

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	Westport's win in the 2001 Tidy Towns Competition	Inside Back Cover

Local Government in Ireland is said to exist for two reasons:

1. Firstly as a provider of important services such as housing, roads, water and sewerage and planning.
2. The second reason is that Local Government enables local people decide on their priorities, their level of taxation and their level of service.

Mayo County Council is made up of two parts the Elected Members and the Executive (The Management and Staff). 31 Members were elected to Mayo County Council in June 1999. The Members perform the RESERVED FUNCTIONS, which broadly equate with the making of policy, of the Council and include

- Adopting the Annual Estimate of Expenses
- Making of a Development Plan
- Adopting a Scheme of Letting Priorities for the Allocation of Local Authority Housing

The County Manager is appointed to the position following an open competition. The Manager performs the EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS by way of Managers Order. These functions relate to day to day administration and include:

- Letting of Houses
- Planning Decisions
- Management of Human Resources

In practice there is much consultation and overlapping in the performance of the reserved and executive functions.

The functions of Mayo County Council are classified under eight programme groups:

- Housing & Building
- Road Transportation & Safety
- Water Supply & Sewerage
- Development Incentives & Control
- Environmental Protection
- Recreation & Amenity
- Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare
- Miscellaneous Services e.g. Elections, Courthouses

The expenditure of Mayo County Council can be classified under two headings:

1. **Revenue Expenditure (€76 million)** - which is day to day spending on the provision of services. The main sources of funding for this expenditure are:
 - Government Grants and Subsidies
 - Commercial Rates
 - Fees and Charges for Services
2. **Capital Expenditure (€64 million)** - is expenditure on the creation of an asset. e.g. construction works, major road improvements. The main sources of funding for this expenditure are:
 - Capital Grants from Central Government
 - Borrowings
 - Other Capital Receipts e.g. Sale of Lands

This Annual Report is an outline of the main programmes, services and other activities undertaken by the Council in 2001.



Des Mahon Mayo County Manager



Jimmy Maloney Cathaoirleach Mayo County Council

Is cúis mór áthas duinn mar Cathaoirleach agus mar Bainisteoir Comhairle Chontae Mhaigheo fáilte a chur roimh an foilseacháin seo - an Tuarascáil Bliantúil 2001.

This year as in previous years, we are happy to publish the Annual Report for Ireland's third largest county, which gives the Elected Members and public alike a snapshot of the Council's achievements during 2001.

During the past year the Council embarked on major change in the delivery of its services in the County with the commencement of the implementation of The Programme for Better Local Government. This is the first major change in a quarter of a century in the provision of local government services. It will involve the making of the Council's services available in so far as possible on an area based level and thus people will no longer have to travel to Castlebar in order to carry out their business with the Council. These changes commenced with the appointment of Directors of Services and support staff. It will take some time for the new structures to be fully implemented but this is a unique challenge facing all of us in which we will succeed.

One of the major events in the county in 2001 was the official opening of Turlough Park House and Gardens which houses the National Folklife Collection of the National Museum of Ireland. Mayo County Council was closely involved in this project and the Gardens at Turlough Park House now form part of the Great Gardens of Ireland. This very welcome project is already proving its potential as a tourist attraction as over 50,000 people have visited there to date.

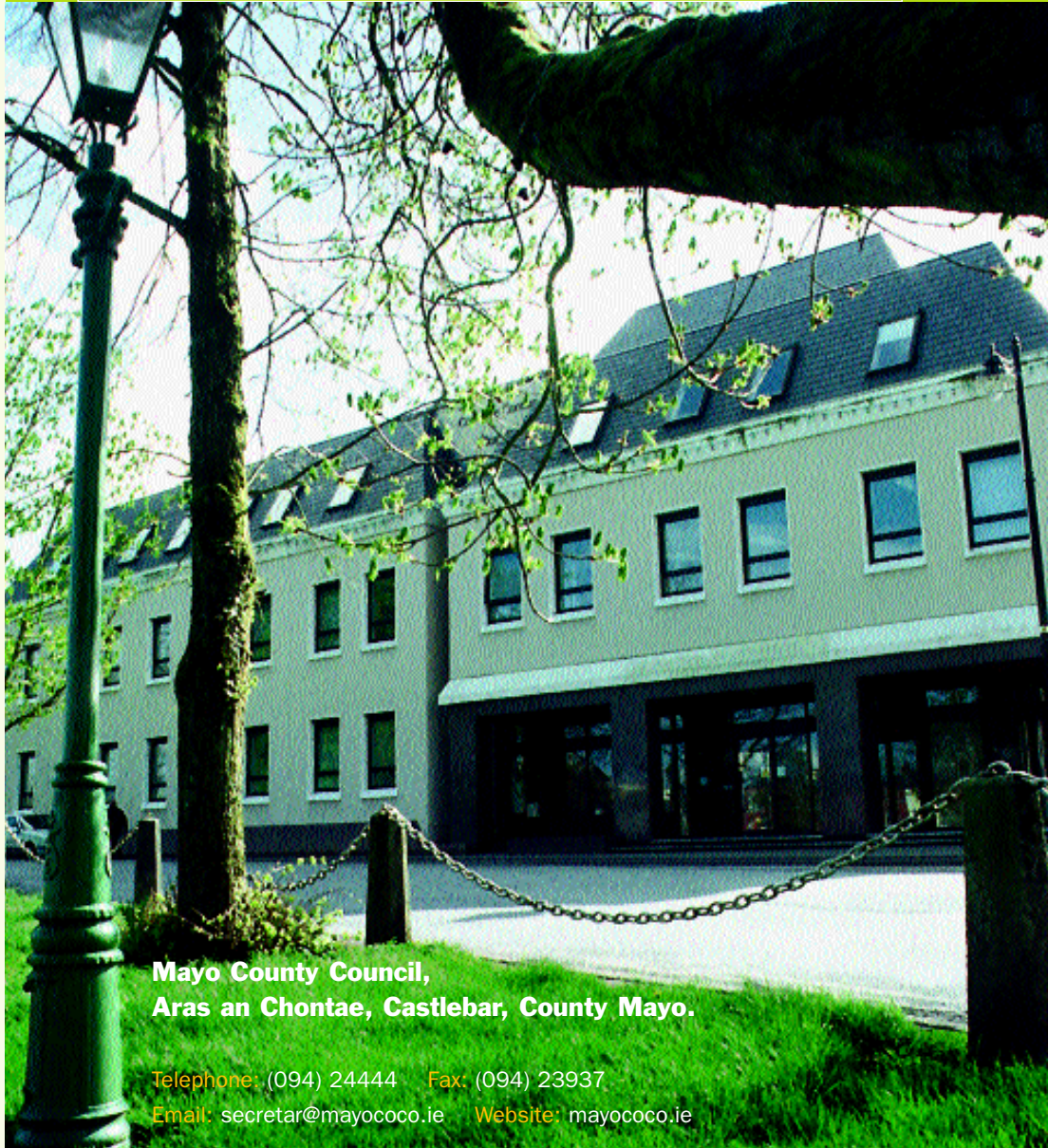
The provision of new infrastructure and the continued improvement of existing infrastructure indicates the Council's commitment to making the county a better place for all of us. The relocation of the Motor Taxation Office to Glenpark will enable a more efficient service to be provided to the public.

From the activities highlighted in this year's Annual Report, it will be seen that Mayo County Council is a pro-active local authority which carries out its activities in an efficient and effective manner.

Finally we would like to thank the elected members and the staff for their loyalty and commitment during the past year and look forward to their continued co-operation and support.

D. Mahon,
County Manager.

J. Maloney,
Cathaoirleach.



**Mayo County Council,
Aras an Chontae, Castlebar, County Mayo.**

Telephone: (094) 24444 Fax: (094) 23937
Email: secretar@mayococo.ie Website: mayococo.ie



Des Mahon
COUNTY MANAGER



John Condon
COUNTY SECRETARY



John Coll
DIRECTOR OF
COMMUNITY & ENTERPRISE



Joe Beirne
DIRECTOR OF SERVICES /
COUNTY ENGINEER

Mayo County Council Area Offices

Ballina:	Pound Street	(096) 22024
Ballinrobe:	Kilmaine Road	(092) 41029
Belmullet:	Church Road	(097) 81004
Castlebar:	The Mall	(094) 24444
Claremorris:	Balla Road	(094) 71285
Kiltimagh:	Aiden Street	(094) 81216
Newport:	The Quay Road	(098) 41169
Swinford:	The Courthouse	(094) 51495 / 51132
Westport:	James Street	(098) 25731
West Region Office:	The Fairgreen, Westport	(098) 29467
North East Region Office:	Emmet Street, Ballina	(096) 71479

Town Councils

Ballina:	Market Square	(096) 21399
Castlebar:	Marsh House, Newtown	(094) 23341 / 23350 / 23176
Westport:	Castlebar Road	(098) 25888



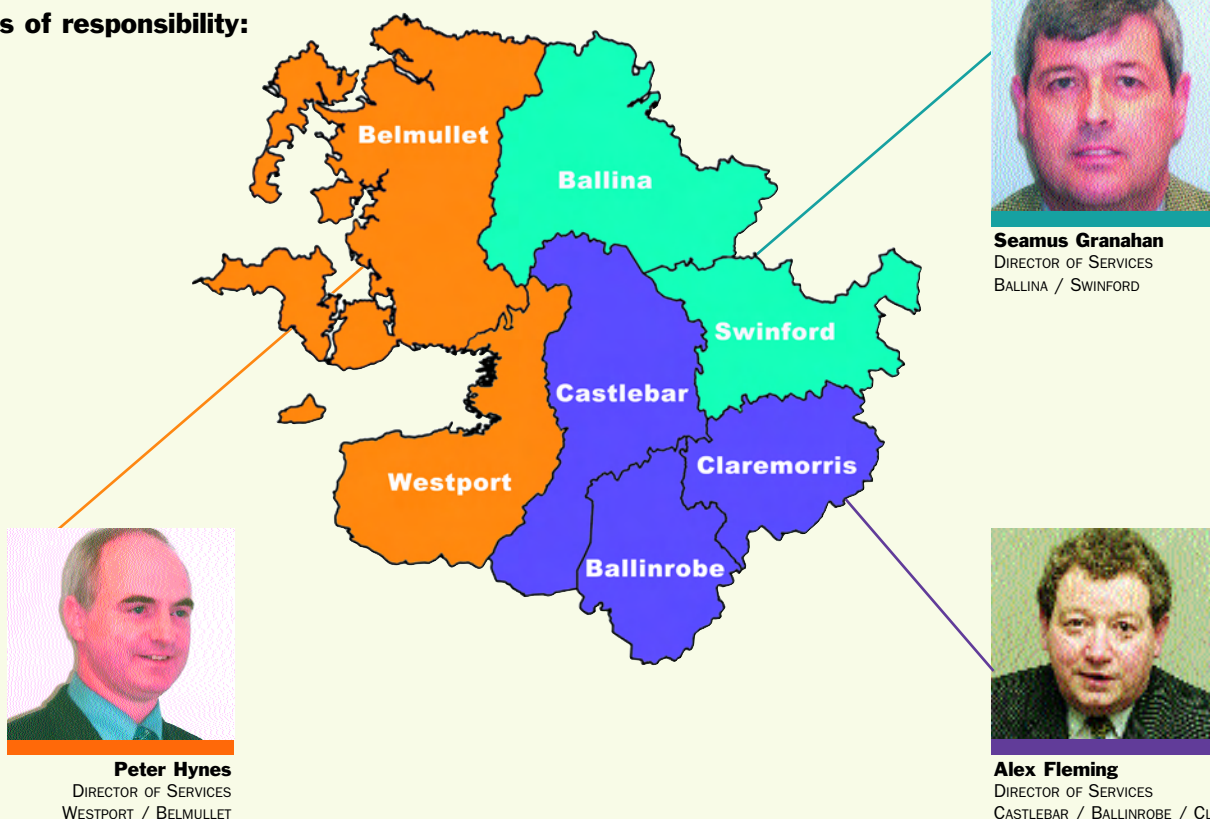
Joe Loftus
DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
CORPORATE AFFAIRS



