to the sustainable, coordinated and compact growth of Monaghan town centre. The project is currently being progressed in two phases South & North.

# Capital Projects

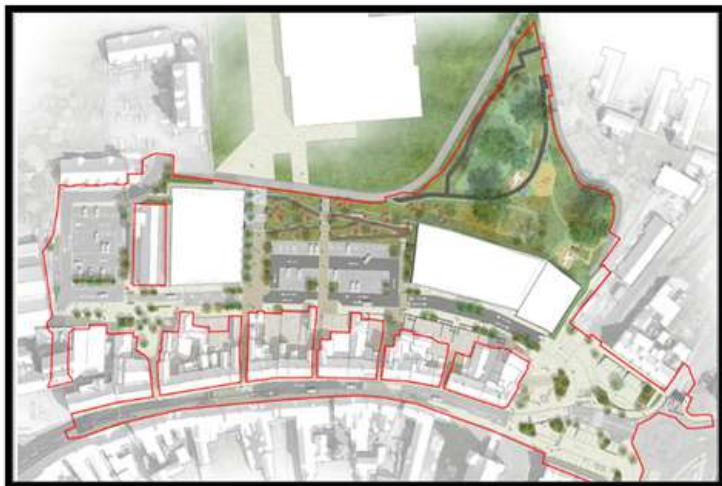
## Dublin Street South

An Bord Pleanála (ABP) granted planning approval for the southern phase of the regeneration scheme in December 2024. Following consultation with URDF Funding Department, during 2025 the Council have advanced the preparation of final detailed designs and draft tender documentation for the initial phase of the regeneration scheme which is focused on the new pedestrian civic plaza (GDP) off Dublin Street. In conjunction with this,



*Dublin St South: Architectural Image of Pedestrian Civic Plaza (GDP)*

negotiations with affected property owners have been ongoing throughout 2025, to date the Council has secured agreement to acquire 7 properties within the scheme area. It is expected that a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) process for properties not acquired by agreement will be commenced in early 2026. Monaghan Co. Council will continue to work in partnership with the URDF Department in 2026 to progress the initial phase of the regeneration scheme to the next project stage approval (Pre-Tender Approval) as required under the Infrastructural Guidelines.



*Dublin Street and Backlands Regeneration Project, Monaghan, Illustration Plan*

## Dublin Street North

Monaghan County Council submitted a Planning Application and Environmental Impact Assessment Report to An Coimisiún Pleanála for the Dublin Street North and Backlands Regeneration Project in April 2025 and are awaiting a response from the Coimisiún, due in October 2025. Subject to the outcome of the Planning Application Monaghan County Council will liaise with the URDF Funding Department on the next steps for the scheme. Engagement with affected property owners has been ongoing throughout 2025 and will continue in 2026.



# Capital Projects

## Annahagh West, industrial zoned land Serviced Sites

Monaghan County Council prepared a Feasibility Report for the potential of Services Sites at industrial zoned lands west of Annahagh Roundabout on the N2 in Monaghan. With the agreement of the Elected Members Monaghan County Council sought Expressions of Interest from the business community for Serviced Sites on the zoned lands. Fourteen Expressions of Interest were received and Monaghan County Council met with each individual business to consider their business needs and requirements. Monaghan County Council are continuing to engage with five of these businesses to develop appropriate sites within the Annahagh lands.

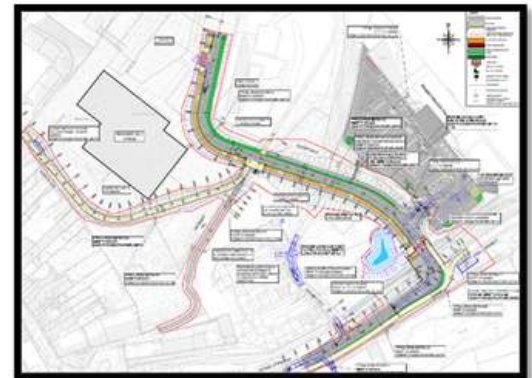


*Annahagh West, Industrial Zoned Lands, Monaghan, Computer Generated Image*

While engaging with the above businesses Monaghan County Council are concurrently preparing designs and a Part 8 Planning Application for access roads and utility infrastructure to service the sites for the economic development of the area.

## Roosky Lands Access Road and Active Travel Links

Construction Works began on the Roosky Lands Access Road and Active Travel Links in Monaghan town on the 28th of July 2025 and are progressing well. The appointed contractor is Gibson Brothers Limited, and the supervision is being carried out by Monaghan County Council and DBFL Consulting Engineers.



The construction of the road and active travel infrastructure will open up lands acquired from the HSE to provide future development and improve the pedestrian and cycle connections in Monaghan town. These works follow the adoption of the Roosky Masterplan by the Elected Members in April 2022 and the subsequent Part 8 Planning Approval in April 2024.

The works include construction of 400m of access road, active travel walking and cycle facilities, new vehicular bridge across the River Shambles and new access into Monaghan Harps GAA grounds. The Works Contract is due for substantial completion in Q3 2026.



# Capital Projects

## Former Bank of Ireland, The Diamond, Clones, Co. Monaghan

Monaghan County Council in partnership with The East Border Region, Dundalk Institute of Technology (DKIT), Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, Meath County Council, Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council and Ards and North Down Borough Council has secured funding of just over €6 million to fund this Mini-Digi Hub Project. This project is supported by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).

The Mini Digi Hubs project is bringing new life to the East Border Region by turning five underused public buildings into modern digital hubs. Each hub will focus on local needs, offering spaces for innovation, training, and collaboration. A Mobile Digital Lab will also travel to schools, businesses, and communities, giving people in rural areas access to cutting-edge technology, digital skills programmes, and specialist workshops. This initiative will help close the digital gap and create lasting opportunities for growth and inclusion across the region.

Monaghan County Council are in the process of developing procurement documents with a view to procuring a Design Team to further develop initial proposals to refurbish the ground floor of the former Bank of Ireland in Clones and prepare a Part 8 Planning Application for this listed building.



*Former Bank Of Ireland Building, Clones*



*Mobile DigiHub, DKIT*

## Energy

Under national and EU obligations, the public sector must by 2030:

- Cut energy-related greenhouse gas emissions by 51%
- Improve overall energy efficiency by 50%

Monaghan County Council are well on track; reducing energy usage, demonstrating strong progress toward national targets and a firm commitment to sustainability. Meeting the 51% fossil carbon emissions target remains a major challenge. To address this, the Council is implementing targeted actions to reduce emissions from fleet operations and public buildings.

Key measures include:

- Lowering building emissions via the Pathfinder Programme
- Transitioning fleet vehicles to low-carbon alternatives (e.g. HVO, electric)
- Ensuring all new public buildings meet the nearly Zero Energy Building (NZEB) standard

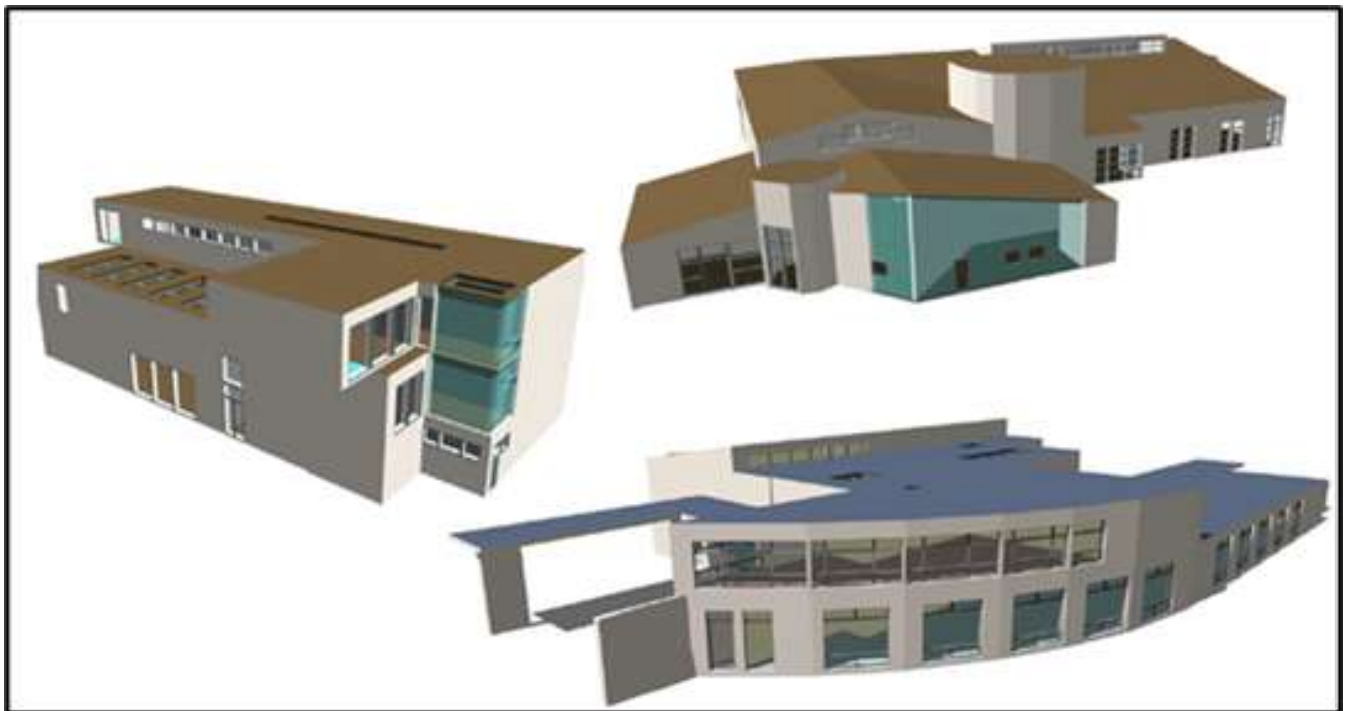
# Capital Projects

## SEAI Energy Pathfinder programme

Monaghan County Council are focusing on 3 Significant Energy Users (SEUs) buildings, as part of the national SEAI Energy Pathfinder programme including:

- Monaghan Leisure Centre
- Carrickmacross Civic Offices
- Clones Library Headquarters

A Multi-Disciplinary Design Consultancy Team, IN2 Design Partnership, have been appointed in July 2025 to investigate deep retrofit energy efficient solutions to each of these buildings; this will significantly reduce the overall Fossil CO2 emissions and are intended to close the 'Gap to Target', in order to reach the 2030 and 2050 national and international decarbonisation targets.



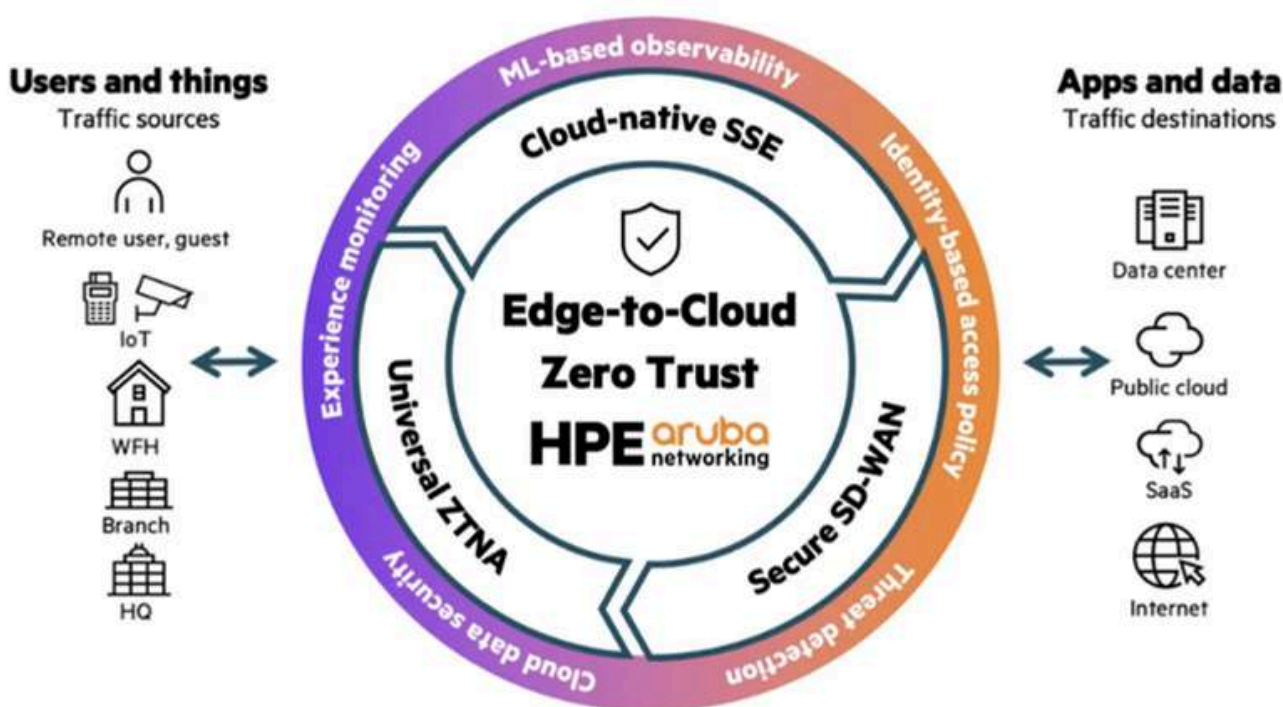
# Information Systems and Innovation

2025 was a year of real progress for Monaghan County Council’s digital transformation agenda. Our Information Systems (IS) team delivered a wide range of initiatives that not only modernised internal operations but also enhanced public services and community engagement. The 2026 IS budget builds on this momentum, with a clear focus on delivering secure, efficient, and citizen-centred digital services that support the Council’s strategic goals.