Tim Mullen
HEAD OF FINANCE



areas of responsibility:



Peter Hynes
DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
WESTPORT / BELMULLET



Seamus Granahan
DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
BALLINA / SWINFORD



Alex Fleming
DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
CASTLEBAR / BALLINROBE / CLAREMORRIS

Ballina / Swinford. Emmet Street, Ballina. Telephone: (096) 71479.

Seamus Granahan
Director of Services

Paul Benson
Senior Executive Officer

Noel Burke
Senior Engineer

Westport / Belmullet. The Fairgreen, Westport. Telephone: (098) 29467.

Peter Hynes
Director of Services

Martin Keating
Senior Executive Officer

Paddy Mahon
Senior Engineer

Castlebar / Ballinrobe / Claremorris. Áras an Chontae, Castlebar. Telephone: (094) 24444.

Alex Fleming
Director of Services /
Assistant County Manager

Padraic Flanagan
Senior Executive Officer

Ray Norton
Senior Engineer

Capital Works. Áras an Chontae, Castlebar. Telephone: (094) 24444.

Joseph Beirne
Director of Services /
County Engineer

Pat Commons
Senior Executive Officer

Brian O'Reilly, Michael Mongan, Tony McNulty
Senior Engineers

Corporate Affairs. Áras an Chontae, Castlebar. Telephone: (094) 24444.

Joseph Loftus
Director of Services

John Condon
Senior Executive Officer

Iain Douglas
Senior Planner
Seamus Murphy
Chief Fire Officer

Pat Carroll
Head of Information Systems

Finance. Áras an Chontae, Castlebar. Telephone: (094) 24444.

Tim Mullen
Head of Finance

Sean Smyth
Senior Executive Officer

Community & Enterprise. McHale Industrial Park, Castlebar. Telephone: (094) 24444.

John Coll
Director of Services



Mission Statement

MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL'S MISSION
IS TO IMPROVE
THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF PEOPLE
LIVING IN MAYO AND INCREASE THE
ATTRACTIVENESS OF MAYO AS A
PLACE IN WHICH TO LIVE, WORK AND INVEST."

Major Corporate Goals of Mayo County Council

- To provide quality cost-effective, accessible services and develop a culture of customer care throughout the County
- To protect the natural environment of the County and encourage renewal and redevelopment, while retaining the visual attractiveness of Mayo
- To ensure that every Mayo family can live in a dwelling of good standard, located in an acceptable environment at a price or rent they can afford
- To secure a safe and comprehensive roads network to satisfy the present and projected needs of all who live, work or visit the county
- To assist in the orderly development of the natural and industrial resources of the County in order to maximise employment opportunities consistent with the protection of the County's natural environment
- To provide other essential public services in order to improve living conditions, and quality of life for everyone in Mayo
- To maximise the potential of our area office network to deliver the Council's services as close as possible to the people we serve
- To improve the public perception of the Council as a modern, efficient and effective public service provider
- To maximise the potential of all our staff
- To support and enhance the role of the elected Councillor in accordance with the principles of representative and participative democracy.



Turlough Park

Turlough Park is located in the parish of Turlough, about 6 kilometres east of Castlebar. It is now a small demesne of roughly 40 acres that once encapsulated an area of over 1500 Acres, and is set in an area of great archaeological and landscape significance. The turlough or “dry lake” is the most notable feature of this river valley site, flooding in times of heavy rainfall, and was used as pasture at other times.



Development Of Turlough as The National Museum of Country Life:

The property remained in the ownership of the Fitzgerald and later Butler families until 1991. At this time Mayo County Council, and its Manager, Mr. Des Mahon, saw the need for a major tourist attraction in the centre of the county, and purchased the property which had been on the market at the time.

Mayo County Council were aware of the existence of the “Folk Life Collection” which had been in storage at Daingan, Co. Offaly, since the mid – fifties and the idea of developing the Turlough Estate as a suitable home for the collection was mooted.



Ongoing discussions were held by Mayo County Council with the Office Of Public Works (OPW), and Department Of The Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and The Islands and a decision to proceed with the project was taken in early 1998.

Plans on the proposed design for the Museum were developed by the OPW, in association with Mayo County Council, while Mayo County Council separately undertook the restoration of the original Gardens and grounds off the estate.

This restoration work commenced in November 1998, and included for replacement of the Free-standing Timber Framed Glasshouse, restoration of the Iron Lean-to Glasshouse, construction of the artificial lake and islands, and renewal of the terraced gardens. The work was completed earlier this year.



1 St. Joseph's N.S., Ballinrobe.

Green Flag raising ceremony, October 2001.

2 St. John's N.S., Breaftery.

Green Flag raising ceremony, June 2001.

3 St. Joseph's N.S., Cong.

Green Flag raising ceremony, June 2001.

4 St. Patrick's N.S., Clare Island.

Learning about the environment, May 2001.

5 Hazardous Waste

Mayo's first ever household hazardous waste weekend was held in April 2001.

Cllr. Johnny Mee and Mr. Ray Norton, Senior Engineer bring along their household hazardous waste.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Waste Management continues to be one of the major issues facing Mayo County Council. Further progress was made in 2001 in planning for an integrated Waste Management system, with significant emphasis being placed on Waste Minimisation. What this means is that the Council is developing a range of waste management options designed to reduce substantially the amount of waste consigned to landfill. Mayo County Council is the lead Authority for the Connaught Region in relation to waste management.

LANDFILLS

Mayo is now in the position of having two Licensed Landfill Sites which are operated to the strictest environmental standards. The Waste Licence for the Rathroeen, Ballina Landfill, was issued from the Environmental Protection Agency on 11th October, 2001. The licensed capacity for Derrinumera, Newport Landfill is 40,000 tonnes per annum while the licence for Rathroeen allows an annual intake of 45,000 tonnes. Waste Management policy is designed to significantly reduce reliance on landfill. Nevertheless, landfills will continue to be required, and the fact that Mayo has two licensed landfills will enhance its capacity to sustain economic development.

CIVIC AMENITY CENTRES

The landfill site at Derrinumera has undergone major development over the last year. As part of this development a state of the art Civic Amenity Centre has been put in place at the Derrinumera Landfill Site. A Civic Amenity Centre is a place where householders can bring a large range of items for recycling. These items include paper, plastic, cardboard and white goods such as fridges and freezers. The public can also bring certain items of hazardous waste such as old paints and waste medicines to the civic amenity centre for safe disposal. The Civic Amenity Centre is a free service for householders. Since opening in July 2001, the Civic Amenity Centre has been a tremendous success with people from all over the county making the effort to avail of the service.

It is also intended to provide a similar facility at Rathroeen Landfill Site and planning for this will be incorporated into the overall planning for the upgrading of the site.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

In April, 2001, the Environment Section launched the household hazardous waste collection service. During the last week of April collection of household hazardous waste took place in Ballina, Castlebar and Westport. Ballina Beverages kindly sponsored the Ballina collection. The waste was collected and safely disposed of by a waste management company called "Greenstar Recycling". Over 10 tonnes of household hazardous waste was collected in the three towns. The waste collected included oil, paint, batteries and florescent tubes.

HOUSEHOLD COMPOST BIN SCHEME

Due to the large interest in the household compost scheme, the Environment Section has extended the number of locations from which the public may purchase and collect compost bins. Compost bins can now be collected from Aras an Chontae, Castlebar, from all Mayo County Council Area Offices and from the Landfill Sites. Household compost bins are sold at the reduced cost of €25.00. Over 2,000 compost bins have been sold to date.

NEW RECYCLING BRING BANKS FOR MAYO

In 2001, Mayo County Council has doubled the number of recycling facilities available to the public. There are now 50 such facilities throughout the county. Glass bottles, jars and aluminium drink cans can be placed in the recycling bring banks.

INTERNAL WASTE MANAGEMENT INITIATIVES

- The internal office paper-recycling scheme has been expanded to all Mayo County Council offices throughout the county.
- Special office environmental kits have been provided at Aras an Chontae for office hazardous waste such as Tippex and batteries. This Scheme is being expanded county-wide to other offices of Mayo County Council.
- Cotton shopping bags: In an effort to reduce the use of plastic carrier bags, cotton shopping bags were distributed to staff.
- All cardboard generated in Aras an Chontae is being collected by a local waste contractor and is forwarded for recycling.
- All plastic bottles, aluminium cans and cardboard arising from the staff canteen are now being recycled.

WASTE COLLECTION PERMITTING

The Waste Management (Collection Permit) Regulations 2001 provide for a system of permitting by Local Authorities of commercial waste activities. The operative date for the Regulations was 30th November, 2001. Local Authorities who jointly made a Waste Management Plan were required under the Regulations to nominate one of the Authorities to carry out the permitting function in respect of the Region concerned. Mayo County Council was nominated for the Connaught Region.

Over one hundred applications for such Permits have been received. Having considered the applications, the Council can grant, with or without conditions, or refuse to grant the Permit. In granting a Permit, the Council must be satisfied that the waste collection activity in question carried out in accordance with such conditions as may be attached to the Permit would not cause environmental pollution and that the grant of the Permit is in accordance with the provisions of the Authorities Waste Management Plan and the Environmental Protection Agencies Hazardous Waste Management Plan.

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

AWARENESS IN SCHOOLS

In an effort to raise environmental awareness among the young people of Mayo, the Environmental Awareness Officer has visited a number of Mayo's schools. Over the last year 54 primary schools and 12 secondary schools have been visited throughout the county. The aim of these visits is to teach the students how to recycle, how to compost and how to reduce the amount of waste they generate. A large emphasis is also placed on raising awareness to the problems of litter as well as offering information on water conservation and water pollution. As part of the blue flag beach programme, schools in the vicinity of a Blue Flag Beach are also offered information on the Importance of looking after their local beach.



1 Launch of the first edition of 'Environmental News', Sharon Joyce, Environmental Awareness Officer, Jude Walsh A.O., Cllr. Jimmy Maloney, Cathaoirleach Mayo Co. Co. and John Conlon, County Secretary. October 2001.

2 Sharon Joyce, Environmental Awareness Officer, presents Louis Molloy (age 10) Westport, with a mountain bike. Louis was the overall winner of the childrens environmental quiz in 'Environmental News'. Louis is pictured with his parents Michael and Linda.

3 Launch of the shopping for the Environment campaign in March 2001 Padraig Felle, manager Dunnes Stores Castlebar, Padraig Carney, manager SuperValu Castlebar, Sharon Joyce, Environmental Awareness Officer, Cllr. Eddie Staunton, Mayo Co. Co. Jude Walsh A.O., Mayo Co. Co. and Cllr. Jim Mannion Mayo Co. Co.

GREEN SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

The Green School's Programme has been operating for almost five years in Mayo. The Green School's Programme is a European Wide Programme, which is co-ordinated in Ireland by An Taisce and is run in association with the Local Authorities. Registered schools have to achieve seven steps with the aim of reducing the amount of litter and waste in the school and creating environmental awareness among young people. Once the school has successfully completed the seven steps of the Green School's Programme they are awarded the Green Flag Award. In 2001, three Mayo Schools received

their Green Flag – St. Joseph's N.S., Ballinrobe, St. John's N.S., Breaffy and St. Joseph's N.S., Cong. A further 30 schools are registered and working towards their award. This includes three of Mayo's Secondary Schools.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

In an effort to raise Environmental Awareness throughout the county, the Environmental Awareness Officer is available to speak to community groups in relation to environmental issues. During 2001, the Environmental Awareness Officer has made a number of environmental presentations to community groups, environmental organisations and local industry.

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS WEEK

In January, 2001, the Environment Section of Mayo County Council came together with Mid-West Radio to host an Environmental Awareness Week as part of the Department of the Environment and Local Government's on-going environmental campaign "It's Easy to Make a Difference". As part of the week Eanna Ni Lamhna, the well-known broadcaster visited community groups and schools throughout the county. Local Tidy Towns Groups, community organisations and staff from the Environment Section offered environmental information throughout the week on Mid-West Radio.

SUPERMARKET CAMPAIGN

In early 2001, the Department of the Environment and Local Government in association with Mayo County Council launched their "Shopping for the Environment" Campaign. As part of the campaign environmental information was made available to the public in eleven of Mayo's Supermarkets. The aim of the campaign was to encourage the public to make environmentally friendly choices when shopping in their local supermarket.

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

In October, 2001, the Environment Section launched the first edition of Mayo County Council's "Environment News". Environment News is a seasonal newsletter which is packed with information about composting, recycling, anti-litter awareness and much more. The newsletter is distributed to all homes in the county and each edition contains a children's environment corner.

ENVIRONMENTAL COLUMN

As part of the Council's ongoing environmental campaign an environmental column is written each month in "The Western People". This column offers information to the public on all aspects of the environment including anti-litter awareness, water conservation and recycling advice.

ANTI-LITTER AWARENESS

In order to raise awareness to the issues of litter and illegal dumping a free-phone litter line was launched in 2001. Members of the public who want to report such incidences can now contact the Litter Wardens @ 1800 400 256.

In April 2001 as part of the National Spring Clean an anti-litter display was placed in Ballina and Castlebar Library.

Anti-litter information leaflets are available from the Environment Section, from all libraries and from Mayo Co. Co. Area Offices.

CLEANER COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN

2001 saw the introduction of a new category to the Cleaner Community Campaign – The Tidy Burial Ground Category. This category is open to all Burial Ground Committees and other organisations who maintain their burial grounds to a good standard.

At a Presentation Ceremony in the Cill Aodain Hotel, Kiltimagh, on the 21st November, 2001, the Cathaoirleach of Mayo County Council, Mr. Jimmy Maloney presented the Cleaner Community 2001 Awards. The ceremony was broadcast live on MWRfm.

AWARD WINNERS 2001

Tidy Housing Estates

1. Greenfields Estate, Pontoon Rd. Castlebar.
2. "The Lawn", Dalton St. Claremorris.
3. Kings Hill, Newport Rd. Westport.

Litter Clean-Up

1. Westport Tidy Towns Committee.
2. Castlebar Tidy Towns Committee.
3. Ballyglass Foroige Club.

Tidy Burial Grounds

1. Ballinhaglish Burial Ground. Contact:
2. Killala Burial Ground.
3. Murrisk Burial Ground.

Tidy Schools

1. St. Brid's N.S., Castlebar.
2. St. Joseph's Secondary School, Foxford.
3. St. Joseph's N.S., Ballinrobe.

Local Area Environment

1. Killawalla Community Council.
2. Neale Heritage & Development Association.
3. Quay Road Residents Association.

LITTER CONTROL

The Litter Pollution Act 1997 brought in tougher litter laws to combat the problems of litter pollution more effectively.

ILLEGAL DUMPING

The Litter Laws have increased the powers of the County Councils to combat the powers of illegal dumping of refuse and rubbish. Extra powers are also available to County Councils to require a householder or business operator to indicate how and where they are disposing of their waste. This is particularly relevant if the householder or business owner is not availing of a refuse collection service or bringing their waste to an unauthorised disposal facility.

Mayo County Council currently employs two Litter Control Wardens. While the enforcement of the Litter Control Act is a very substantial element of the litter control service, equally important is the preventative role of the Litter Warden. One hundred and ninety-seven On-the-Spot fines have been issued in 2001, and legal proceedings have been instituted in the District Court in some of these cases.

The litter control services of the Council also liaises very closely with community organisations, Tidy Towns Associations and other groups, and any assistance which can be given to these organisations is made available. The education of young people in relation to litter prevention is very important and a number of schools throughout the county have been visited by the Litter Control Wardens and Environment Section staff. In 2001, Mayo County Council initiated a review of its' Litter Management Plan.

WATER POLLUTION

Under the Local Government (Water Pollution) Acts 1977 & 1990, County Councils have primary responsibility for ensuring the preservation, protection and improvement of water quality.

AIR POLLUTION

The Air Pollution Act 1987 was enacted to provide a comprehensive framework for the control of most kinds of air pollution. The Act is administered by County Councils.

BLUE FLAG BEACHES

The Blue Flag is an environmental award given to communities that make a special effort to manage their beaches in an environmentally sensitive way, that achieve a consistently high standard of cleanliness and that carry out educational and awareness raising campaigns on the marine environment. There are four aspects of management incorporated in the Blue Flag criteria:-

- Environmental Education and Information.
- Environmental Management and Facilities.
- Water Quality.
- Safety and Services.

The Blue Flag Campaign is a source of information on clean, safe and enjoyable environments for aquatic recreation. Visitors to the Blue Flag Beaches in Mayo can expect to see an Environmental Code of Conduct and Information on Protected Sites and Species in the locality.

The beaches in Mayo which achieved Blue Flag Status in 2001 were

Elly Bay	Mullaghroe
Ross	Dugort
Keel	Carrowmore
Old Head	Dooega
Golden Strand	Mulranny
Bertra	

VETERINARY DEPARTMENT

Mayo County Council through its Veterinary Department is responsible for

- Abattoirs
- Sheep Scab Control
- Control of Horses
- Control of Slaughter Houses
- Control of Dogs
- Dairies
- Food Safety

ABATTOIRS

During 2001, all 24 licenced abattoirs in which slaughtering was taking place were audited. This entailed 37 initial audits, as the aim was to inspect the slaughtering of each species (cattle, sheep and pigs) in each premises. Where necessary, follow-up inspections were carried out and these are still ongoing.

Training Provided by the Local Authority

- A training course was held on 1st February, 2001. This course was attended by 42 butchers, and dealt with slaughter hygiene and SRM controls and procedures.
- Two workshops were also held on 6th March, 2001, and 19th November, 2001). These workshops focussed on Clean Livestock Policy, SRM, labelling regulations and problems found during abattoir audits.





The continued boom and prosperity in the economy of County Mayo is reflected in the number of planning applications received by Mayo County Council.

Year	No. of Planning Applications
1996	1946
1997	2331
1998	2918
1999	3359
2000	3317
2001	2997

Of the number of applications received during the year 2001 a decision to grant was issued on 2,721 while a decision to refuse was issued on 276.

Building Control

Mayo County Council is the Building Control Authority for County Mayo and the building control code is administered by the Planning Office. Under the Building Control legislation, before any development is commenced, a Commencement Notice must be submitted stating the date of commencement of the development. In 2001, 1106 Commencement Notices were received.

A Fire Safety Certificate is required in respect of commercial development and in 2001 a total of 368 Fire Certificates applications were received.

Devolution of the Planning Function

As part of the Better Local Government devolution of functions to the Grouped Electoral Areas it is envisaged that the planning function will be delivered at area level starting in 2002. Major investment in resources for the delivery of this service is planned.

Mayo County Council and NASC

Mayo County Council is a member of NASC which is a partnership of public institutions aiming to improve communications and develop links with the institutions and other regions of Europe, thereby maximising the benefits to these areas in the context of National and European policies and programmes. The partners involved in NASC are Mayo County Council, Galway County Council, Donegal County Council, Kerry County Council, University College Galway, Udaras na Gaeltachta and Cork County Council.

Beatha Environmental Quality Award

The Beatha Award project established criteria and a methodology for giving recognition in the form of an environmental award (Beatha award) to areas which have a high quality environment, and which have demonstrated commitment on the part of the local authority and local community working together in partnership to protect and manage the environment in a sustainable way.