## Protecting Public Data and Strengthening Resilience

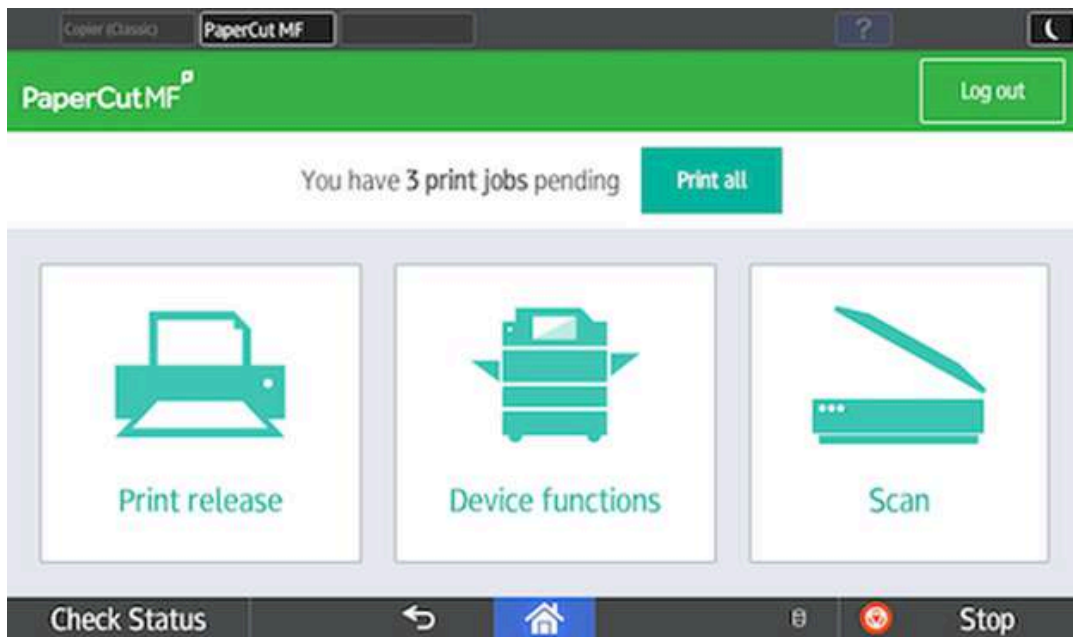
Cybersecurity remained a top priority. In 2025, we began deploying a Secure Access Service Edge (SASE) solution to strengthen network security and remote access. This investment complements our alignment with ISO 27001 and the NIS2 Directive, ensuring Monaghan’s systems meet national and EU standards. Our Information Security Steering Committee led efforts to improve vulnerability management and staff awareness—critical steps in safeguarding public data and maintaining trust.

### HPE Aruba Networking approach to Zero Trust and SASE



## Modern Infrastructure Supporting Better Services

We completed a full refresh of our HCI and networking infrastructure, rolled out Windows 11, and introduced follow-me printing across the organisation. These upgrades have improved performance, reduced energy consumption, and supported hybrid working models. Our Technical Support Team handled these transitions smoothly, ensuring staff could continue delivering services without disruption.



## Applications That Deliver Real Value

The Applications Team delivered upgrades that directly benefit elected members, staff, and the public:

- **System Enhancements:** iHouse, iReg, and the Travel & Subsistence system were upgraded. Laserfiche saw improvements across its document management, forms, and weblink modules. A new intranet portal—LiveTiles—was launched specifically for Elected Members, making it easier to access key information and collaborate.
- **Digital Transformation:** Digital Headed Paper was rolled out Council-wide, and a Digital Transformation Workshop helped staff embrace new ways of working.
- **Process Automation:** 88 new public and internal processes were digitised using Laserfiche Forms.



These included:

HR: Family Friendly Application Forms

Executive Orders: Standardised workflows for Housing, HR, Finance, and Environment

Housing: Affordable Housing Scheme and automated inspections

Planning: Public Register dashboards and process improvements

Tourism: Funding application forms

Community: Salt Bins public-facing form

These improvements have streamlined operations, reduced paperwork, and made services more accessible to the public.

# Information Systems and Innovation

## **Broadband Rollout and Community Connectivity**

The final deployment area of the National Broadband Plan in County Monaghan progressed ahead of schedule. By September 2026, over 3,100 premises will be Ready For Service—marking the completion of the initial build phase. NBI will continue maintaining and expanding the network through 2044, ensuring long-term connectivity for our communities.

Beyond infrastructure, Monaghan County Council actively promoted digital inclusion and STEM education. In 2025:

- 20 schools participated in Vex Robotics competitions hosted at Combilift
- Microsoft Dreamspace and “Our Kids Code” workshops reached primary schools and families
- The IT team showcased broadband and STEM initiatives at the Cavan-Monaghan Science Festival

We also supported broadband and WiFi connectivity in over 50 community centres and public buildings through Wifi4EU and the BCP programme—ensuring that digital services are accessible where they’re needed most.

## **Digitisation Driving Efficiency**

Digitisation efforts accelerated in 2025. File servers were migrated to SharePoint, and the Laserfiche EDM platform was refreshed. A rebuilt digitisation team supported electronic form and workflow creation, guided by assessments of paper usage and process complexity. These efforts are helping departments reduce duplication, improve data management, and deliver faster services.

## **Mapping and Transparency**

The GIS team delivered new online mapping tools for the County Development Plan, planned road works, and open data portals. These tools support transparency and enable better public engagement—giving councillors and citizens alike clearer insights into local developments.

## **Looking Ahead: Priorities for 2026**

The 2026 IS budget is designed to sustain the momentum achieved in 2025 and deliver measurable outcomes across four strategic pillars: Digital Systems, Digital Workforce, Digital Services, and Digital Communities. Key priorities include:

1. Strengthening cybersecurity through enhanced data protection policies and the rollout of our new SASE platform
2. Modernising network infrastructure by refreshing ageing hardware
3. Accelerating digitisation using our three-pillar approach: MyCoCo for public services, bespoke applications for back-office functions, and Laserfiche for internal automation
4. Promoting digital literacy through VEX Robotics, Dreamspace, and coding initiatives
5. Rolling out AI tools to staff to enhance productivity and service delivery
6. Expanding open data portal publications being made available to the public

# Ballybay - Clones Municipal District

## Summary of the Principal Activities of the Ballybay Clones Municipal District 2025

### Roads Programme 2025

In 2025, Ballybay-Clones Municipal District undertook a substantial programme of road infrastructural development. The Municipal District carried out drainage, bitmac overlay and surface dressing works for 16.2km on seven local roads and five regional roads in the district under the restoration improvement grants scheme for an estimated €3M. Additional funding allowed for the resurfacing of a further regional road under the restoration improvement grants scheme.

There were a further 43km of roads surface dressed throughout the Municipal District on 22 no roads. The Municipal District also undertook extensive general repairs/maintenance to the road network in the district such as gully repairs/cleaning, road patching, hedge cutting, sweeping and scavenging.

### Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Scheme

#### Dromore Blueway

The Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Scheme provided funding in the sum of €481,560 for the development of the Blueway from Ballybay to Lisnalong. Planning permission has been granted, and works will commence in Q2 of 2026.

#### Drum Lough Circular Walk

The Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Scheme provided funding in the sum of €50,000 for development of a Circular walkway at Drum Lough.

#### Ballybay Wetlands

With funding of €198,833 Ballybay Wetlands Public Path Enhancement works were completed in October 2025.

#### Gortnawhinny Lido

Funding of €119,560.00 was granted for the development of Gortnawhinny Lido. Works commenced in Q4 2025.

#### Cashlan Lough

Funding of €49,950 was received for predevelopment work for a 2.3km walking trail at Cashlan Lough.

# Ballybay - Clones Municipal District

## Low-Cost Improvement Scheme

The Municipal District applies annually for funding for Low-Cost Improvements Schemes to improve safety on Regional and Local Roads. In 2025 the Municipal District was successful in 4 Funding Applications for Low-Cost Projects. The 4 projects include the following works:

- Installation of road markings, public lighting and vehicle activated warning signs LP3400/LP3411 Cremartin - €40,000
- Installation of vehicle restraint system R183/LS6290 Guardhill, Killeevan – €78,000
- Installation of a pedestrian crossing R189/LP2400 Threemilehouse – €30,000
- Installation of road markings and vehicle activated warning signs R183/R162 Approach Roads Ballybay - €25,000.

## Active Travel

There is a wide range of Active Travel Projects being carried out in County Monaghan. There currently four projects ongoing in the Ballybay-Clones Municipal District these include: -

- Low-Cost Junction Tightening - Newbliss (where R189 meets R183) with an allocation of €160,000.
- Clones Peace Link AT Scheme, with an allocation of €50,000 approved by NTA for development design and installation of garden at the entrance to the Peace link
- Bus Stop Enhancement Programme – with an allocation of €500,000 Monaghan County Council installed 42 bus stop flag poles and sockets county wide. 13 locations are within the Ballybay Clones MD.
- Ballybay Active Travel Scheme, has been approved by the NTA for development and design of walkways linking Ballybay Main St and the Town Park and Schools.

## Municipal District meetings

The Elected Members held their AGM in June 2025.

Cllr Sinead Flynn was elected Cathaoirleach and Cllr Sean Gilliland Leas-Chathaoirleach.



*Newly elected Cathaoirleach Cllr. Sinead Flynn and outgoing Cathaoirleach Cllr. Richard Truell.*

# Ballybay - Clones Municipal District

## Architectural Restoration and Refurbishment of the Ballybay Market House

The Municipal District has appointed a consultant; detailed design is now completed and awaiting Departmental approval to proceed to tender. The Market House will be the new Ballybay Public Library, equipped with a children's library, and adult library and a community space to facilitate meetings and events for Ballybay's Community Groups. It is envisaged all works will be completed in Q1 2027. Funding of €1.25m has been secured for this project.



## Rural Regeneration Development Fund

Ballybay-Clones Municipal District were also successful in their application for €5.137million under the Fifth Call for Category 1 for the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) for Clones Regeneration Hubs (Heritage and Enterprise). This application includes the proposed Business Hub on Fermanagh St and the Lennard Arms (Monastic Centre) MacCurtain Street/Analore Street/The Diamond, Crossmoyle.

## Ballybay to Castleblayney Greenway

The Ballybay – Clones Municipal District, and Carrickmacross – Castleblayney Municipal District procured a consultant to carry out Phase 2 Option Selection for the Ballybay to Castleblayney Greenway which involved the examination of alternative options to determine the Preferred Option. A number of routes were evaluated in accordance with the Project Appraisal Guidelines in terms of Economy, Safety, Environment, Accessibility and Social Inclusion, Integration and Physical Activity. An Option Selection Report has been completed and identifies the Preferred Option for the Ballybay to Castleblayney Greenway proposal.

# Ballybay - Clones Municipal District

## Community Recognition Fund

The Community Recognition Fund 2025 aims to support the development of community infrastructure and facilities in recognition of the contribution being made by communities across the country in welcoming and hosting significant numbers of arrivals from Ukraine and other countries. Ballybay/Clones Municipal District have delivered 4 projects through this fund, these include:

- The Upgrade & Refurbishment of Ballybay Multi-use Community Building. With an allocation of €200,000. This project went to tender for construction.
- Provision of basketball court and equipment for Ballybay Town Park: - with a funding allocation of €69,161. The appointment of an approved contractor is underway.
- Replacement of pedestrian bridge in Ballybay town park - €54,700.
- Upgrade of the bus stop and installation of a pedestrian crossing at 98th Avenue Clones- €120,000.

Ballybay/Clones Municipal District works collaboratively with our communities, at the April Ballybay/Clones Municipal District meeting the annual Gaeltacht awards were presented to students from Largy College and Ballybay Community College which enabled these students to attend a residential Gaeltacht course during the summer of 2025. Cathaoirleach Cllr. Richard Truell presented these awards on behalf of the Elected Members of the Municipal District.