Mayo has received Beatha Awards for such areas as Erris, the Westport area, Belderrig/Ballycastle, the Louisburgh area together with the islands and Killawalla/Ballintubber areas.

Forward Planning

During 2001, two variations of the Mayo County Development Plan were adopted:-

- (1) Housing Strategy**
- (2) Section 3.4.4 Roads Systems.**

In December 2001, the Council initiated the procedure for reviewing existing Mayo County Development Plan and for the making of a new Mayo County Development Plan.

The new Plan, when made, shall have effect in relation to the whole of County Mayo, excluding the areas of the Town Councils of Ballina, Castlebar and Westport, who are planning authorities for their own areas.

The statutory basis for the review of existing County Development Plans and the making of a new County Development Plan is contained in the Planning and Development Act, 2000.



The Mayo County Development Board was established in March 2000. The Membership of the Board is drawn from four sectors; Local Government, Local Development, the State Agencies and the Social Partners.

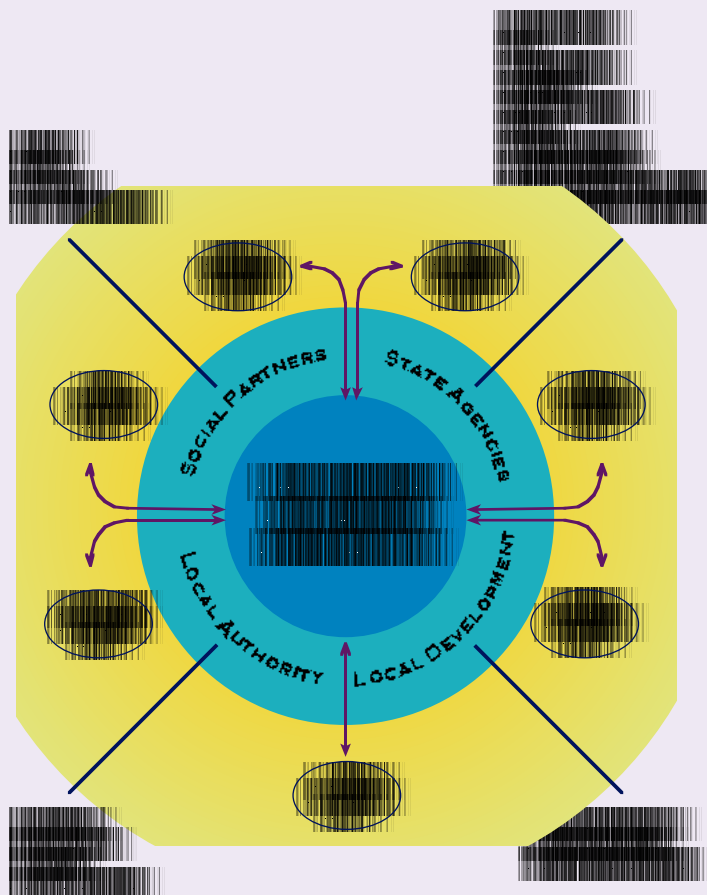
The Agreed Aims of the Board are:

1. To Prepare and agree an integrated ten year strategy for economic, social and cultural development in Mayo.
2. To promote interagency liaison and co-operation in relation to plans and policies.
3. To promote partnership, co-operation and co-ordination in relation to all services delivered locally.

The Ten-Year Integrated Strategy for the Economic, Social and Cultural Development of County Mayo once agreed and adopted will act as the blueprint for development in the County over the next ten years.

The Board and its support structures are administered and facilitated through the Community and Enterprise Section of Mayo County Council.

The support structures feeding into work of the Board and into the strategy include 7 area Community Fora (one in each electoral area) and a County Community Forum made up of 21 elected representatives of the community and voluntary sector. Economic, Social and Cultural Working Groups, Thematic Fora and Working Groups such as the Mayo Energy Forum, the Mayo Forum on Disability, the Mayo Forum for Young People, the Social Inclusion Measures Working Group, the Mayo Sports Forum, the Mayo Arts Fourm. The Mayo Islands Development Forum has also been established.



The Members of the Mayo County Development Board in 2001 were:

Local Government:

Cllr. John Carty, Chairman of Mayo County Development Board.

Cllr. James Maloney, Cathaoirleach, Mayo County Council.

Cllr. Frank Leneghan, Chairman of Planning and Economic Development S.P.C.

Senator Frank Chambers, Chairman of Roads and Transportation.

Cllr. Pat McHugh, Chairman of Cultural, Education, Heritage and Community Affairs S.P.C.

Cllr. Jim Mannion, Chairman of Environment Policy and Emergency Services S.P.C.

Cllr. Michael Burke, Chairman of Water Supply and Sewerage S.P.C.

Cllr. Peter Flynn, Westport U.D.C., Representative of Urban Councils.

Mr. Des Mahon, County Manager, Mayo County Council.

Local Development:

County Enterprise Board

Denis Michael, Mayo County Enterprise Board.

Frank Fullard, Chief Executive Officer, Mayo County Enterprise Board.

Leader Companies

Mr. Jim Nally, South West Mayo Development Co Ltd.

An tUasal Donncha O'Gallachobhair (R.I.P.), Meitheal Forbartha na Gaeltachta Teoranta.

Partnership Companies:

Mr. Brian Mooney, Meitheal Mhaigh Eo Teo.

Mr. Justin Sammon, Manager, Meitheal Mhaigh Eo Teo.

State Agencies:

Mr. Frank Murray, General Manager Mayo Community Services, Western Health Board.

Mr. Tony Barrett, Regional Director, FAS.

Mr. Pat Boyle, Chief Agricultural Officer, Teagasc.

Mr. Joseph Langan, Chief Executive Officer, Co. Mayo Vocational Education Committee.

Mr. Victor Andrews, Western Region, Enterprise Ireland.

Mr. Jim Murren, Manager West, IDA Ireland.

Mr. Brian Quinn, Tourism Officer- Mayo, Ireland West Tourism.

An tUasal Micheal O'Gradaigh, Area Manager, Department of Social, Community & Family Affairs.

An tUasal Sean O'Coistealbha, Fheidhmeannach Forbartha Udaras na Gaeltachta.

Dr. Patricia O'Hara, Senior Policy Analyst, Western Development Commission.

Social Partners:

Community & Voluntary Organisations:

Mr. Stephen Meenaghan, Community Forum Representative.

Ms. Mary Togher, Community Forum Representative.

Business & Employers' Organisations:

Ms. Geraldine Farragher, Small Firms Association,

Trade Unions:

Mr. Patrick Browne, IMPACT,

Agricultural & Farming Organisations:

Mr. Padraig Gibbons,

Fuair tUasal Donncha O'Gallachobhair, ball den bhord, bás i gcailtheamh na bliana. Go ndeanfaidh Dia trocaire ar anam.

The Members of the Mayo County Forum are:

Name	Electoral Area	Cluster
Frank McNamee	Ballina	Economic
P.J. Lynn	Ballina	Cultural
Claire Gavigan	Ballina	Social
Nora Conroy	Ballinrobe	Cultural
Mary Wrafter	Ballinrobe	Economic
Anthony McCormack	Ballinrobe	Social
Stephen Meenaghan	Belmullet	Social
Mary Togher	Belmullet	Cultural
Mairín Uí Mhurchu	Belmullet	Cultural
Lucianne Bird	Castlebar	Social
Stephen Clancy	Castlebar	Cultural
Sean Carter	Castlebar	Economic
Mary Mulryan	Claremorris	Economic
Seamus McCormack	Claremorris	Economic
Eamonn Breslin	Claremorris	Cultural
John Ruane	Swinford	Cultural
John Tonra	Swinford	Economic
Thomas Moriarty	Swinford	Social
Austin Francis O'Malley	Westport	Economic
Shane McGuire	Westport	Social
Aileen Keogh	Westport	Cultural

The Staff of the Community and Enterprise Section are:

John Coll, Director of Services.

John Magee, Research Co-Ordinator.

Neil Sheridan, Development Officer.

Declan Turnbull, Development Officer.

Celena McCormack, Clerical Officer.

Pat Morrison, T/ Project Support.

CLÁR PROGRAMME.

The CLÁR Programme (Ceantair Laga Árd-Riachtanais, i.e. Programme for Revitalising Rural Areas) was launched by the Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development, Eamon O Cuiv T.D., in October 2001. CLÁR is a Programme designed to tackle the problem of depopulation in rural areas, by prioritising expenditure under the National Development Plan. Much of Mayo is included in this Programme (See map below).

The office of Community and Enterprise, under Director of Services John Coll was given responsibility for promoting the Programme within Mayo and co-ordinating initiatives which were eligible. This involved informing state agencies and community groups of the Programme, identifying priority area for investment and co-ordinating responses to the Department.

The CLÁR Programme is a rolling Programme which will continue initially for two years.

Clár Regions with DEDs and Towns





1



2



3

1 Holiday Fair

One of the stands at the holiday fair.

2 De Jong

A group of Dutch travel agents on a familiarisation trip with De Jong IntraVakanties cycling towards Louisburgh.

3 Priest

An example of a photograph taken by a Danish photo-journalist who visited Mayo during the year.

Mayo Naturally is based above Westport Tourist Office on James Street in Westport. It continues to provide a value-added service to the tourism trade, working with product providers throughout the county. Mayo Naturally facilitates communication within the industry, keeps interested parties up to date with developments and acts as an umbrella body making large scale promotions available to smaller operators.

In 2001 Mayo Naturally organised and staffed ten different consumer promotions, involving thirty six days of promotion and plan. These promotions took place both within Ireland and abroad.

In conjunction with Bord Fáilte's publicity department Mayo Naturally organised twenty two familiarisation trips by overseas trade and media representatives from Ireland, Northern Ireland, Britain, France, Norway, Italy, Germany, Austria, UK, Holland, Denmark and the Mainland USA. These trips allow the media to experience and report on the wide variety of holiday options available and results in a good deal of positive publicity.

One of the media highlights was the visit of the RTE travel programme 'No Frontiers' and well known presenter Flo McSweeney. They spent three days filming a family holiday in Westport for their Spring 2002 series. Their verdict was 'top marks to Westport as a family holiday destination'. This was particularly appropriate as Westport claimed top prize in the Tidy Towns competition just a few weeks later.

Throughout the year the trade marketing committee meets to share experiences and discuss promotions and competitions, journalists visits and give input to a range of promotional material. It consists of Mayo trade who are active and involved in tourism marketing.

Mayo Naturally places advertisements in local and overseas publications where copy and photos of Mayo will also be featured. The photo CD-ROM is available to publishers, tour operators and journalists for use in newspaper or magazine articles and promotional literature. Mayo Naturally continues to build its photo library which is becoming very comprehensive.

Mayo Naturally's main website - www.visitmayo.com - was given a complete face lift during 2001. It provides an outline of the tourist facilities and attractions together with links to other informative and more specific sites. The Special Offers page is updated weekly with offers from accommodation providers throughout the county.

2001 was the most unusual year ever for the tourism industry in Ireland. The double blows of Foot and Mouth Disease swiftly followed by the US terrorist disaster in September will have long reaching consequences. For the coming year, different trading conditions are expected, given the negative impact on the airline industry. This will lead to lack of capacity and routes as well as a travelling public who are more fearful for security reasons. In 2002 Mayo Naturally aims to protect and consolidate market share in the domestic market which will be under threat from increased competition.



Structure

The Mayo County Enterprise Board Limited is a company limited by guarantee and a Statutory Agency established under the Industrial Development Act 1995. The Board is funded by National Government and by the EU under the Border, Midland and West Regional Operational Programme of the National Development Plan.

The composition of the County Enterprise Board represents a partnership at local level between elected representatives, stage agencies, the social partners, local business and the voluntary sector.

The Board is assisted in the assessment of applications for grant aid by an Evaluation Committee, which makes recommendations on the most appropriate type and level of assistance for projects. The Committee includes persons with banking, accounting and business expertise and experience in evaluating locally based small enterprise proposals.

Board Activity

Selective Financial Intervention

Since it was established in 1993 Mayo County Enterprise Board has approved just under £3.5 million in grant aid in favour of some 365 micro-enterprises throughout the County. To-date over £3 million has been paid out by the Board.

The provision of this support has assisted micro enterprises within the County in the creation of 907 full-time and 204 part-time jobs, as revealed in the annual employment survey undertaken in November 2001. This represents a net increase of 55 full-time and 7 part-time over the 2000 figures.

In 2001 the Board received under the Operational Programme a total budget of €937,000 towards the delivery of its services.

A total of €458,000 was approved in favour of 27 projects, with a job creating potential of 89 full-time and 4 part-time jobs.

In addition the sum of €97,755 was provided to the Board towards the delivery of its E-Commerce programme.



1 Mr. Des Mahon, Chairman Mayo County Enterprise Board presenting the Company of the Year Award to Mr. Willie Regan, Regan Engineering Limited, Swinford. Also included are Mrs. Patricia Regan and Mr. Frank Fullard, Chief Executive Officer, Mayo County Enterprise Board.

2 Group pictured with Padraig McDermott Mayo County Enterprise Board and Mr. Mark Tully, J.J. Meehan & Associates at the conclusion of a Managing Your Finances Training Programme in Ballina.



1 Mr. Frank Fullard, Chief Executive Officer, Mayo County Enterprise Board and Mr. Brendan Regan, Western Management Centre, pictured with participants on a Business Skills Training Programme in Castlebar.

2 Participants on a Business Skills Training Programme in Westport with Frank Fullard, Chief Executive Officer, Mayo County Enterprise Board.

3 Participants on a Human Resource Management Training Programme with Ms. Susan Baird, Trainer and Frank Fullard, Chief Executive Officer, Mayo County Enterprise Board.

A special allocation of €76,184 was also received towards the provision of employment grants for Childcare facilities, within the County where additional employment was being created.

Entrepreneurial & Capacity Development

Mayo County Enterprise Board received an allocation of €234,901 in 2001 towards the delivery of its Soft Support Programme. This allocation has enabled the Board complete a number of programmes initiated in the year 2000 and also undertake an extensive programme of training and support in 2001.

Training and other business support interventions were provided to 204 participants on various programmes. In addition some 97 persons attended a range of one-day workshops and information seminars delivered by the Board.

Among the main initiatives undertaken were;

- Business Skills Training Programmes
- Managing Your Finances Training Programmes
- Human Resource Management Training Programmes
- Building Business To-Day Programme
- In-Company Marketing Programme
- The provision of one-to-one business advice and counselling



General

Housing activity continued at a very high level during the year, following on from the accelerated programme level for the year 2000. Although house prices stabilised during the second part of the year, demand for housing remains high. The Council has continued to develop its own high quality integrated social and affordable schemes, and to facilitate and encourage the provision of voluntary housing, in order to meet this need throughout the county.

Opportunities to integrate this housing provision into our smaller towns and villages and to provide a mix of tenures in our larger schemes have also been pursued.

Direct Provision of Local Authority Housing

The Department's Five Year Multi-Annual Programme for 2001 – 2004 has allocated 530 new house starts to County Mayo. The 2001 Programme will see 120 of those starts being taken up. The output statistics for the year are:

Completions

(ant. 31/12/2001)

120 Units

Under Construction

(ant. 31/12/2001)

140 Units



Carrowteigue Housing Scheme.

Wheelchair accessible unit with underground heating.

Completions

Schemes completed or due for completion by 31/12/2001

- Ballinrobe (Friarsquarter)
- Ballinrobe (Lough Mask)
- Aughleaam
- Geesala
- Carratigue
- Balla
- Ballinrobe (Turn key)
- Killala (Turn key)
- Castlebar (Knockthomas – part of Phase I)
- Claremorris (Turn key)

Under Construction at 31/12/2001

- Kilfian
- Castlebar (Knockthomas)
- Louisburgh (Turn key)
- Glenhest
- Clare Island
- Currane, Achill

Affordable Housing

- Moneen - nearing completion (30 units)
- Westport - on site (54 units)
- Total (84 units)**

Assistance to Persons Housing themselves

Approvals:

- Housing Loans 3
- Reconstruction Loans 2
- Tenant Purchase Loans 8
- Shared Ownership 9
- Repairs in Lieu of Rehousing 6
- Total (28)**

Voluntary Housing Completions

- Louisburgh Voluntary Housing Association 6 Units
- Aghamore Voluntary Housing Association 10 Units
- Sonas Housing Project 4 Units
- Total (20 Units)**

Schemes in Progress

- Western Care Castlebar 5 Units
- Carracastle Voluntary Housing Association 6 Units

Schemes of Planning/Approval

- Ballyhaunis Social Housing 21 Units
- Clúid – Claremorris 15 Units
- Western Care Newport 5 Units
- Lacken Housing Association 6 Units
- Mayo Mental Health Association Ballina 7 Units

Traveller Accommodation Plan

The Traveller Accommodation Plan adopted by the Council in March 2000 will continue to guide the provision of traveller accommodation throughout the County over the next five years. The Plan included the provision of 139 units of accommodation over the five year period 2000 – 2004. A total of twenty units of accommodation have been provided to date with several other families needs being met through the Shared Ownership Scheme. A Traveller Accommodation Officer was appointed in 2001 and a review of implementation of the Traveller Accommodation Plan was commenced.

Grants

Disabled Persons Grants

The Council has approved 263 grants to 31/10/2001, at a total cost of €916,750.

Essential Repairs Grants

The Council has approved 91 grants to 31/10/2001, at a total cost of €479,960.

Refurbishment & Maintenance of Housing Stock

A Planned Maintenance Programme for all Council housing stock is about to commence in Ballinrobe Electoral Area. Full surveys and condition assessments have been carried out on all schemes and each rural house in the Electoral Area. Tenders have been received for the works involved and work commenced on both schemes and rural houses during 2001. The Programme will be continued in the Castlebar and Claremorris Electoral Areas in 2002 and extended, if possible, to the other Electoral Areas thereafter. The objective of this programme is to remedy all structural defects in the housing stock. It will ensure a satisfactory standard of accommodation and protect the substantial investment that the Council has made in its housing stock.

Policy

The Housing Strategic Policy Committee met on two occasions during 2001. One meeting was held in joint session with the Planning and Economic Development Strategic Policy Committee. The Housing S.P.C. includes representations from the Voluntary Housing Sector and the Building Industry. Topics discussed during the year included the Housing Strategy, the Provision of Housing for Returning Emigrants and Partnership Arrangements for Estate Management.

Housing Strategy

As required by Part V of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, a Housing Strategy was prepared in accordance with procedures and guidelines issued by the Department of the Environment and Local Government and was published in July 2001.

The amendment to the Mayo County Development Plan necessary to give effect to the Strategy was adopted by the Council in October 2001.

The principal provision of the Strategy which enables the Council to assign up to 20% of the site area of Schemes greater than four in number within zoned areas, for social and affordable housing, will help considerably in the development of more socially integrated schemes in the future.

De-Centralised Housing Services

As part of Better Local Government housing services, including maintenance, management and allocation of houses will be delivered to area level during 2002.

The Council has adopted a policy of integrating housing provision with other infrastructure and social supports, in partnership with the other agencies, to aid in the re-generation of our smaller towns and villages. Significant progress has been achieved in the past in places like Inver, Aughleam, Carrowteigue, Glenhest, Balla, Killala and Ballinrobe amongst others, and this progress will continue in the year ahead.

The Council is continuing to expand its land bank in the major towns and will seek to acquire suitable sites in our smaller towns and villages as opportunities arise.



1 Opening of Voluntary Housing Scheme, Swinford.

2 Carrowteigue Housing Scheme.

3 Geesala Housing

4 Opening of Sheltered Homes in Swinford.

Left to right; Bobby Molloy, Minister of Housing,
P.J. Byrne, Sculptor, Maudie Byrne.





ROAD CLASSIFICATION

There are four different types of roads in County Mayo.

National Primary Roads:

- (a) The N5 from Westport to Castlebar to Ballyvary to Swinford to Charlestown to Carracastle to the Roscommon border
- (b) The N17 starts south of Ballindine to Claremorris to Knock to Kilkelly to Charlestown, through Bellaghy in County Sligo
- (c) The N26 starts in Ballina through Foxford and meets the N5 at Swinford.

These three roads represent 2% of total road network and carry about 10% of the total traffic in the County.

National Secondary Roads:

There are 271.3kms of National Secondary roads in this County. Mayo has five such roads as follows:

- (a) N58 goes from Ballyvary to Foxford or Foxford to Ballyvary if you like
- (b) N59 starts east of Ballina at the Sligo border; it goes through Ballina onto Crossmolina, to Bangor Erris to Mulranny from there to Newport to Westport and onto Leenane at the Galway border
- (c) N60 goes from Castlebar to Claremorris to Ballyhaunis and onto the Roscommon border. It could be described as the Castlebar to Athlone route.
- (d) N83 starts at Glanntavraun on the N17 (near Knock Airport) onto Cloonfad, Ballyhaunis.
- (e) N84 goes from Castlebar/Ballinrobe/Shrule to Galway County border.