The Ballybay/Clones Municipal District on behalf of Monaghan County Council together with Ballybay Town Team hosted the 25th anniversary of the town twinning between Ballybay, County Monaghan, and Gergweis, Osterhofen, Bavaria welcoming the visiting delegation and celebrating the enduring ties through cultural exchanges, shared experiences, and a commitment to fostering mutual respect and understanding.



*Presentation of scholarship awards by Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Richard Truell*



*Visiting delegation from Gerfweis Osterhofen, Ballybay/Clones Elected Members and Monaghan County Council staff*

# Ballybay - Clones Municipal District

## **Proposals for 2026**

The Ballybay Clones Municipal District contains over 40% of the county's road network. Major investment is required, particularly on the regional road network to ensure that the network is maintained to a satisfactory standard. The Municipal District will continue to work with the Elected representatives and staff from other sections in Monaghan County Council to ensure that funding is obtained, and all schemes delivered in 2026. Funding applications have been submitted for Low-Cost safety improvement works and bridge repair works in various locations in the Municipal District.

The Municipal District will continue to advance the projects in Ballybay and Clones, currently being funded under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund and seek to develop schemes for further funding submissions under this programme.

The Municipal District has made comprehensive submissions under the Departments Town and Village Renewal and Outdoor Recreation scheme programmes and will progress these schemes following receipt of funding.

We will continue to support community and business groups in their activities and work closely with the Councils Housing and Planning section to develop solutions and programmes of work to address dereliction within the Municipal District.

# Carrickmacross - Castleblayney Municipal District

## Summary of the Principal Activities of Carrickmacross-Castleblayney Municipal District in 2025

### Road Infrastructure

#### Regional and Local Roads

In 2025, the Municipal District (MD) managed an investment of €4.5million in the Regional and Local Road network. Approximately 11km of the non-national road network was strengthened under the Restoration Improvement programme and a further 24km was resealed under the Restoration Maintenance programme. Additionally, 10 no. roads, with a combined length of 13km, were repaired and stabilised under the pilot Low-Cost Intervention Scheme.

Funding received under the 2025 Safety Improvement Scheme enabled the implementation of road safety measures at 3 No. locations within the District, whilst monies secured under the Former National Road Rehabilitation Grant provided for the completion of resurfacing on the Old Ardee Road in Carrickmacross. Elsewhere, the 2025 Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Works programme provided for the design of flood mitigation measures for Donaghmoynne Village.

#### Active Travel

The MD continued to work closely with the Active Travel Unit throughout 2025. There are currently 6 No. schemes on going in the District, with a combined value of approximately €450,000.

### Regenerating our Town and Village Centres

#### Carrickmacross Workhouse

The executive, in partnership with Farney Community Development Group (FCDG), progressed plans for the development of the Carrickmacross Workhouse Community, Tourism and Arts Hub. The project is currently at Part 8 Planning stage.



*The Workhouse, Carrickmacross*



*Rear Derelict Buildings*

# Carrickmacross - Castleblayney

## Municipal District

### **Regeneration Plan for the backlands off the north-western side of main street, Castleblayney**

In early 2025, Monaghan County Council completed a regeneration plan for the backlands bounded by Main Street, West Street, Muckno Street and McGrath Road. The Plan provides a framework to encourage the activation of backland properties, whilst providing guidance on viable uses, densities, layout, and design.

### **Proposed Swimming Pool and Leisure Complex in Carrickmacross Town**

The assessment of potential sites for the proposed swimming pool and leisure complex in Carrickmacross is ongoing. The Capital Projects team is liaising with property owners regarding the proposed acquisition of potential sites. It is envisaged that the site evaluation process will be completed before year end.

### **Castleblayney Market Square Regeneration Phase II Project (Castleblayney Market House & Market Square)**

The Capital Projects team progressed the proposed refurbishment of the Market House and Market Square to construction tender stage in August 2025. The executive intends to lodge a submission to the Department in early October, under Decision Gate 3 (Approval to Proceed), seeking approval to award the construction contract.

### **The Bridewell, Carrickmacross**

In early 2025, Monaghan County Council completed the purchase of "The Bridewell" building in Carrickmacross Town. Funding has been secured to develop detailed plans and costings for the restoration of the building. Cooney Architects have been appointed to progress this enabling project.

### **Investing in Public Spaces and Outdoor Recreational Amenities**

Lough Muckno & Environs Masterplan and Development Framework

Consultancy firm Cunnane Stratton Reynolds were appointed in May 2025 to develop a 10-year Masterplan and Development Framework for Lough Muckno Park. The Plan is aimed at providing a series of short, medium, and long-term interventions to facilitate the sustainable development of Lough Muckno Estate and its integration with the Town.

### **Convent Lands Landscape Masterplan**

Monaghan County Council appointed The Paul Hogarth Company to prepare a concept landscape masterplan for the Convent Lands area to the south of Carrickmacross Town Centre. The terms of reference of the proposed Masterplan are centred on the provision of improved foot and cycle linkages to the town centre, the accommodation of the potential expansion of the St. Louis Secondary School and the consolidation of recent investments in sports facilities. It is anticipated that the Plan will be fully completed in Q4 2025. The draft plan has provided the basis for a successful funding application under the ORIS for the procurement of design consultancy service to develop a Recreational Masterplan for Lough na Glack.

# Carrickmacross - Castleblayney Municipal District

## **Gallows Hill Greenspace Masterplan & Creevy Lough Recreational Masterplan**

Funding received under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme (TVRS) enabled the development of detailed plans to enhance the amenity of Gallows Hill. It is envisaged that a Part 8 planning application for the project will be submitted in Q4 2025. The Plan shall provide a framework to deliver a new, usable, high quality and accessible public green space and amenity area to the northern end of Carrickmacross Town. Similarly, funding received under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS), has enabled the development of a recreational plan to enhance the amenity of Creevy Lough in a sustainable, accessible, and environmentally friendly manner. The appointed design team is currently developing a cost plan for the preferred option. It is envisaged that the Masterplan shall be completed in Q4 2025.

## **New Sensory Spaces in Carrickmacross and Castleblayney**

June 2025 saw the completion of a new sensory and outdoor education space in Cloughvalley Park, Carrickmacross. Similarly, a new sensory space adjacent to the existing playground in Lough Muckno Park, Castleblayney was completed in August 2025.



*Sensory Garden & Outdoor Educational Space @  
Cloughvalley*



*Sensory Space, Lough Muckno Park*

## **Upgrade of pathways and recreational enhancements on Black Island**

Monies secured under the ORIS provided for significant enhancements to the amenity of Black Island. Works included upgrades to existing pathways, new signage and interpretation, the installation of wooden seating, and the development of natural viewing features at rest points.

# Carrickmacross - Castleblayney

## Municipal District

### **Community Actions**

The MD continues to collaborate closely with communities to better target investment and improve the built environment. MD staff are progressing the installation of community-based CCTV Schemes for both main towns in the District and it is hoped that these schemes will become operational in the first half of 2026.

The MD engages regularly with both the Carrickmacross and Castleblayney Town Teams to foster economic growth in both towns. These groups assist in planning and provide valuable feedback on proposed initiatives.

**Tidy Towns** - The MD supports these groups by way of annual contributions and logistical assistance throughout the year.

### **Investment proposals for 2026**

Investment in Town and Village centres shall remain a priority in 2026. Grant monies secured under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) shall provide for the detailed design of public realm enhancements to the Main Street and Bridewell Lane areas in Carrickmacross Town, and the continued development of restoration proposals for the Carrickmacross Workhouse site to “shovel-ready” status. Similarly, in Castleblayney, it is anticipated that the refurbishment of the Market House will commence in early 2026.

Funding received under the TVRS shall provide for the development of a construction-ready plan for the restoration of “The Bridewell” building in Carrickmacross Town. A funding application is also pending under the TVRS for the implementation of a Building Frontages Enhancement Scheme (BFES) in the Town, together with the enhancement of lighting to historic landmark buildings and the provision of a public water feature at the Market Square.

Elsewhere, funding secured under the Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) shall allow for the continued enhancement of outdoor amenities including:

- The development of a Recreational Masterplan for Lough na Glack.
- The completion of Phase 2 of the outdoor sensory space in Lough Muckno Park
- The refurbishment of the jetty and slipway at the outdoor adventure centre in Lough Muckno Park.

Pending the approval of elected members, it is also hoped to progress an implementation plan and develop a business case for the proposed Swimming Pool and Leisure Complex in Carrickmacross Town

### **Cooperation with Local Groups**

The MD will continue to support Town Teams and local groups to improve our communities; streetscapes; and built environment. The ongoing investment in these groups is central to our development strategy.

# Monaghan Municipal District

## Municipal District Meetings

The Municipal District hold their monthly meeting on the third Monday of the month along with other subcommittee meetings to discuss roads, budgets and other issues within the District. At the AGM in June 2025, Cllr Seamus Treanor was elected Cathaoirleach and Cllr Raymond Aughey was elected Leas-Cathaoirleach.

## Digital Gift Card / Town Voucher Scheme

Sales for the Monaghan Town Voucher has grown year on year, reaching over €12million cumulatively to date in 2025. This has helped to retain and reduce economic leakage whilst supporting over 200 businesses in the Monaghan Municipal District.

### The Growth of the Monaghan Town Voucher:

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Sales	€485,720	€746,200	€877,440	€984,620	€1,191,230	€1,706,340	€1,839,690	€2,061,600

As a result of the success of the Monaghan Town Voucher scheme and as part of our commitment to supporting local businesses and boosting the local economy, we are introducing a new digital gift card in 2025. This will modernise and expand the existing town voucher programme to a county-wide scheme, allowing residents and visitors to purchase and redeem electronic vouchers at participating local businesses across Co. Monaghan.

This digital scheme is designed to:

- Increase convenience and uptake — vouchers can be purchased online and redeemed digitally
- Promote local spending — keeping more economic value within the County
- Provide better tracking and analytics — so Monaghan County Council can monitor usage and impact

The digital gift card initiative will be launched in November 2025, and budget allocations are requested for 2026 to cover its development, operational costs, and promotional support to ensure wide adoption among retailers and the public.

As outlined below Monaghan Municipal District's commitment to supporting communities continues through enhancing local infrastructure. Over the past year, we have delivered a number of significant projects that have improved the quality of life for residents, supported local enterprise, and strengthened our public spaces.

### Projects Completed in 2025:

- Delivery of road resurfacing and maintenance works across key routes to improve safety and connectivity.
- Completion of public realm enhancements in Monaghan Town, including upgraded footpaths, lighting, and landscaping.
- Development of new recreational amenities in local parks and playgrounds to support family-friendly, inclusive spaces.
- Investment in active travel schemes, such as new cycleways and pedestrian linkages, encouraging healthier and more sustainable transport options.

# Monaghan Municipal District

## Projects Commenced in 2025:

Initiation of the Monaghan Town Regeneration Project, aimed at revitalising the town centre, enhancing accessibility, and attracting new business and tourism opportunities.

Preparatory works for strategic road improvements to strengthen regional connectivity and economic development.

## Monaghan Town Promotions:

- The Municipal District will continue in 2026 to assist the Town Team and other committees with the delivery of successful events to encourage promotion of Monaghan Town as a destination to work live and play.
- In 2025, the Municipal District in conjunction with Monaghan Town Team, Monaghan Food Network and Friends of Rossmore held many successful events including St. Patricks Day Parade, Summer Street Food Festival, Long Table Dinner event in Church Square, Drumlin Storytelling Festival, The Haunting of Rossmore Park which will take place on 31st October 2025. In late November we will also have our annual Christmas Lights Switch On Event and in early December we will have the Christmas Street Food Festival.