The National Secondary routes represent 4% of the total road network and carry over 25% of traffic.

Regional Roads:

These roads are denoted by the letter R on road maps. They connect the main towns and villages of the County with each other or with the National Roads. They represent over 9.5% of the total road network and they carry over 50% of the traffic in the County.



Local Roads:-

These make up about 84% of the roads in the County but carry just 15% of the total traffic.

The lengths of the various road categories are given hereunder

National Primary	135.8 kms
National Secondary	271.3 kms
Regional	590.1 kms
Local	5,355.0 kms
Total	6,352.2 kms

1 Off with the old . . .

2 . . . On with the new - New Aasleagh Bridge over Errif River.

Funding for Improvement and Maintaining these Roads

Design Grants – 2001

Route	Design Grant
N5 Castlebar to Westport	€630,000
N26 Ballina to Foxford	€622,000
N26 Foxford By-Pass	€563,000
N5/17 Swinford to Charlestown & Charlestown By-Passes	€638,000
N60 Castlebar to Claremorris	€490,000

Improvement Works

The Council continued during the year with improvements to the N17. This involved a by-pass of both Claremorris and Knock. Phase 1 of the Scheme, Claremorris By-Pass was opened to traffic in June 2001. Improvement works were carried out to Claremorris streets as part of an extension of this Contract.

Phase II – Knock By-Pass commenced in May 2001 with a design and build scheme and the works are scheduled for completion in early 2002.

The capital expenditure on the two phases in 2001 was €17.77 million.

Further improvement works were undertaken at

Ballyvary to Bohola on the N5	€ 2.5m
Knock Aripport junction on the N17	€ .63m
Strengthening on various routes	€ .63m

At Saleen on the N84	€ .95m
Strengthening on the N59	€ 1.5m
Strengthening on the N60	€ .89m
Strengthening on the N84	€ .51m
Strengthening on the N58	€ .38m
Strengthening on the N83	€ .25m

The expenditure on the maintenance of the National Road network for the year was €3.0 million.

Regional and Local Roads

The Non-National Road Grants for the year 2001 were broken down as follows:-

Restoration Improvement Grant	€8,246,948m
Restoration Maintenance Grant	€3,037,213m
Discretionary Improvement Grant	€1,249,422m
Discretionary Maintenance Grant	€1,594,791m
E.U. Co Finance Special Improvement	€3,174,345m
Council's own resources	
(including development charges)	€3,774,296m

The Restoration Improvement Grant is based on a Five Year Programme which was submitted to the Department of the Environment and Local Government in 2000. The plan covers the period 2002 to 2007.

Grants totaling €1.5m were received during the year from the Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands in respect of improvements and surface dressing for strategic roads in the Mayo Gaeltacht areas, viz:

- Aughleam to Belmullet
- Tourmakeady to Finney Bridge
- Mulranny to Achill
- Porturlin to Regional Road at Glenamoy



1 Hollymount Bridge.

One of the fine old bridges maintained by Mayo County Council

2 Annaghil Bridge (new)

On the R321 Kiltimagh - Bohola Road.

3 Bowers Walk, Ballinrobe.

Outdoor furniture and resurfacing of area at start of walk.

4 Junction at Knock Airport.



- 1 Hollymount Village**
Public lighting, paving, planting and parking.
- 2 Cross Village**
Road Improvements
- 3 Kilkenny Cross, Castlebar**
New Roundabout on R373 / N60

Local Improvement Schemes

The grant for Local Improvement Schemes in 2001 was €1.2m. This grant applies to non-public roads and is intended to provide access to parcels of land of which at least two are owned or occupied by different persons, or access for harvesting purposes (including turf or seaweed) for two or more persons.

Public Lighting

The public lighting replacement programme is continuing and the following was the progress in 2001.

AREA **2001**
(Orders Issued to E.S.B. or work completed)

Claremorris	Bekan & Mayo Abbey
Kiltimagh	Kilkelly & Kiltimagh
Newport	Newport Rural
Swinford	Swinford
Ballinrobe	Cong
Westport	Old Head
Castlebar	Castlebar
Ballina	Ballina Rural
Belmullet	Belmullet

The Traffic Route Lighting Programme on National Roads is also continuing. Works were carried out on:

N5 at Castlebar Road, Westport
N5 at Swinford By-Pass and at Carracastle
N59 at Bellacorick and the N60 at Claremorris
N17 at Kilkelly
N26 at Ballina Road, Foxford
N58 at Castlebar Road, Foxford
N60 at Balla Road, Castlebar
N83 at Ballinrobe Road, Castlebar

Piers and Harbours – Island Projects 2001

The following is a summary of planned projects and progress to date.

1. New Pier for Clare Island

The estimated cost of the project is €9,779m. The Preliminary Report has been approved, Part X Planning approved and an application for Foreshore Licence has been made to the Department of the Marine & Natural Resources.

2. Pier Extension for Inishturk Island

The estimated cost of the project is €1.5m. The Preliminary Report has been approved, Part X Planning approved and an application for Foreshore Licence has been made to the Department of the Marine & Natural Resources.

3. Pier Extension at Roonagh

The estimated cost of the project is €1.84m. The Preliminary Report has been approved, Part X Planning approved and an application for Foreshore Licence has been made to the Department of the Marine & Natural Resources.

4. New Slipway & Silt Dredging for Killala

The estimated cost of the project is €1.4m. The Preliminary Report has been approved, Part X Planning application has been made and application for Foreshore Licence has been made to the Department of the Marine & Natural Resources. Pre-selection of Contractors is being carried out.

5. Proposed New Pier Extension for Blacksod

The estimated cost of the project is €2.5m. The Preliminary Report has been approved, Part X Planning being processed and application for Foreshore Licence being processed. Environmental Report being prepared.

6. Pier Extension for Porturlin

The estimated cost of the project is €6m. Draft preliminary report setting out eight alternative proposals being considered.

7. Cable Car Project for Inishbiggle

A Compulsory Purchase Order for land acquisition now confirmed by An Bórd Pleanála.

8. Pier Development at Purteen, Achill

A Draft Review has been carried out and further studies to be undertaken.

Village Enhancement in Gaeltacht Areas

The Council and the Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht & the Islands shared the costs 50/50 on village enhancement works at Belderrig, Aughleam, and Tourmakeady. The Council's contribution was €199,984.

Coastal Protection Measures

The Department of the Marine & Natural Resources gave sanction to the following coastal protection measures during the year. The costs involved at €1,753,987 are shared on a 25/75 basis between this Council and the Department.



1 R311 New roundabout in Castlebar

2 Curraun Harbour

Small Piers & Harbours Coastal Protection

	Location	Description of Works
1.	Bertra	Dune Protection
2.	Roonagh	Road Protection
3.	Belmullet	Seawall Repairs
4.	*Belmullet* Elly Bay	Coastline Study
5.	Bundoola	Seawall Repairs (2000 grant)
6.	Kilmcummin	Clear Berth
7.	Newport Quay	Wall Repairs
8.	Dooega	Rebuild Pier
9.	Kilsallagh	Pier Repair
10.	*Claggan Island*	Dune Protection

Mayo County Council's contribution = €438,496

*Schemes 4 & 10 are being undertaken by the Department of the Marine. Where schemes are located in special areas of Conservation: the Council are obliged to liaise with Dúchas, on environmental issues. In some instances it is necessary to procure foreshore licence and or to go through statutory planning process.

Island Projects

The following island projects were undertaken during 2001 with grant assistance from the Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaelacht & the Islands.

Islands Projects

Island	Proposal	Funding		
		M.C.C.	A.H.G.I.	TOTAL
CLARE	Water replacement of valves	38,000	38,000	76,000
	Coastal Protection	38,000	38,000	76,000
	Non-Council Roads	19,000	15,000	
INNISHTURK	Roads – Surface Dressing	32,000	32,000	64,000
	Improve Access to Purthna Harbour	32,000	32,000	64,000
ISLANDMORE	Water Supply	25,000	25,000	50,000
INNISLYRE	Coastal Erosion Protection	32,000	32,000	64,000
INNISBIGGLE	Roads Surface Dressing	64,000	64,000	
ROSMONEY	Additional Carparking	32,000	32,000	64,000
Total		€229,000	€312,000	€541,000

Regional Design Office

The Regional Design Office has been moved to its refurbished offices in Glenpark House on The Mall, Castlebar. The office is at present pursuing the advanced design and acquisition of land for five major road projects in the County.

These roads are the: *estimated cost*

N5 Castlebar - Westport	€60m
N5/N17 Charlestown By-Passes	€75m
N26 Ballina - Bohola Road	€75m
N60 Castlebar - Claremorris	€54m

Design work on relief roads at Ballina and Westport are progressing and Traffic Studies for Ballina, Castlebar and Westport are being co-ordinated by the office.

N5 Westport-Castlebar Road Project

On February 1st and 2nd 2001, the preferred route for the N5 Westport-Castlebar Road Project was presented to the public. The Council also adopted the preferred route option for the N5 during the year.

Since then the preliminary design of the route and its structures have been completed and work on the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) has begun. The EIA has examined the impact the road will have on the environment and this has been done under a number of headings including flora and fauna, aquatic ecology, noise and air, cultural heritage and the impact on human beings. On completion of the assessment an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared. Site Investigation and Topographical Survey has also been completed.

Following approval from the National Roads Authority, it is proposed to prepare the Compulsory Purchase Order for the land needed to construct the N5 Westport-Castlebar Road Project during 2002.

N5 Charlestown Bypass, N17 Charlestown Bypass
Work proceeded on the design of the Charlestown Bypass Schemes in 2001.

Charlestown is located at the intersection of two National Primaries, the N5 and the N17.

The National Roads Needs Study, published by the National Roads Authority identified both schemes as a Phase 1 priority and the National Development Plan identified the need for major improvements to both routes.

Charlestown Bypass will consist of two schemes.

(1). The N5 Charlestown Bypass commencing in the townland of Cloonlara, at the eastern end of the Swinford Bypass to Currinah on the existing N5 in Co. Roscommon between Carracastle and Ballaghaderreen.

(2). The N17 Charlestown Bypass commencing in the townland of Lurga on the existing N17 in Co. Mayo, near the Airport and finishes on the existing N17 at Curry Village in Co. Sligo via a proposed Interchange Bridge with the N17. The scheme also includes an Interchange Bridge between the new N5 and N17 Bypasses and a Link Road to Charlestown.

The length of the N5 and N17 Bypass is 18 km and 12 km respectively. The estimated cost of both schemes is IR€76.00m at current prices.

Each project is prepared in accordance with the National Roads Project Management Guidelines published by the National Roads Authority in March 2000. The Guidelines outlines seven project phases and the important milestones associated with each phase.

The Design Team has undertaken a desktop and field studies of Archaeology, flora and fauna, traffic and accident data, land registry search, purchase of digital mapping and ground modelling data as part of a Constraints Study (Phase 2).

The Multiple Framework Contract (MFC) for the appointment of consultants was approved in December 2000. A Section 59 Agreement was concluded with Roscommon County Council in January 2001. A similar Agreement was also prepared during the year with Sligo Co. Council.

Following the publication of the Constraints Study Report in June 2000, route options for each scheme were selected.

A Public Consultation in relation to route options for each scheme was held on the 13th / 14th December 2000 in Charlestown. The closing date for receipt of completed questionnaires and submissions was extended to 31st January 2001.

Following an assessment of completed questionnaires and submissions a Preferred Route was selected for each scheme. A Public Consultation in relation to the Preferred Routes was held on 3rd / 4th / 5th / 6th July 2001 in Curry, Carracastle and Charlestown. Notices were placed in the local press and announced on local radio.

Following the public consultation, a Route Selection Report was prepared and submitted to and approved by Mayo County Council on 8th October 2001. Following discussions with the National Roads Authority, the report will be submitted for their approval in January 2002 (Phase 3).

Compulsory Purchase Orders and Environmental Statements for both Schemes are scheduled for publication in March 2002, which are important Phase 4 milestones in progressing each scheme.





The policy of Mayo County Council is to improve and extend Water Services in the County. EU and National legislation set down standards for Drinking Water Quality and the Urban Wastewater Treatment Regulations stipulate that sewage treatment facilities are in place in all our towns by 2005.

The National Development Plan (2000 – 2006) recognises the need to address the infrastructural deficit in the water services sector and an increased level of funding is now in place and this will have the effect of accelerating the Sanitary Services Programme of Capital Works over the next number of years.

Expansion and improvement of these services is necessary to encourage and facilitate industrial and commercial development in the County and maintaining a proper balance between protecting and enhancing our environment and economic and sustainable development is a central goal of Mayo County Council.

A number of Capital Sanitary Schemes were successfully completed during 2001 while a number of other schemes were under construction. In addition the planning of more than thirty major water and sewerage schemes continues. Every effort is being made to avail of EU Funding and a number of our schemes have already been approved for Cohesion Funding.

KEY PROJECT 2001

Turlough Sewerage Scheme

Mayo County Council completed the construction of the Turlough Sewerage Scheme in March 2001.

The Scheme was constructed to cater for existing and future development in the village and to facilitate the new “Museum of Country Life” at Turlough Park House which opened in September 2001.

The scheme consists of the following elements.

- 2,185 metres of 225mm gravity sewer.
- 360 metres of 75mm rising main.
- 2 no. pumping stations
- Modular sewerage treatment plant with capacity 350 PE with facility for future expansion to 700 PE.

Treatment Process:

The treatment process is a Biofilm or attached growth system. The treatment takes place in a Rotating Biological Contactor (RBC) containing a primary settlement tank a Rotating Biological Contactor zone and a secondary settlement tank.

Outfall

Effluent from the new treatment plant discharges to the Castlebar River whose waste assimilative capacity is more than adequate at this point.

Waste Water Collection System

The newly laid sewers replace the existing combined sewer into which some houses were connected. The other houses were connected to septic tanks which were operating inefficiently allowing untreated effluent to eventually make its way to the Castlebar River.

The Plant has consistently produced an effluent of <10mg/l BOD and less than 15 mg/l S.S., which is well within the standards required under the Urban Wastewater Treatment Regulations 1994. The treatment Plant sits discreetly in the grounds of Turlough Park House adjacent to the Castlebar River.

Cost

The overall cost of the Scheme including planning and construction cost was €635,000.00.

Planning and Design for the scheme was carried out by Mayo County Council Sanitary Section Capital Works.

Civil Works

The scheme was constructed by Mayo County Councils Sanitary direct labour force.

Mechanical Plant Contractor

The Mechanical & Electrical Plant Contractors were: (a) Butler Engineering Longford
(b) Electrical & Pump Services Ltd., Ballyhaunis



1 Cong Sewerage Scheme

Signing of mechanical and electrical installation for Cong main drainage scheme Áras an Chontae, Castlebar. **Back row, left to right:** Michael Garrick, P.J. Tobin & Co., Consulting Engineers, Pat Commons, Mayo County Council, Cllr. Michael Burke, Cllr. Jim Mannion, Kathleen Hussey, Mayo County Council, Brian O'Reilly, Mayo County Council.

Front row, left to right: Barry Fenton, Jones Environmental (Ireland) Limited, Citywest Business Campus, Dublin 24; Cllr. Damien Ryan, Councillor Annie May Reape, Cathaoirleach, Mayo County Council, Des Mahon, Mayo County Manager; Chris Bareman, Jones Environmental (Ireland) Limited.



2 Crossmolina Sewerage Scheme

Signing of mechanical and electrical contract. **Front row, left to right:** Gerald Buckley & Tadhg Buckley, E.P.S. Ltd., (Contractors) Mallow, Co. Cork and Ballyhaunis, Co. Mayo, Des Mahon, Mayo County Manager, Councillor Annie May Reape, Cathaoirleach, Mayo County Council, Mary King, Legal Representative, Joe Beirne, County Engineer.

Back row, left to right: Sean Gannon, Ryan Hanley, Consulting Engineers, Galway, Kathleen Hussey, Mayo County Council, Cllr. Stephen Molloy, Mayo County Council, Gilbert Groarke, Acting County Secretary, Brian O'Reilly, Mayo County Council, Pat Commons, Mayo County Council.

Schemes Completed in 2001

Ballina Regional Water Supply Scheme, Wherrew Pump	€0.76m
Erris Regional Water Supply Scheme, Extension to Peninsula	€1.00m
Lough Mask Regional Water Supply Scheme, Sludge Dewatering	€2.80m
Turlough Sewerage Scheme	€0.635m
Irishtown Sewerage Scheme	€0.65m
Bonniconlon Sewerage Scheme	€0.50m
Killala Water Supply Scheme S.L.I.	€0.22m
Louisburgh Sewerage Scheme, S.L.I.	€0.45m
Ballina Main Drainage, Storm Pipelines, S.L.I.	€1.90m
Newport/Mulranny Water Augmentation Scheme, S.L.I.	€1.30m

Schemes Under Construction in 2001

Westport Sewerage Scheme	€33.00m
Lough Mask Regional Water Supply Scheme Stage 3	€20.00m
Crossmolina Sewerage Scheme	€9.00m
Cong Sewerage Scheme	€2.10m
Castlebar Environs Sewerage Scheme, Advance Section	€1.00m
Belcarra Sewerage Scheme	€0.75m
Lough Mask Water Conservation Project	€1.52m
Ballina Regional Water Supply Scheme, Water Conservation Project	€1.20m

Sludge Management

A Sludge Management Plan for all sludges arising in the County prepared by Timoney Fehilly Consulting Engineers, was approved by Mayo County Council. It is proposed that sludge treatment plants will be provided at two centres in the County to cater for existing and future volumes of municipal sewage sludge.

Serviced Land Initiative

The objective of the Serviced Land Initiative Schemes is to provide water and sewerage services which will facilitate new housing development. Funding has been provided for a number of SLI schemes all around the County and it is intended that these will be constructed during 2002.

Polluter Pays Principle

Circulars from the Department of the Environment and Local Government have set out the position in relation to the implementation of the Polluter Pays Principle with regard to the construction and operation of water services projects. In future, the non-domestic sector will have to contribute towards the Capital Cost of new or upgraded schemes as well as the annual operating cost.

Schemes to Commence Construction in 2002

Achill Regional Water Supply Scheme, Bunacurry Reservoir	€0.50m
Knock Sewerage Scheme	€15.00m
Ballyhaunis Water Augmentation Scheme	€9.50m
Castlebar Environs Sewerage Scheme Rehabilitation of Sewer Network	€4.06m
Ballina Main Drainage, Stage 2	€12.00m
Killala Sewerage Scheme	€5.50m
Achill Sound Sewerage Scheme	€7.00m
Knock Airport Sewerage Scheme	€1.00m
Bohola Sewerage Scheme	€0.70m
Lough Mask Regional Water Supply Scheme, Extension Ballyheane to Balla	€5.00m
Erris Regional Water Supply Scheme, Extension towards Glenamoy	€2.50m

Other Capital Schemes in Planning

Lough Mask Regional Water Supply Scheme, Extension Srah to Westport
Knock Airport Water Supply
Ballina Regional Water Supply Scheme, Extension to Crossmolina.
Louisburgh Water Supply Upgrading
Ballina Town Water Supply
Lough Mask Regional Water Supply Scheme, Extension to Kilmaine and Shrute
Kiltimagh Sewerage Scheme
Newport Sewerage Scheme
Water Conservation Project – All Public Schemes
Lahardaun Sewerage Scheme
Kilmaine Sewerage Scheme
Doogort Sewerage Scheme, Stage 2
Kilmovee Sewerage Scheme
Gweesalia Sewerage Scheme



1 Contract Signing Westport Main Drainage & Waste Water Disposal Scheme. Contract No.4 - Main Drainage & Civil Works Contract.



2 Contract Signing Lough Mask Regional Water Supply Scheme - Stage 3. Extension to Knock & Ballyhaunis. Contract No.1 - Civil Engineering Works.

Group Water Schemes

Mayo County Council are responsible for functions previously executed by the Department of the Environment and Local Government in relation to the establishment and administration of Group Water Schemes throughout the County. This provides an additional opportunity for the Council to further the cause of subsidiarity, working hand in hand with local communities in the provision and maintenance of that most basic service - a potable water supply.

Group Water Schemes are found primarily in rural areas generally not served by a public water supply, and are privately owned, operated, and maintained. There are approximately 325 such Schemes in operation in County Mayo.

Mayo County Council have set up a County monitoring committee and appointed a Liaison Officer. The primary challenge faced by all parties involved in rural water supplies in Ireland is to ensure that the quality of the water supplied to consumers complies with the EU Directive on Drinking Water Standards.