*Summer Street-Food Festival 2025*



*Long Table event Church Square August 2025*



*Halloween Event – Church Square*



*Christmas Lights Switch On – Church Square*

## Monaghan Municipal District Investment for 2026:

- Investment in town and village centres will remain a priority in 2026.
- Monaghan Municipal District and Tourism Department manage the Sliabh Beagh Cross Border Partnership committee. €6m of funding has been secured through the Shared Island Funding. Monaghan County Council are the Project lead. This is a Cross Border Project including Fermanagh and Omagh District Council along with Mid Ulster Council.
- Ballinode community centre was completed in September 2025 with €500,000 funding from T&V. To further compliment the project, Monaghan Municipal District completed major upgrade works to the current footpaths in the Ballinode area and have constructed a new section of footpath to link the community centre with the village for pedestrians.
- Under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme, St. Marys Hall, Scotstown secured €250,000 to upgrade and refurbish the community centre. The Municipal district provided the match funding for this project.
- A building was procured in Emyvale under the Building Acquisition Measure (BAM). €50,000 funding was secured under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme, Project Development funding, match funded by the Municipal District to develop the project for community use.
- Further to the completion of works in 2024, additional funding of €11,453 for Belgium Park has been secured from the Sports Capital and Equipment Programme to upgrade the soccer pitch.
- Works are expected to commence in Q1 of 2026 to install a new drainage system to the pitch and install a sand mattress surface. Works will be completed in time for the 2026 football season.
- Funding of €50,000 has been secured under ORIS for the Ballinode-Scotstown linkwalkway. Options for quiet road safety measures and surface finishes were presented to the Department of Transport. The project also looks at a proposed link between the proposed quiet road and Kilmore GAA Hub. Negotiations are ongoing with all affected landowners.
- ORIS funding of €199,653 for Mullan Village Rural Walking Trail has been secured. Works are expected to commence at the end of 2025 and will be completed by summer of 2026.
- Having secured funding of €100,000 from the Department of Transport and funding from other sources works at Peters Lake storm culvert will be completed by end of 2025.
- Funding of €67,785 has been secured for the upgrade of Killygoan Playpark Upgrade. Works are due to be completed by October 2026.
- Following previous works to Peters Lake in Monaghan Town, funding of €40,000 has been secured for enhancement works to the park. Works will be completed in 2026.

# Monaghan Municipal District

## Rossmore Forest Park:

With the continued success of Rossmore Park attracting huge visitor numbers, ongoing works are planned to further enhance the facilities. These include

Funding of €40,000 has been secured for the resurfacing of Car Park close to the main entrance. Works will commence in Q1 2026 and will be completed in time for the increased visitor numbers in the summer months.

Funding of €50,000 has been secured to develop Mountain Bike trails in Mullaghmatt Forest. This funding will allow this project to be brought to a construction ready stage ready for a funding application to allow for the construction of the trails. Design works will commence early in 2026.

The Friends of Rossmore, together with the Creative Monaghan Team, will be introducing 2 new giants to the Drumlin Giants Trail in Rossmore Park over the coming months: Cernnous (to be completed by December 2025) and Aoife (commencing in 2026).



*Cernnous*



*Aoife*

## Road Infrastructure Works planned for 2026:

- 9.5km of Local roads and 1.25km of Regional Roads are proposed to be drained and re-surfaced under the 2026 Restoration Improvement Roads Programme.
- 18km of Local Roads and 5km of Regional Roads are proposed to be surface dressed under the 2026 Restoration Maintenance Programme.
- The Municipal District to continue to carry out minor bridge repairs.
- Verge Trimming on National Roads. Two verge grass cuts to be completed, including litter removal in 2026.
- The Municipal District will complete a programme of hedge and verge cutting works on their own property and in strategic locations within the district as part of road safety measures.
- The Municipal District will complete a Large Patching Contract on regional and local roads.
- Footpath replacement works to be carried out in a number of areas within the Municipal District.
- A programme of road marking works to be completed on regional and local roads.
- Drainage works will be completed on regional and local roads throughout the year.
- Proposed Low-Cost Safety Schemes submitted for funding. Successful schemes will be completed in 2026.
- Proposed Climate Adaption Schemes submitted for funding. Successful schemes will be complete in 2026.
- Winter Maintenance program commenced on 13th October 2025 and will continue until 3rd May 2026.

## **Car Parking:**

The Municipal District operate and manage approximately 1,500 parking spaces in Monaghan town. The Municipal District will continue to promote the 'Pay by App' parking system, supplementing the existing facility to pay by cash. This App allows customers to pay remotely online by phone or other devices. The Pay- Parking Byelaws were open to public consultation in the summer of 2025 with the amended Bye-laws being adopted at the September Meeting of Monaghan Municipal District and November Council Meeting.

## **Cooperation with Local Groups & Tidy Towns:**

- The Municipal District will work closely with local groups that are working to improve our communities; streetscapes; and built environment and provide funding throughout 2026. The ongoing investment in these groups is central to our development strategy.
- Monaghan Town achieved 5th in the National IBAL litter league. It is the commitment of Monaghan Municipal District to build on these achievements and strive to obtain higher scores in 2026.
- Monaghan has once again reaffirmed its reputation as one of Ireland's cleanest towns, achieving 5th place out of 40 towns and cities in the first Irish Business Against Litter (IBAL) survey of 2025. Described in the report as "Cleaner than European Norms", Monaghan's performance is being hailed as one of its best ever, with eight of the ten surveyed locations awarded the top Grade A rating.
- The Municipal District manages and maintains many of the public open spaces and continues to adapt the grass cutting plans to meet pollinator friendly guidelines. Several areas have been planted with Pollinator friendly flowers including a wildflower meadow in the Broad Road Carpark.

**TABLE A - CALCULATION OF ANNUAL RATE ON VALUATION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR**

<b>Summary by Service Division</b>	<b>Expenditure €</b>	<b>Income €</b>	<b>Budget Net Expenditure 2026 €</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Estimated Net Expenditure Outturn 2025 €</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Gross Revenue Expenditure &amp; Income</b>						
A Housing and Building	14,964,926	16,651,653	(1,686,727)	(5.3%)	(1,438,828)	(4.5%)
B Road Transport & Safety	30,540,622	21,730,631	8,809,991	27.9%	8,176,384	25.8%
C Water Services	7,462,145	6,632,228	829,917	2.6%	652,877	2.1%
D Development Management	16,501,995	8,324,346	8,177,649	25.9%	7,913,040	25.0%
E Environmental Services	10,961,250	3,257,241	7,704,009	24.4%	7,481,566	23.6%
F Recreation and Amenity	8,488,212	753,998	7,734,214	24.5%	8,077,739	25.5%
G Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	552,148	176,126	376,022	1.2%	381,181	1.2%
H Miscellaneous Services	8,147,871	8,491,327	(343,456)	(1.1%)	391,156	1.2%
	<b>97,619,169</b>	<b>66,017,550</b>	<b>31,601,619</b>	100.0%	<b>31,635,115</b>	100.0%
Provision for Debit Balance	-		-			
<b>ADJUSTED GROSS EXPENDITURE AND INCOME (A)</b>	<b>97,619,169</b>	<b>66,017,550</b>	<b>31,601,619</b>		<b>31,635,115</b>	
<b>Financed by Other Income/Credit Balances</b>						
Provision for Credit Balance		-	-			
Local Property Tax		13,592,548	13,592,548			
<b>SUB-TOTAL (B)</b>			<b>13,592,548</b>			
<b>AMOUNT OF RATES TO BE LEVIED C=(A-B)</b>			<b>18,009,071</b>			
Net Effective Valuation (E)			69,425,868			
<b>GENERAL ANNUAL RATE ON VALUATION (C/E)</b>			<b>0.2594</b>			

**TABLE B: Expenditure and Income for 2026 and Estimated Outturn for 2025**

Division & Services	2026				2025			
	Expenditure		Income		Expenditure		Income	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>A Housing and Building</b>								
A01 Maintenance & Improvement of LA Housing Units	2,087,499	2,087,499	184,054	184,054	1,731,636	1,747,765	142,167	138,643
A02 Housing Assessment, Allocation and Transfer	822,304	822,304	121,966	121,966	791,012	797,707	122,137	121,966
A03 Housing Rent and Tenant Purchase Administration	409,132	409,132	7,307,583	7,307,583	374,440	376,602	6,782,167	6,811,565
A04 Housing Community Development Support	398,183	398,183	7,748	7,748	411,862	419,565	52,938	7,748
A05 Administration of Homeless Service	533,762	533,762	418,504	418,504	380,173	491,050	283,579	382,480
A06 Support to Housing Capital Prog.	2,185,460	2,185,460	1,132,809	1,132,809	2,153,417	2,173,225	852,749	928,798
A07 RAS and Leasing Programme	4,727,875	4,727,875	4,687,957	4,687,957	3,792,549	4,738,553	3,741,797	4,686,957
A08 Housing Loans	807,861	807,861	615,096	615,096	794,917	796,062	615,204	615,096
A09 Housing Grants	2,516,463	2,516,463	1,866,278	1,866,278	2,356,830	2,407,662	1,847,402	1,857,017
A11 Agency & Recoupable Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A12 HAP Programme	317,627	317,627	150,898	150,898	303,541	305,325	161,883	147,723
A13 Cost Rental	158,760	158,760	158,760	158,760	-	5,649	-	-
<b>Division A Total</b>	<b>14,964,926</b>	<b>14,964,926</b>	<b>16,651,653</b>	<b>16,651,653</b>	<b>13,090,377</b>	<b>14,259,165</b>	<b>14,602,023</b>	<b>15,697,993</b>

**TABLE B: Expenditure and Income for 2026 and Estimated Outturn for 2025**

Division & Services	2026				2025			
	Expenditure		Income		Expenditure		Income	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>B Road Transport &amp; Safety</b>								
B01 NP Road - Maintenance and Improvement	1,979,204	1,979,204	1,809,167	1,809,167	933,764	1,067,867	776,167	909,168
B02 NS Road - Maintenance and Improvement	209,036	209,036	126,662	126,662	336,910	286,580	261,662	211,662
B03 Regional Road - Maintenance and Improvement	8,723,142	8,723,142	5,914,035	5,914,035	9,514,595	9,304,466	6,938,535	6,718,584
B04 Local Road - Maintenance and Improvement	15,412,707	15,412,707	12,153,857	12,153,857	13,645,409	14,568,715	10,667,068	11,564,823
B05 Public Lighting	902,270	902,270	70,000	70,000	914,293	918,859	70,000	70,000
B06 Traffic Management Improvement	50,000	50,000	-	-	40,000	40,000	-	-
B07 Road Safety Engineering Improvement	886,000	886,000	786,000	786,000	340,700	1,466,000	260,700	1,366,000
B08 Road Safety Promotion & Education	95,340	95,340	-	-	95,340	95,340	-	-
B09 Car Parking	688,786	688,786	602,077	602,077	700,592	700,936	602,128	602,077
B10 Support to Roads Capital Prog	72,007	72,007	41,383	41,383	59,464	59,742	36,278	39,711
B11 Agency & Recoupable Services	1,522,130	1,522,130	227,450	227,450	1,370,235	1,381,653	221,546	231,749
<b>Division B Total</b>	<b>30,540,622</b>	<b>30,540,622</b>	<b>21,730,631</b>	<b>21,730,631</b>	<b>27,951,302</b>	<b>29,890,158</b>	<b>19,834,084</b>	<b>21,713,774</b>

**TABLE B: Expenditure and Income for 2026 and Estimated Outturn for 2025**

Division & Services	2026				2025			
	Expenditure		Income		Expenditure		Income	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>C Water Services</b>								
C01 Water Supply	1,150,093	1,150,093	15,601	15,601	1,583,754	1,132,091	15,984	15,601
C02 Waste Water Treatment	1,127,173	1,127,173	13,558	13,558	1,357,818	1,029,830	13,891	13,558
C03 Collection of Water and Waste Water Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
C04 Public Conveniences	65,504	65,504	578	578	65,319	65,297	578	578
C05 Admin of Group and Private Installations	4,609,822	4,609,822	4,343,937	4,343,937	6,668,160	6,660,481	6,433,912	6,433,673
C06 Support to Water Capital Programme	379,914	379,914	17,623	17,623	338,339	343,286	18,056	17,623
C07 Agency & Recoupable Services	27,740	27,740	1,080,931	1,080,931	26,602	26,962	1,767,897	1,054,013
C08 Local Authority Water and Sanitary Services	101,899	101,899	1,160,000	1,160,000	108,977	89,976	1,340,092	1,160,000
<b>Division C Total</b>	<b>7,462,145</b>	<b>7,462,145</b>	<b>6,632,228</b>	<b>6,632,228</b>	<b>10,148,969</b>	<b>9,347,923</b>	<b>9,590,410</b>	<b>8,695,046</b>

**TABLE B: Expenditure and Income for 2026 and Estimated Outturn for 2025**

Division & Services	2026				2025			
	Expenditure		Income		Expenditure		Income	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>D Development Management</b>								
D01 Forward Planning	1,144,815	1,144,815	183,118	183,118	855,143	939,751	18,600	18,154
D02 Development Management	2,109,011	2,109,011	591,521	591,521	1,900,586	1,898,652	451,482	450,611
D03 Enforcement	247,496	247,496	104,451	104,451	206,549	247,428	89,604	89,496
D04 Industrial and Commercial Facilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D05 Tourism Development and Promotion	495,008	495,008	50,911	50,911	403,192	411,568	52,241	52,092
D06 Community and Enterprise Function	6,022,289	6,022,289	3,626,637	3,626,637	5,526,111	5,503,949	3,244,428	3,163,571
D07 Unfinished Housing Estates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D08 Building Control	268,486	268,486	19,625	19,625	241,229	242,213	18,714	18,625
D09 Economic Development and Promotion	5,133,573	5,133,573	3,076,610	3,076,610	4,609,354	5,120,704	2,780,806	3,042,175
D10 Property Management	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D11 Heritage and Conservation Services	1,080,886	1,080,886	671,473	671,473	1,081,091	1,094,878	720,621	711,785
D12 Agency & Recoupable Services	431	431	-	-	408	406	-	-
<b>Division D Total</b>	<b>16,501,995</b>	<b>16,501,995</b>	<b>8,324,346</b>	<b>8,324,346</b>	<b>14,823,663</b>	<b>15,459,549</b>	<b>7,376,496</b>	<b>7,546,509</b>

**TABLE B: Expenditure and Income for 2026 and Estimated Outturn for 2025**

Division & Services	2026				2025			
	Expenditure		Income		Expenditure		Income	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>E Environmental Services</b>								
E01 Landfill Operation and Aftercare	577,184	577,184	172,684	172,684	662,207	613,800	211,038	195,552
E02 Recovery & Recycling Facilities Operations	91,010	91,010	202,393	202,393	89,953	90,874	203,722	203,636
E03 Waste to Energy Facilities Operations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
E04 Provision of Waste to Collection Services	154,000	154,000	151,000	151,000	154,000	154,000	151,000	151,000
E05 Litter Management	487,912	487,912	33,547	33,547	484,769	489,767	33,671	33,547
E06 Street Cleaning	1,185,495	1,185,495	-	-	1,163,882	1,163,516	-	-
E07 Waste Regulations, Monitoring and Enforcement	522,224	522,224	24,525	24,525	505,999	508,762	31,541	29,525
E08 Waste Management Planning	122,843	122,843	2,116	2,116	125,667	126,089	2,168	2,116
E09 Maintenance of Burial Grounds	13,000	13,000	-	-	13,000	14,000	-	-
E10 Safety of Structures and Places	363,803	363,803	117,795	117,795	354,428	361,314	117,891	117,795
E11 Operation of Fire Service	4,482,562	4,482,562	1,010,850	1,010,850	4,285,101	4,228,384	1,047,313	911,850
E12 Fire Prevention	275,060	275,060	111,427	111,427	267,983	269,008	111,585	111,427
E13 Water Quality, Air and Noise Pollution	892,337	892,337	187,513	187,513	901,288	887,064	167,926	167,513
E14 Agency & Recoupable Services	435,710	435,710	142,214	142,214	450,648	452,207	142,372	142,214
E15 Climate Change and Flooding	1,358,110	1,358,110	1,101,177	1,101,177	1,342,649	1,343,396	1,143,246	1,154,440
<b>Division E Total</b>	<b>10,961,250</b>	<b>10,961,250</b>	<b>3,257,241</b>	<b>3,257,241</b>	<b>10,801,574</b>	<b>10,702,181</b>	<b>3,363,473</b>	<b>3,220,615</b>

**TABLE B: Expenditure and Income for 2026 and Estimated Outturn for 2025**

Division & Services	2026				2025			
	Expenditure		Income		Expenditure		Income	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>F Recreation and Amenity</b>								
F01 Leisure Facilities Operations	420,972	420,972	60,000	60,000	423,935	428,860	50,000	56,978
F02 Operation of Library and Archival Service	3,946,869	3,946,869	225,998	225,998	3,755,791	3,832,357	186,755	141,520
F03 Outdoor Leisure Areas Operations	1,170,898	1,170,898	3,000	3,000	1,139,517	1,184,006	3,000	3,000
F04 Community Sport and Recreational Development	878,698	878,698	227,000	227,000	1,260,715	1,260,715	767,000	120,000
F05 Operation of Arts Programme	2,025,775	2,025,775	193,000	193,000	1,881,126	1,905,042	250,894	197,743
F06 Agency & Recoupable Services	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	31,000	31,000	31,000	45,000
<b>Division F Total</b>	<b>8,488,212</b>	<b>8,488,212</b>	<b>753,998</b>	<b>753,998</b>	<b>8,492,084</b>	<b>8,641,980</b>	<b>1,288,649</b>	<b>564,241</b>

**TABLE B: Expenditure and Income for 2026 and Estimated Outturn for 2025**

Division & Services	2026				2025			
	Expenditure		Income		Expenditure		Income	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>G Agriculture, Education, Health &amp; Welfare</b>								
G01 Land Drainage Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
G02 Operation and Maintenance of Piers and Harbours	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
G03 Coastal Protection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
G04 Veterinary Service	552,148	552,148	176,126	176,126	557,945	571,037	230,119	189,856
G05 Educational Support Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
G06 Agency & Recoupable Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Division G Total</b>	<b>552,148</b>	<b>552,148</b>	<b>176,126</b>	<b>176,126</b>	<b>557,945</b>	<b>571,037</b>	<b>230,119</b>	<b>189,856</b>

**TABLE B: Expenditure and Income for 2026 and Estimated Outturn for 2025**

Division & Services	2026				2025			
	Expenditure		Income		Expenditure		Income	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>H Miscellaneous Services</b>								
H01 Profit & Loss Machinery Account	325,987	325,987	325,987	325,987	161,943	162,796	160,161	160,047
H02 Profit & Loss Stores Account	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
H03 Administration of Rates	2,480,376	2,480,376	11,771	11,771	2,634,347	2,642,116	12,054	11,771
H04 Franchise Costs	255,218	255,218	142,378	142,378	105,425	105,766	40,020	39,976
H05 Operation of Morgue and Coroner Expenses	121,473	121,473	2,082	2,082	142,549	153,047	2,133	2,082
H06 Weighbridges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
H07 Operation of Markets and Casual Trading	-	-	31,620	31,620	-	-	31,620	31,620
H08 Malicious Damage	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
H09 Local Representation & Civic Leadership	2,955,098	2,955,098	57,521	57,521	2,777,675	2,711,721	22,818	22,271
H10 Motor Taxation	646,703	646,703	30,469	30,469	611,900	602,735	30,726	30,469
H11 Agency & Recoupable Services	1,363,016	1,363,016	7,889,499	7,889,499	1,458,639	1,441,189	7,147,985	7,129,978
<b>Division H Total</b>	<b>8,147,871</b>	<b>8,147,871</b>	<b>8,491,327</b>	<b>8,491,327</b>	<b>7,892,478</b>	<b>7,819,370</b>	<b>7,447,517</b>	<b>7,428,214</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>97,619,169</b>	<b>97,619,169</b>	<b>66,017,550</b>	<b>66,017,550</b>	<b>93,758,392</b>	<b>96,691,363</b>	<b>63,732,771</b>	<b>65,056,248</b>

**TABLE C - CALCULATION OF BASE YEAR ADJUSTMENT**

	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)
	Annual Rate on Valuation	Effective ARV (Net of BYA)	Base Year Adjustment	Net Effective Valuation	Value of Base Year Adjustment
Rating Authority	€	€	€	€	€
<b>TOTAL</b>					

Table D

## ANALYSIS OF BUDGET INCOME 2026 FROM GOODS AND SERVICES

<b>Source of Income</b>	<b>2026</b> €
Rents from Houses	7,730,027
Housing Loans Interest & Charges	421,246
Parking Fines & Charges	600,000
Uisce Éireann	1,078,457
Planning Fees	324,586
Landfill Charges	106,500
Fire Charges	187,000
Local Authority Contributions	251,755
Superannuation	669,769
NPPR	-
Other income	3,474,859
<b>Total Goods &amp; Services</b>	<b>14,844,199</b>

Table E

## ANALYSIS OF BUDGET INCOME 2026 FROM GRANTS &amp; SUBSIDIES

	2026
	€
<b>Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage</b>	
Housing and Building	8,172,580
Road Transport & Safety	1,611,260
Water Services	5,463,229
Development Management	1,980,783
Environmental Services	616,997
Recreation and Amenity	6,000
Miscellaneous Services	6,960,872
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>24,811,721</b>
<b>Other Departments and Bodies</b>	
TII Transport Infrastructure Ireland	18,663,617
Culture, Communications, & Sport	25,500
Defence	113,900
Library Council	2,500
Arts Council	90,000
Enterprise, Tourism, & Employment	1,443,633
Rural, Community Development, & The Gaeltacht	1,728,144
Climate, Environment, & Energy	1,015,478
Food Safety Authority of Ireland	(2,800)
Other	3,281,658
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>26,361,630</b>
<b>Total Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>51,173,351</b>

Table F - Expenditure

## Division A - Housing and Building

Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2026		2025	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
A0101 Maintenance of LA Housing Units	1,238,494	1,238,494	992,406	1,005,321
A0102 Maintenance of Traveller Accommodation Units	73,087	73,087	71,743	73,087
A0103 Traveller Accommodation Management	77,697	77,697	75,240	75,240
A0104 Estate Maintenance	-	-	-	-
A0199 Service Support Costs	698,221	698,221	592,247	594,117
<b>A01 Maintenance &amp; Improvement of LA Housing Units</b>	<b>2,087,499</b>	<b>2,087,499</b>	<b>1,731,636</b>	<b>1,747,765</b>
A0201 Assessment of Housing Needs, Allocs. & Trans.	412,131	412,131	427,113	431,664
A0299 Service Support Costs	410,173	410,173	363,899	366,043
<b>A02 Housing Assessment, Allocation and Transfer</b>	<b>822,304</b>	<b>822,304</b>	<b>791,012</b>	<b>797,707</b>
A0301 Debt Management & Rent Assessment	86,576	86,576	77,738	77,738
A0399 Service Support Costs	322,556	322,556	296,702	298,864
<b>A03 Housing Rent and Tenant Purchase Administration</b>	<b>409,132</b>	<b>409,132</b>	<b>374,440</b>	<b>376,602</b>
A0401 Housing Estate Management	257,522	257,522	278,030	284,030
A0402 Tenancy Management	-	-	-	-
A0403 Social and Community Housing Service	-	-	-	-
A0499 Service Support Costs	140,661	140,661	133,832	135,535
<b>A04 Housing Community Development Support</b>	<b>398,183</b>	<b>398,183</b>	<b>411,862</b>	<b>419,565</b>
A0501 Homeless Grants Other Bodies	310,000	310,000	200,000	310,000
A0502 Homeless Service	-	-	-	-
A0599 Service Support Costs	223,762	223,762	180,173	181,050
<b>A05 Administration of Homeless Service</b>	<b>533,762</b>	<b>533,762</b>	<b>380,173</b>	<b>491,050</b>
A0601 Technical and Administrative Support	799,040	799,040	650,930	660,230
A0602 Loan Charges	-	-	-	-
A0699 Service Support Costs	1,386,420	1,386,420	1,502,487	1,512,995
<b>A06 Support to Housing Capital Prog.</b>	<b>2,185,460</b>	<b>2,185,460</b>	<b>2,153,417</b>	<b>2,173,225</b>
A0701 RAS Operations	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
A0702 Long Term Leasing	3,532,516	3,532,516	2,587,268	3,532,516
A0703 Payment & Availability	-	-	-	-
A0704 Affordable Leases	-	-	-	-
A0799 Service Support Costs	195,359	195,359	205,281	206,037
<b>A07 RAS and Leasing Programme</b>	<b>4,727,875</b>	<b>4,727,875</b>	<b>3,792,549</b>	<b>4,738,553</b>
A0801 Loan Interest and Other Charges	587,471	587,471	586,662	586,662
A0802 Debt Management Housing Loans	113,010	113,010	105,982	105,982
A0899 Service Support Costs	107,380	107,380	102,273	103,418
<b>A08 Housing Loans</b>	<b>807,861</b>	<b>807,861</b>	<b>794,917</b>	<b>796,062</b>

**Table F - Expenditure**

**Division A - Housing and Building**

Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2026		2025	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
A0901 Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme	2,050,000	2,050,000	2,000,000	2,050,000
A0902 Loan Charges DPG/ERG	-	-	-	-
A0903 Essential Repair Grants	-	-	-	-
A0904 Other Housing Grant Payments	206,557	206,557	143,779	143,779
A0905 Mobility Aids Housing Grants	-	-	-	-
A0999 Service Support Costs	259,906	259,906	213,051	213,883
<b>A09 Housing Grants</b>	<b>2,516,463</b>	<b>2,516,463</b>	<b>2,356,830</b>	<b>2,407,662</b>
A1101 Agency & Recoupable Service	-	-	-	-
A1199 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>A11 Agency &amp; Recoupable Services</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
A1201 HAP Operation Costs	186,357	186,357	178,452	178,452
A1202 HAP Agency Services	-	-	-	-
A1299 HAP Service Support Costs	131,270	131,270	125,089	126,873
<b>A12 HAP Programme</b>	<b>317,627</b>	<b>317,627</b>	<b>303,541</b>	<b>305,325</b>
A1301 Cost Rental Operations	158,760	158,760	-	5,649
A1399 Service Support Costs for Cost Rental	-	-	-	-
<b>A13 Cost Rental</b>	<b>158,760</b>	<b>158,760</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,649</b>
<b>Division A Total</b>	<b>14,964,926</b>	<b>14,964,926</b>	<b>13,090,377</b>	<b>14,259,165</b>

Table F - Income

## Division A - Housing and Building

Income by Source	2026		2025	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>				
Housing, Local Government & Heritage	8,172,580	8,172,580	6,787,994	7,876,873
Other	-	-	10,667	-
<b>Total Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>8,172,580</b>	<b>8,172,580</b>	<b>6,798,661</b>	<b>7,876,873</b>
<b>Goods &amp; Services</b>				
Rents from Houses	7,730,027	7,730,027	7,060,928	7,075,249
Housing Loans Interest & Charges	421,246	421,246	421,246	421,246
Superannuation	104,419	104,419	106,982	104,419
Local Authority Contributions	108,381	108,381	96,206	105,206
Other income	115,000	115,000	118,000	115,000
<b>Total Goods &amp; Services</b>	<b>8,479,073</b>	<b>8,479,073</b>	<b>7,803,362</b>	<b>7,821,120</b>
<b>Division A Total</b>	<b>16,651,653</b>	<b>16,651,653</b>	<b>14,602,023</b>	<b>15,697,993</b>

Table F - Expenditure

## Division B - Road Transport &amp; Safety

Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2026		2025	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
B0101 NP - Surface Dressing	-	-	-	-
B0102 NP - Pavement Overlay/Reconstruction	-	-	-	-
B0103 NP - Winter Maintenance	137,519	137,519	137,519	137,519
B0104 NP - Bridge Maintenance (Eirspan)	-	-	-	-
B0105 NP - General Maintenance	1,671,649	1,671,649	638,648	772,982
B0106 NP - General Improvements Works	-	-	-	-
B0199 Service Support Costs	170,036	170,036	157,597	157,366
<b>B01 NP Road - Maintenance and Improvement</b>	<b>1,979,204</b>	<b>1,979,204</b>	<b>933,764</b>	<b>1,067,867</b>
B0201 NS - Surface Dressing	-	-	-	-
B0202 NS - Overlay/Reconstruction	-	-	-	-
B0203 NS - Overlay/Reconstruction – Urban	-	-	-	-
B0204 NS - Winter Maintenance	32,047	32,047	32,047	32,047
B0205 NS - Bridge Maintenance (Eirspan)	-	-	-	-
B0206 NS - General Maintenance	94,616	94,616	229,615	179,615
B0207 NS - General Improvement Works	-	-	-	-
B0299 Service Support Costs	82,373	82,373	75,248	74,918
<b>B02 NS Road - Maintenance and Improvement</b>	<b>209,036</b>	<b>209,036</b>	<b>336,910</b>	<b>286,580</b>
B0301 Regional Roads Surface Dressing	934,500	934,500	934,500	934,500
B0302 Reg Rd Surface Rest/Road Reconstruction/Overlay	-	-	-	-
B0303 Regional Road Winter Maintenance	75,000	75,000	305,944	1,028,126
B0304 Regional Road Bridge Maintenance	-	-	-	-
B0305 Regional Road General Maintenance Works	2,546,500	2,546,500	2,252,102	1,931,827
B0306 Regional Road General Improvement Works	2,323,350	2,323,350	3,410,452	2,789,446
B0399 Service Support Costs	2,843,792	2,843,792	2,611,597	2,620,567
<b>B03 Regional Road - Maintenance and Improvement</b>	<b>8,723,142</b>	<b>8,723,142</b>	<b>9,514,595</b>	<b>9,304,466</b>
B0401 Local Road Surface Dressing	1,068,000	1,068,000	1,068,000	1,067,071
B0402 Local Rd Surface Rest/Road Reconstruction/Overlay	7,959,141	7,959,141	6,587,697	7,959,141
B0403 Local Roads Winter Maintenance	-	-	-	-
B0404 Local Roads Bridge Maintenance	775,000	775,000	1,294,275	1,275,000
B0405 Local Roads General Maintenance Works	3,526,661	3,526,661	2,557,478	2,482,652
B0406 Local Roads General Improvement Works	683,420	683,420	848,389	498,992
B0499 Service Support Costs	1,400,485	1,400,485	1,289,570	1,285,859
<b>B04 Local Road - Maintenance and Improvement</b>	<b>15,412,707</b>	<b>15,412,707</b>	<b>13,645,409</b>	<b>14,568,715</b>
B0501 Public Lighting Operating Costs	723,300	723,300	743,300	748,300
B0502 Public Lighting Improvement	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000
B0599 Service Support Costs	98,970	98,970	90,993	90,559
<b>B05 Public Lighting</b>	<b>902,270</b>	<b>902,270</b>	<b>914,293</b>	<b>918,859</b>

Table F - Expenditure

## Division B - Road Transport &amp; Safety

Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2026		2025	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
B0601 Traffic Management	50,000	50,000	40,000	40,000
B0602 Traffic Maintenance	-	-	-	-
B0603 Traffic Improvement Measures	-	-	-	-
B0699 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>B06 Traffic Management Improvement</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>
B0701 Low Cost Remedial Measures	786,000	786,000	260,700	1,366,000
B0702 Other Engineering Improvements	100,000	100,000	80,000	100,000
B0799 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>B07 Road Safety Engineering Improvement</b>	<b>886,000</b>	<b>886,000</b>	<b>340,700</b>	<b>1,466,000</b>
B0801 School Wardens	54,590	54,590	54,590	54,590
B0802 Publicity and Promotion Road Safety	40,750	40,750	40,750	40,750
B0899 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>B08 Road Safety Promotion &amp; Education</b>	<b>95,340</b>	<b>95,340</b>	<b>95,340</b>	<b>95,340</b>
B0901 Maintenance and Management of Car Parks	455,882	455,882	484,870	484,870
B0902 Operation of Street Parking	-	-	-	-
B0903 Parking Enforcement	-	-	-	-
B0999 Service Support Costs	232,904	232,904	215,722	216,066
<b>B09 Car Parking</b>	<b>688,786</b>	<b>688,786</b>	<b>700,592</b>	<b>700,936</b>
B1001 Administration of Roads Capital Programme	50,331	50,331	38,659	38,659
B1099 Service Support Costs	21,676	21,676	20,805	21,083
<b>B10 Support to Roads Capital Prog</b>	<b>72,007</b>	<b>72,007</b>	<b>59,464</b>	<b>59,742</b>
B1101 Agency & Recoupable Service	162,530	162,530	111,129	111,129
B1199 Service Support Costs	1,359,600	1,359,600	1,259,106	1,270,524
<b>B11 Agency &amp; Recoupable Services</b>	<b>1,522,130</b>	<b>1,522,130</b>	<b>1,370,235</b>	<b>1,381,653</b>
<b>Division B Total</b>	<b>30,540,622</b>	<b>30,540,622</b>	<b>27,951,302</b>	<b>29,890,158</b>

Table F - Income

## Division B - Road Transport &amp; Safety

Income by Source	2026		2025	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>				
Housing, Local Government & Heritage	1,611,260	1,611,260	690,979	1,833,787
TII Transport Infrastructure Ireland	18,663,617	18,663,617	17,668,424	18,587,447
Rural, Community Development, & The Gaeltacht	-	-	633,419	418,992
Other	5,000	5,000	-	5,000
<b>Total Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>20,279,877</b>	<b>20,279,877</b>	<b>18,992,822</b>	<b>20,845,226</b>
<b>Goods &amp; Services</b>				
Parking Fines & Charges	600,000	600,000	600,000	600,000
Superannuation	58,744	58,744	60,187	58,744
Other income	792,010	792,010	181,075	209,804
<b>Total Goods &amp; Services</b>	<b>1,450,754</b>	<b>1,450,754</b>	<b>841,262</b>	<b>868,548</b>
<b>Division B Total</b>	<b>21,730,631</b>	<b>21,730,631</b>	<b>19,834,084</b>	<b>21,713,774</b>

Table F - Expenditure

## Division C - Water Services

Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2026		2025	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
C0101 Water Plants & Networks	293,154	293,154	523,154	293,154
C0199 Service Support Costs	856,939	856,939	1,060,600	838,937
<b>C01 Water Supply</b>	<b>1,150,093</b>	<b>1,150,093</b>	<b>1,583,754</b>	<b>1,132,091</b>
C0201 Waste Plants and Networks	500,000	500,000	834,120	500,000
C0299 Service Support Costs	627,173	627,173	523,698	529,830
<b>C02 Waste Water Treatment</b>	<b>1,127,173</b>	<b>1,127,173</b>	<b>1,357,818</b>	<b>1,029,830</b>
C0301 Debt Management Water and Waste Water	-	-	-	-
C0399 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>C03 Collection of Water and Waste Water Charges</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
C0401 Operation and Maintenance of Public Conveniences	61,903	61,903	61,903	61,903
C0499 Service Support Costs	3,601	3,601	3,416	3,394
<b>C04 Public Conveniences</b>	<b>65,504</b>	<b>65,504</b>	<b>65,319</b>	<b>65,297</b>
C0501 Grants for Individual Installations	150,000	150,000	120,000	120,000
C0502 Grants for Water Group Schemes	-	-	-	-
C0503 Grants for Waste Water Group Schemes	-	-	-	-
C0504 Group Water Scheme Subsidies	3,932,000	3,932,000	6,032,000	6,032,000
C0599 Service Support Costs	527,822	527,822	516,160	508,481
<b>C05 Admin of Group and Private Installations</b>	<b>4,609,822</b>	<b>4,609,822</b>	<b>6,668,160</b>	<b>6,660,481</b>
C0601 Technical Design and Supervision	-	-	-	-
C0699 Service Support Costs	379,914	379,914	338,339	343,286
<b>C06 Support to Water Capital Programme</b>	<b>379,914</b>	<b>379,914</b>	<b>338,339</b>	<b>343,286</b>
C0701 Agency & Recoupable Service	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
C0799 Service Support Costs	26,740	26,740	25,602	25,962
<b>C07 Agency &amp; Recoupable Services</b>	<b>27,740</b>	<b>27,740</b>	<b>26,602</b>	<b>26,962</b>
C0801 Local Authority Water Services	20,000	20,000	49,721	49,721
C0802 Local Authority Sanitary Services	-	-	-	-
C0899 Local Authority Service Support Costs	81,899	81,899	59,256	40,255
<b>C08 Local Authority Water and Sanitary Services</b>	<b>101,899</b>	<b>101,899</b>	<b>108,977</b>	<b>89,976</b>
<b>Division C Total</b>	<b>7,462,145</b>	<b>7,462,145</b>	<b>10,148,969</b>	<b>9,347,923</b>

**Table F - Income**

**Division C - Water Services**

	2026		2025	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>Income by Source</b>				
<b>Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>				
Housing, Local Government & Heritage	5,463,229	5,463,229	7,733,057	7,552,965
<b>Total Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>5,463,229</b>	<b>5,463,229</b>	<b>7,733,057</b>	<b>7,552,965</b>
<b>Goods &amp; Services</b>				
Uisce Éireann	1,078,457	1,078,457	1,765,387	1,051,539
Superannuation	57,964	57,964	59,388	57,964
Other income	32,578	32,578	32,578	32,578
<b>Total Goods &amp; Services</b>	<b>1,168,999</b>	<b>1,168,999</b>	<b>1,857,353</b>	<b>1,142,081</b>
<b>Division C Total</b>	<b>6,632,228</b>	<b>6,632,228</b>	<b>9,590,410</b>	<b>8,695,046</b>

Table F - Expenditure

## Division D - Development Management

Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2026		2025	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
D0101 Statutory Plans and Policy	875,274	875,274	599,350	680,739
D0199 Service Support Costs	269,541	269,541	255,793	259,012
<b>D01 Forward Planning</b>	<b>1,144,815</b>	<b>1,144,815</b>	<b>855,143</b>	<b>939,751</b>
D0201 Planning Control	1,294,854	1,294,854	1,133,853	1,123,953
D0299 Service Support Costs	814,157	814,157	766,733	774,699
<b>D02 Development Management</b>	<b>2,109,011</b>	<b>2,109,011</b>	<b>1,900,586</b>	<b>1,898,652</b>
D0301 Enforcement Costs	176,747	176,747	139,346	179,346
D0399 Service Support Costs	70,749	70,749	67,203	68,082
<b>D03 Enforcement</b>	<b>247,496</b>	<b>247,496</b>	<b>206,549</b>	<b>247,428</b>
D0401 Industrial Sites Operations	-	-	-	-
D0403 Management of & Contribs to Other Commercial Facs	-	-	-	-
D0404 General Development Promotion Work	-	-	-	-
D0499 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>D04 Industrial and Commercial Facilities</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
D0501 Tourism Promotion	350,594	350,594	252,347	250,347
D0502 Tourist Facilities Operations	21,959	21,959	34,305	43,084
D0599 Service Support Costs	122,455	122,455	116,540	118,137
<b>D05 Tourism Development and Promotion</b>	<b>495,008</b>	<b>495,008</b>	<b>403,192</b>	<b>411,568</b>
D0601 General Community & Enterprise Expenses	1,241,532	1,241,532	1,118,534	1,174,283
D0602 RAPID Costs	-	-	-	-
D0603 Social Inclusion	3,425,940	3,425,940	3,124,063	3,031,063
D0699 Service Support Costs	1,354,817	1,354,817	1,283,514	1,298,603
<b>D06 Community and Enterprise Function</b>	<b>6,022,289</b>	<b>6,022,289</b>	<b>5,526,111</b>	<b>5,503,949</b>
D0701 Unfinished Housing Estates	-	-	-	-
D0799 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>D07 Unfinished Housing Estates</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
D0801 Building Control Inspection Costs	199,325	199,325	175,392	175,392
D0802 Building Control Enforcement Costs	-	-	-	-
D0899 Service Support Costs	69,161	69,161	65,837	66,821
<b>D08 Building Control</b>	<b>268,486</b>	<b>268,486</b>	<b>241,229</b>	<b>242,213</b>

Table F - Expenditure

## Division D - Development Management

Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2026		2025	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
D0901 Urban and Village Renewal	219,330	219,330	213,354	219,330
D0902 EU Projects	502,156	502,156	469,311	474,249
D0903 Town Twinning	40,000	40,000	30,000	50,000
D0904 European Office	-	-	-	-
D0905 Economic Development & Promotion	1,875,332	1,875,332	1,676,412	1,945,665
D0906 Local Enterprise Office	1,462,933	1,462,933	1,242,313	1,442,137
D0999 Service Support Costs	1,033,822	1,033,822	977,964	989,323
<b>D09 Economic Development and Promotion</b>	<b>5,133,573</b>	<b>5,133,573</b>	<b>4,609,354</b>	<b>5,120,704</b>
D1001 Property Management Costs	-	-	-	-
D1099 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>D10 Property Management</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
D1101 Heritage Services	734,099	734,099	741,032	753,308
D1102 Conservation Services	-	-	-	-
D1103 Conservation Grants	209,000	209,000	209,000	209,000
D1199 Service Support Costs	137,787	137,787	131,059	132,570
<b>D11 Heritage and Conservation Services</b>	<b>1,080,886</b>	<b>1,080,886</b>	<b>1,081,091</b>	<b>1,094,878</b>
D1201 Agency & Recoupable Service	-	-	-	-
D1299 Service Support Costs	431	431	408	406
<b>D12 Agency &amp; Recoupable Services</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>406</b>
<b>Division D Total</b>	<b>16,501,995</b>	<b>16,501,995</b>	<b>14,823,663</b>	<b>15,459,549</b>

Table F - Income

## Division D - Development Management

Income by Source	2026		2025	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>				
Housing, Local Government & Heritage	1,980,783	1,980,783	1,700,198	1,539,698
Enterprise, Tourism, & Employment	1,443,633	1,443,633	1,240,912	1,265,684
Rural, Community Development, & The Gaeltacht	1,703,144	1,703,144	1,613,360	1,613,360
Other	1,805,151	1,805,151	1,658,908	1,725,237
<b>Total Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>6,932,711</b>	<b>6,932,711</b>	<b>6,213,378</b>	<b>6,143,979</b>
<b>Goods &amp; Services</b>				
Planning Fees	324,586	324,586	323,586	323,586
Superannuation	197,723	197,723	202,576	197,723
Other income	869,326	869,326	636,956	881,221
<b>Total Goods &amp; Services</b>	<b>1,391,635</b>	<b>1,391,635</b>	<b>1,163,118</b>	<b>1,402,530</b>
<b>Division D Total</b>	<b>8,324,346</b>	<b>8,324,346</b>	<b>7,376,496</b>	<b>7,546,509</b>

Table F - Expenditure

## Division E - Environmental Services

Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2026		2025	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
E0101 Landfill Operations	444,902	444,902	495,196	461,653
E0102 Contribution to other LAs - Landfill Facilities	-	-	-	-
E0103 Landfill Aftercare Costs.	60,000	60,000	98,276	82,868
E0199 Service Support Costs	72,282	72,282	68,735	69,279
<b>E01 Landfill Operation and Aftercare</b>	<b>577,184</b>	<b>577,184</b>	<b>662,207</b>	<b>613,800</b>
E0201 Recycling Facilities Operations	5,605	5,605	4,850	5,605
E0202 Bring Centres Operations	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000
E0204 Other Recycling Services	-	-	300	300
E0299 Service Support Costs	50,405	50,405	49,803	49,969
<b>E02 Recovery &amp; Recycling Facilities Operations</b>	<b>91,010</b>	<b>91,010</b>	<b>89,953</b>	<b>90,874</b>
E0301 Waste to Energy Facilities Operations	-	-	-	-
E0399 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>E03 Waste to Energy Facilities Operations</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
E0401 Recycling Waste Collection Services	-	-	-	-
E0402 Organic Waste Collection Services	-	-	-	-
E0403 Residual Waste Collection Services	-	-	-	-
E0404 Commercial Waste Collection Services	-	-	-	-
E0406 Contribution to Waste Collection Services	-	-	-	-
E0407 Other Costs Waste Collection	154,000	154,000	154,000	154,000
E0499 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>E04 Provision of Waste to Collection Services</b>	<b>154,000</b>	<b>154,000</b>	<b>154,000</b>	<b>154,000</b>
E0501 Litter Warden Service	90,697	90,697	104,862	103,862
E0502 Litter Control Initiatives	87,000	87,000	82,000	87,000
E0503 Environmental Awareness Services	51,000	51,000	46,000	46,000
E0599 Service Support Costs	259,215	259,215	251,907	252,905
<b>E05 Litter Management</b>	<b>487,912</b>	<b>487,912</b>	<b>484,769</b>	<b>489,767</b>
E0601 Operation of Street Cleaning Service	925,000	925,000	925,000	925,000
E0602 Provision and Improvement of Litter Bins	-	-	-	-
E0699 Service Support Costs	260,495	260,495	238,882	238,516
<b>E06 Street Cleaning</b>	<b>1,185,495</b>	<b>1,185,495</b>	<b>1,163,882</b>	<b>1,163,516</b>
E0701 Monitoring of Waste Regs (incl Private Landfills)	-	-	-	-
E0702 Enforcement of Waste Regulations	314,851	314,851	308,332	308,332
E0799 Service Support Costs	207,373	207,373	197,667	200,430
<b>E07 Waste Regulations, Monitoring and Enforcement</b>	<b>522,224</b>	<b>522,224</b>	<b>505,999</b>	<b>508,762</b>

Table F - Expenditure

## Division E - Environmental Services

Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2026		2025	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
E0801 Waste Management Plan	86,110	86,110	90,717	90,717
E0802 Contrib to Other Bodies Waste Management Planning	-	-	-	-
E0899 Service Support Costs	36,733	36,733	34,950	35,372
<b>E08 Waste Management Planning</b>	<b>122,843</b>	<b>122,843</b>	<b>125,667</b>	<b>126,089</b>
E0901 Maintenance of Burial Grounds	13,000	13,000	13,000	14,000
E0999 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>E09 Maintenance of Burial Grounds</b>	<b>13,000</b>	<b>13,000</b>	<b>13,000</b>	<b>14,000</b>
E1001 Operation Costs Civil Defence	246,999	246,999	244,106	249,906
E1002 Dangerous Buildings	-	-	-	-
E1003 Emergency Planning	16,562	16,562	15,780	15,780
E1004 Derelict Sites	-	-	-	-
E1005 Water Safety Operation	7,600	7,600	6,200	6,200
E1099 Service Support Costs	92,642	92,642	88,342	89,428
<b>E10 Safety of Structures and Places</b>	<b>363,803</b>	<b>363,803</b>	<b>354,428</b>	<b>361,314</b>
E1101 Operation of Fire Brigade Service	4,150,698	4,150,698	3,969,500	3,909,370
E1103 Fire Services Training	-	-	-	-
E1104 Operation of Ambulance Service	-	-	-	-
E1199 Service Support Costs	331,864	331,864	315,601	319,014
<b>E11 Operation of Fire Service</b>	<b>4,482,562</b>	<b>4,482,562</b>	<b>4,285,101</b>	<b>4,228,384</b>
E1201 Fire Safety Control Cert Costs	500	500	500	500
E1202 Fire Prevention and Education	185,244	185,244	182,668	182,668
E1203 Inspection & Monitoring of Commercial Facilities	-	-	-	-
E1299 Service Support Costs	89,316	89,316	84,815	85,840
<b>E12 Fire Prevention</b>	<b>275,060</b>	<b>275,060</b>	<b>267,983</b>	<b>269,008</b>
E1301 Water Quality Management	574,342	574,342	598,183	579,683
E1302 Licensing and Monitoring of Air and Noise Quality	-	-	-	-
E1399 Service Support Costs	317,995	317,995	303,105	307,381
<b>E13 Water Quality, Air and Noise Pollution</b>	<b>892,337</b>	<b>892,337</b>	<b>901,288</b>	<b>887,064</b>
E1401 Agency & Recoupable Service	135,750	135,750	135,750	135,750
E1499 Service Support Costs	299,960	299,960	314,898	316,457
<b>E14 Agency &amp; Recoupable Services</b>	<b>435,710</b>	<b>435,710</b>	<b>450,648</b>	<b>452,207</b>
E1501 Climate Change and Flooding	1,175,523	1,175,523	1,168,784	1,167,144
E1599 Service Support Costs	182,587	182,587	173,865	176,252
<b>E15 Climate Change and Flooding</b>	<b>1,358,110</b>	<b>1,358,110</b>	<b>1,342,649</b>	<b>1,343,396</b>
<b>Division E Total</b>	<b>10,961,250</b>	<b>10,961,250</b>	<b>10,801,574</b>	<b>10,702,181</b>

Table F - Income

## Division E - Environmental Services

Income by Source	2026		2025	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>				
Housing, Local Government & Heritage	616,997	616,997	635,273	631,322
Defence	113,900	113,900	113,900	113,900
Climate, Environment, & Energy	1,015,478	1,015,478	1,057,284	1,057,284
Other	1,040,753	1,040,753	1,096,753	936,753
<b>Total Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>2,787,128</b>	<b>2,787,128</b>	<b>2,903,210</b>	<b>2,739,259</b>
<b>Goods &amp; Services</b>				
Landfill Charges	106,500	106,500	106,500	106,500
Fire Charges	187,000	187,000	167,000	192,000
Superannuation	85,513	85,513	87,613	85,513
Other income	91,100	91,100	99,150	97,343
<b>Total Goods &amp; Services</b>	<b>470,113</b>	<b>470,113</b>	<b>460,263</b>	<b>481,356</b>
<b>Division E Total</b>	<b>3,257,241</b>	<b>3,257,241</b>	<b>3,363,473</b>	<b>3,220,615</b>

**Table F - Expenditure**

**Division F - Recreation and Amenity**

Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2026		2025	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
F0101 Leisure Facilities Operations	420,267	420,267	423,267	428,196
F0103 Contribution to External Bodies Leisure Facilities	-	-	-	-
F0199 Service Support Costs	705	705	668	664
<b>F01 Leisure Facilities Operations</b>	<b>420,972</b>	<b>420,972</b>	<b>423,935</b>	<b>428,860</b>
F0201 Library Service Operations	2,541,839	2,541,839	2,420,288	2,482,507
F0202 Archive Service	93,998	93,998	89,463	89,522
F0204 Purchase of Books, CD's etc.	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000
F0205 Contributions to Library Organisations	-	-	-	-
F0299 Service Support Costs	1,181,032	1,181,032	1,116,040	1,130,328
<b>F02 Operation of Library and Archival Service</b>	<b>3,946,869</b>	<b>3,946,869</b>	<b>3,755,791</b>	<b>3,832,357</b>
F0301 Parks, Pitches & Open Spaces	836,280	836,280	826,280	851,280
F0302 Playgrounds	75,000	75,000	75,000	95,000
F0303 Beaches	-	-	-	-
F0399 Service Support Costs	259,618	259,618	238,237	237,726
<b>F03 Outdoor Leisure Areas Operations</b>	<b>1,170,898</b>	<b>1,170,898</b>	<b>1,139,517</b>	<b>1,184,006</b>
F0401 Community Grants	-	-	-	-
F0402 Operation of Sports Hall/Stadium	-	-	-	-
F0403 Community Facilities	848,698	848,698	1,230,715	1,230,715
F0404 Recreational Development	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
F0499 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>F04 Community Sport and Recreational Development</b>	<b>878,698</b>	<b>878,698</b>	<b>1,260,715</b>	<b>1,260,715</b>
F0501 Administration of the Arts Programme	581,990	581,990	533,779	534,483
F0502 Contributions to other Bodies Arts Programme	130,450	130,450	180,450	185,450
F0503 Museums Operations	522,286	522,286	463,498	470,516
F0504 Heritage/Interpretive Facilities Operations	-	-	-	-
F0505 Festivals & Concerts	287,500	287,500	229,000	235,000
F0599 Service Support Costs	503,549	503,549	474,399	479,593
<b>F05 Operation of Arts Programme</b>	<b>2,025,775</b>	<b>2,025,775</b>	<b>1,881,126</b>	<b>1,905,042</b>
F0601 Agency & Recoupable Service	45,000	45,000	31,000	31,000
F0699 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>F06 Agency &amp; Recoupable Services</b>	<b>45,000</b>	<b>45,000</b>	<b>31,000</b>	<b>31,000</b>
<b>Division F Total</b>	<b>8,488,212</b>	<b>8,488,212</b>	<b>8,492,084</b>	<b>8,641,980</b>

Table F - Income

## Division F - Recreation and Amenity

Income by Source	2026		2025	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>				
Housing, Local Government & Heritage	6,000	6,000	-	1,400
Culture, Communications, & Sport	25,500	25,500	-	-
Library Council	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Arts Council	90,000	90,000	83,000	90,000
Rural, Community Development, & The Gaeltacht	25,000	25,000	29,743	29,743
Other	193,998	193,998	179,878	109,500
<b>Total Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>342,998</b>	<b>342,998</b>	<b>295,121</b>	<b>233,143</b>
<b>Goods &amp; Services</b>				
Superannuation	91,540	91,540	93,788	91,540
Other income	319,460	319,460	899,740	239,558
<b>Total Goods &amp; Services</b>	<b>411,000</b>	<b>411,000</b>	<b>993,528</b>	<b>331,098</b>
<b>Division F Total</b>	<b>753,998</b>	<b>753,998</b>	<b>1,288,649</b>	<b>564,241</b>

Table F - Expenditure

## Division G - Agriculture, Education, Health &amp; Welfare

Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2026		2025	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
G0101 Maintenance of Land Drainage Areas	-	-	-	-
G0102 Contributions to Joint Drainage Bodies	-	-	-	-
G0103 Payment of Agricultural Pensions	-	-	-	-
G0199 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>G01 Land Drainage Costs</b>	-	-	-	-
G0201 Operation of Piers	-	-	-	-
G0203 Operation of Harbours	-	-	-	-
G0299 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>G02 Operation and Maintenance of Piers and Harbours</b>	-	-	-	-
G0301 General Maintenance - Coastal Regions	-	-	-	-
G0302 Planned Protection of Coastal Regions	-	-	-	-
G0399 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>G03 Coastal Protection</b>	-	-	-	-
G0401 Provision of Veterinary Service	37,104	37,104	30,000	30,000
G0402 Inspection of Abattoirs etc	-	-	-	-
G0403 Food Safety	-	-	-	-
G0404 Operation of Dog Warden Service	311,606	311,606	332,515	343,084
G0405 Other Animal Welfare Services (incl Horse Control)	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
G0499 Service Support Costs	196,438	196,438	188,430	190,953
<b>G04 Veterinary Service</b>	<b>552,148</b>	<b>552,148</b>	<b>557,945</b>	<b>571,037</b>
G0501 Payment of Higher Education Grants	-	-	-	-
G0502 Administration Higher Education Grants	-	-	-	-
G0503 Payment of VEC Pensions	-	-	-	-
G0504 Administration VEC Pension	-	-	-	-
G0505 Contribution to Education & Training Board	-	-	-	-
G0506 Other Educational Services	-	-	-	-
G0507 School Meals	-	-	-	-
G0599 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>G05 Educational Support Services</b>	-	-	-	-
G0601 Agency & Recoupable Service	-	-	-	-
G0699 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>G06 Agency &amp; Recoupable Services</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Division G Total</b>	<b>552,148</b>	<b>552,148</b>	<b>557,945</b>	<b>571,037</b>

Table F - Income

## Division G - Agriculture, Education, Health &amp; Welfare

Income by Source	2026		2025	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>				
Food Safety Authority of Ireland	(2,800)	(2,800)	(2,800)	(2,800)
Other	7,104	7,104	60,865	20,834
<b>Total Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>4,304</b>	<b>4,304</b>	<b>58,065</b>	<b>18,034</b>
<b>Goods &amp; Services</b>				
Superannuation	9,422	9,422	9,654	9,422
Other income	162,400	162,400	162,400	162,400
<b>Total Goods &amp; Services</b>	<b>171,822</b>	<b>171,822</b>	<b>172,054</b>	<b>171,822</b>
<b>Division G Total</b>	<b>176,126</b>	<b>176,126</b>	<b>230,119</b>	<b>189,856</b>

Table F - Expenditure

## Division H - Miscellaneous Services

Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2026		2025	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
H0101 Maintenance of Machinery Service	217,948	217,948	60,043	60,043
H0102 Plant and Machinery Operations	-	-	-	-
H0199 Service Support Costs	108,039	108,039	101,900	102,753
<b>H01 Profit &amp; Loss Machinery Account</b>	<b>325,987</b>	<b>325,987</b>	<b>161,943</b>	<b>162,796</b>
H0201 Purchase of Materials, Stores	-	-	-	-
H0202 Administrative Costs Stores	-	-	-	-
H0203 Upkeep of Buildings, stores	-	-	-	-
H0299 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>H02 Profit &amp; Loss Stores Account</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
H0301 Administration of Rates Office	58,700	58,700	71,435	77,027
H0302 Debt Management Service Rates	354,474	354,474	305,186	305,486
H0303 Refunds and Irrecoverable Rates	1,900,000	1,900,000	2,100,000	2,100,000
H0399 Service Support Costs	167,202	167,202	157,726	159,603
<b>H03 Administration of Rates</b>	<b>2,480,376</b>	<b>2,480,376</b>	<b>2,634,347</b>	<b>2,642,116</b>
H0401 Register of Elector Costs	28,164	28,164	8,293	8,293
H0402 Local Election Costs	196,997	196,997	68,748	68,748
H0499 Service Support Costs	30,057	30,057	28,384	28,725
<b>H04 Franchise Costs</b>	<b>255,218</b>	<b>255,218</b>	<b>105,425</b>	<b>105,766</b>
H0501 Coroner Fees and Expenses	80,696	80,696	104,411	114,411
H0502 Operation of Morgue	-	-	-	-
H0599 Service Support Costs	40,777	40,777	38,138	38,636
<b>H05 Operation of Morgue and Coroner Expenses</b>	<b>121,473</b>	<b>121,473</b>	<b>142,549</b>	<b>153,047</b>
H0601 Weighbridge Operations	-	-	-	-
H0699 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>H06 Weighbridges</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
H0701 Operation of Markets	-	-	-	-
H0702 Casual Trading Areas	-	-	-	-
H0799 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>H07 Operation of Markets and Casual Trading</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
H0801 Malicious Damage	-	-	-	-
H0899 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>H08 Malicious Damage</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

**Table F - Expenditure**

**Division H - Miscellaneous Services**

Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2026		2025	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
H0901 Representational Payments	565,144	565,144	564,984	564,984
H0902 Chair/Vice Chair Allowances	42,000	42,000	72,000	42,000
H0903 Annual Allowances LA Members	197,000	197,000	175,000	150,000
H0904 Expenses LA Members	70,600	70,600	70,600	70,600
H0905 Other Expenses	54,220	54,220	29,897	14,220
H0906 Conferences Abroad	-	-	-	-
H0907 Retirement Gratuities	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
H0908 Contribution to Members Associations	27,000	27,000	25,095	26,350
H0909 General Municipal Allocation	1,107,951	1,107,951	1,008,510	1,008,510
H0999 Service Support Costs	791,183	791,183	731,589	735,057
<b>H09 Local Representation &amp; Civic Leadership</b>	<b>2,955,098</b>	<b>2,955,098</b>	<b>2,777,675</b>	<b>2,711,721</b>
H1001 Motor Taxation Operation	457,217	457,217	432,824	421,201
H1099 Service Support Costs	189,486	189,486	179,076	181,534
<b>H10 Motor Taxation</b>	<b>646,703</b>	<b>646,703</b>	<b>611,900</b>	<b>602,735</b>
H1101 Agency & Recoupable Service	1,018,988	1,018,988	1,140,115	1,121,693
H1102 Non Principal Private Residence Charge	-	-	-	-
H1103 DWTS Registration Fees	-	-	-	-
H1199 Service Support Costs	344,028	344,028	318,524	319,496
<b>H11 Agency &amp; Recoupable Services</b>	<b>1,363,016</b>	<b>1,363,016</b>	<b>1,458,639</b>	<b>1,441,189</b>
<b>Division H Total</b>	<b>8,147,871</b>	<b>8,147,871</b>	<b>7,892,478</b>	<b>7,819,370</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>97,619,169</b>	<b>97,619,169</b>	<b>93,758,392</b>	<b>96,691,363</b>

Table F - Income

## Division H - Miscellaneous Services

Income by Source	2026		2025	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>				
Housing, Local Government & Heritage	6,960,872	6,960,872	6,145,729	6,145,729
Other	229,652	229,652	92,000	92,000
<b>Total Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>7,190,524</b>	<b>7,190,524</b>	<b>6,237,729</b>	<b>6,237,729</b>
<b>Goods &amp; Services</b>				
Superannuation	64,444	64,444	66,025	64,444
Local Authority Contributions	143,374	143,374	233,368	233,368
NPPR	-	-	10,000	10,000
Other income	1,092,985	1,092,985	900,395	882,673
<b>Total Goods &amp; Services</b>	<b>1,300,803</b>	<b>1,300,803</b>	<b>1,209,788</b>	<b>1,190,485</b>
<b>Division H Total</b>	<b>8,491,327</b>	<b>8,491,327</b>	<b>7,447,517</b>	<b>7,428,214</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>66,017,550</b>	<b>66,017,550</b>	<b>63,732,771</b>	<b>65,056,248</b>

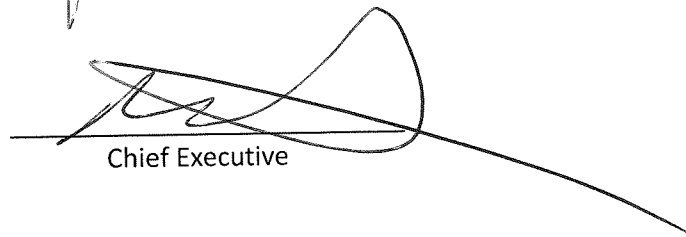
## CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION

I hereby certify that at the budget meeting of Monaghan County Council held this 17<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025 the Council by Resolution adopted for the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2026 the budget set out in Tables A to F and by Resolution determined in accordance with the said budget the Rates set out in Table A to be the Annual Rate on Valuation to be levied for that year for the purposes set out in those Tables.

Signed:

  
Cathaoirleach

Countersigned:

  
Chief Executive

Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025

**APPENDIX 1****SUMMARY OF CENTRAL MANAGEMENT CHARGES FOR YEAR 2026**

<b>Description</b>	<b>2026 €</b>
Area Office Overhead	2,764,416
Corporate Affairs Overhead	1,986,688
Corporate Buildings Overhead	2,489,230
Finance Function Overhead	927,304
Human Resource Function Overhead	1,665,288
IT Services	2,199,054
Pension & Lump Sum Overhead	5,796,649
<b>Total Expenditure Allocated to Services</b>	<b>17,828,629</b>

**APPENDIX 2**

**SUMMARY OF LOCAL PROPERTY TAX ALLOCATION FOR YEAR 2026**

<b>Description</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2026</b>
	<b>€</b>	<b>€</b>
<b>Discretionary</b>		
** Discretionary Local Property Tax (Table A)	<u>13,592,548</u>	<b>13,592,548</b>
<b>Self Funding - Revenue Budget</b>		
Housing & Building	-	
Roads, Transport & Safety	-	
	<u>-</u>	-
<b>Total Local Property Tax - Revenue Budget</b>		<b><u>13,592,548</u></b>
<b>Self Funding - Capital Budget</b>		
Housing & Building	-	
Roads, Transport & Safety	-	
	<u>-</u>	-
<b>Total Local Property Tax - Capital Budget</b>		<b><u>-</u></b>
<b>Total Local Property Tax Allocation (Post Variation)</b>		<b>13,592,548</b>

\*\*This amount includes an equalisation contribution of €0 from the Exchequer/Local Government Fund.