1. Strategic Rural Water Plan

A firm of Consultants, Jennings O'Donovan & Partners have been engaged to prepare the Strategic Rural Water Plan for County Mayo. The Outline stage and the Second stage of the plan are complete and have been adopted and agreed by the Local County Rural Water Committee, The Water Supply and Sewerage Strategic Policy Committee and Mayo County Council. The Plan constitutes a blueprint for the future development of rural water supplies in County Mayo and facilitates the focusing of investment where it will have the most beneficial effect. The Plan has been prepared in full consultation with all interested parties. The emphasis in the early stages of the Plan is on dealing with the poor water quality problems in the privately sourced Group Water Schemes approximately 90 of which are seriously deficient. Funding can then be concentrated on upgrading pipework, reservoirs etc. The next few years will see the construction of a significant number of treatment plants on privately sourced Group Water Schemes. It is likely that the relatively new Design, Build, Operate (DBO) procurement process will increasingly be used to engage contractors for this work as it permits the Groups to avail of a 100% grant for the treatment equipment. This will bring about an important change in the way potable water is produced in privately sourced Schemes as the operation of the treatment plants will be in the hands of private companies/contractors although the Groups involved will still own the facilities. The estimated cost of the works identified in the Plan is €77.45 million.

2. Water Improvement Plans

In response to Circular L7/2000 relating to the European Communities (*Quality of water intended for Human Consumption*) Amendment Regulations 1999 Mayo County Council have issued notices to 145 Group Water Schemes during the year, requiring them to submit a Water Improvement Plan within two months. To date written replies / improvement plans have been received from 17 Group Schemes. It is intended that follow up contact will be made with these Schemes to assist in advancing the preparation of Water Improvement Plans. It is hoped that this will result in a significant improvement in water quality in these Schemes.

3. New Group Schemes / Up-Grading of Existing Schemes

Following the devolution of responsibility for certain water services to Local Authorities details of 17 "Approved Schemes in Planning" were forwarded to Mayo County Council. Most of these Schemes are now complete with the

remainder advanced substantially. Details of "Unapproved Group Water and Sewerage Schemes in Planning" were also received by this Council from the Department of the Environment and Local Government. Also further applications were received directly by Mayo County Council since devolution. A number of Schemes have been advanced through various stages of planning by Mayo County Council since devolution. These schemes are under construction and some will be constructed in the near future subject to design approval and local contributions being available if the necessary allocations are received. Work is continuing in advancing other schemes through the various stages of planning. The revised capital grants for Group Water Schemes are most welcome and notification of grant aid to Groups will now incorporate the revised grant measures. Details of the Schemes described above are as listed in the attached tables.

4. Take-Over of Group Schemes / Necessary Improvements.

Enquiries regarding take-over of Schemes have been received from a number of Groups. These applications will be assessed on the basis of existing water quality and reliability of supply among other criteria. Schemes proposed for take-over were shortlisted by the Council. Details of the Schemes taken in charge during the programme are listed in the attached tables.

5. Subsidy towards the Operational Costs of Group Water Supply Schemes

This scheme allows for the payment by Local Authorities of an annual subsidy towards the operational costs of Group Water Schemes in supplying water for domestic use. The objectives of the scheme are to secure the improvements of rural water supplies and to extend the benefits of the abolition of Local Authority domestic water charges to households supplied by Group Schemes. It is important that all Group Schemes avail of their Subsidy entitlements. Mayo County Council encourages all Schemes to apply for Subsidy payments to assist them in the efficient running of their water supplies.

6. National Sampling Programme for Private Group Water Schemes

Work on the monthly sampling of water sources used by private Group Water Schemes commenced during the year. This work is being overseen by the National Rural Water Monitoring Committee. The collection and analysis of samples from Schemes in the Mayo area was undertaken by Neptune Laboratory Service Ltd. Sampling of Schemes was temporarily suspended as a result of the Foot and Mouth Crisis.

7. Grants for the Provision or Necessary Improvement of an Individual Water Supply to a House

This Scheme was introduced to assist households dependent on private individual water supplies who are incurring capital expenditure to:

- Provide a piped supply of water for domestic purposes for the first time, or
- Remedy serious deficiencies in an existing supply of water for domestic purposes.

This scheme does not apply to houses to which a Public or Group Scheme Water Supply has already been, or can be, reasonably provided. 294 applications have been received to date.





Michael Gavin Water Safety Officer

WATER SAFETY / UISCE SÁBHÁILTEACHT

The importance of water safety is particularly relevant to Mayo, a maritime county with an abundance of lakes and rivers and having a growing reputation as a tourism destination.

Our outstanding blue flag beaches and other popular bathing places attract people in their thousands to the waters of Mayo, especially during the summer months. However, while these beauty spots are visited for both sport and leisure activities, we must always be aware that water can pose a threat to life.

The question of water safety has always been a priority for Mayo County Council. We work alongside the voluntary Mayo Area Water Safety Committee and the Irish Water Safety Association to promote water safety in the county. Our aim is to prevent loss of life from drowning by educating people about the dangers of water. This is done in numerous ways:

- Lifebuoys are erected in strategic places
- Warning signs are put in place to notify bathers of any known hazards
- Lifeguards are employed at swimming pools and at many of the more popular swimming places
- Water safety courses are organised throughout the year at various locations
- Primary school visits are arranged and information leaflets are issued through the Mayo Education Centre

Water Safety Courses

Water safety and lifesaving courses were held throughout 2001 at the heated pools in Ballina, Castlebar and Claremorris and at Westport Leisure Park. During the summer months courses were also conducted at Ballyhaunis, Belmullet, Clare Island, Lacken, Ross, Ballycastle, Kilmovee, Killala, Charlestown, Inishturk Island, and Belderrig's New Ridge Pool. As a result of these courses, there were over 2,500 certificates issued to Mayo swimmers in 2001. Disciplines covered range from basic swimming strokes to rescue techniques to First Aid and Life Support Training.

Lifeguard Service

Mayo County Council has invested heavily in lifeguard training over the last number of years and the fruits of this investment can now be seen in the excellent standards of lifeguarding at both Mayo County Council's public pools and many private pools throughout the county.

On the advice of Mayo County Council's Water Safety Section, many of the private pool operators have now adopted a Water Safety Education Programme. For its part, Mayo County Council employs 10 full-time lifeguards at Castlebar and Ballina pools with a further 20 employed on a part-time basis. Claremorris Swimming Pool Company Ltd. employs 4 full-time and 10-part-time lifeguards. A further 6 full-time and 12 part-time lifeguards protect Westport Leisure Park Pool facilities.

During the summer months, Mayo County Council employed 20 lifeguards at the more popular outdoor bathing areas primarily at blue flag beach locations. They were stationed at:

Bertra, Westport	Old Head, Louisburgh	Dugort, Achill
Carrowmore, Louisburgh	Ross, Killala	Golden Strand, Achill
Mulranny	Keel, Achill	Keem, Achill
Shore Road, Belmullet	Carrowniskey, Louisburgh	



1 Frank Noone, Chairperson of Irish Water Safety Assoc. presented Brian McCaffrey, Mayo team captain with 2001 Mens All-Ireland Indoor Lifesaving Trophy in Tramore, Co. Waterford.

2 The Mayo Lifesaving teams and officials who successfully retained their All-Ireland Lifesaving Titles in Tramore Co. Waterford in September 2001.

3 Start of the Board Rescue Race at the National Surf Lifesaving Championships in Tramore, Co. Waterford in September 2001. Mayo entrant Brian McCaffrey is pictured on extreme right.

4 Members of Mayo Water Safety Committee made presentation to James McLaughlin, Cloneen, Ballyglass, Claremorris to mark 25 years of involvement in promotion and instruction of Water Safety Awareness in Co. Mayo. Presentation was made by Michael Gleeson, Chairman of Mayo Water Safety Committee.

5 John Leech, Chief Executive of Irish Water Safety presenting the 2001 National Indoor Lifesaving Title to Mayo captain, Lucy Boyle, Claremorris. Included are team members and officials with Owen & Karen Hughes, 'Portwest' (sponsors) and Jimmy Maloney, Cathaoirleach, Mayo County Council.

With the ever-increasing interest in outdoor activities and particularly in water sports, it is essential that a core of fully qualified lifeguards is available for employment from within the county. It is Council policy to ensure that the appropriate training and investment is provided for this purpose.

Mayo's Beach Lifeguard Service is recognised by Coastguard, the Irish Marine Emergency Service as a declared resource. This, in effect, means that the beach lifeguards employed by Mayo County Council are availed of as contacts and facilitator for search and rescue operations co-ordinated by Coastguard.

National Lifesaving Championships

The PortWest Mayo Lifesaving Team which first won the All-Ireland Indoor Lifesaving Championships in October 2000, retained the title again in September 2001, which proves that the standards of water safety and lifesaving in Mayo are second to none. It has taken many years of dedication to reach these standards and great credit must be attributed to those who give of their time voluntarily to coach and instruct our young people in the skills of lifesaving including Water Safety Instructors and Examiners, Swimming Coaches and Club volunteers. The members of the successful 2001 team, all of whom have participated in the Water Safety Programme in Mayo over the years, are:

Ladies' Team

Lucy Boyle, Ballybrenony, Claremorris.

Patricia Brennan, Brookhill, Claremorris.

Collette English, Newport Road, Castlebar.

Sara English, Newport Road, Castlebar.

Karen Molloy, Convent Road, Claremorris.

Helena Walsh, Station Road, Castlebar.

Men's Team

Ivan Dixon, Farmhill, Claremorris.

Brian McCaffrey, Fortfield, Castlebar.

David McNeive, Cloonrane, Ballindine.

Michael McNeive, Cloonrane, Ballindine.

Eamonn Molloy, Cappagh, Castlebar.

Brian O'Malley, Rocklands, Castlebar.

Peter Tuohy, Mountgordon, Castlebar.

Barry Walsh, Mayfield, Claremorris.

Donal Walsh, Logatemple, Claremorris.



The aim of Mayo County Library is to provide and promote books for the purposes of education, information, recreation and culture to the people of Mayo. Each year over 400,000 books are borrowed by 25,000 members in the twelve branch libraries and two mobile libraries.

Branch Libraries

- A library and one-stop-shop facility is currently being developed in Achill Sound.
- Plans for the extension of Castlebar library to include a new headquarters are at an advanced stage.
- Planning permission has been received for a new library and museum in Ballina.
- The library in Louisburgh has been relocated from a small room in the parish hall to a modern large facility in the Granuaile Centre, which includes Internet access, a study area and coffee facilities. This library is one of the first in the country to utilise satellite technology to provide high speed access to the Internet.
- The library in Kiltimagh will move to new premises in 2002 which will include Internet access and a homework area.
- Plans for a new library in the old hall in Charlestown are currently being drawn up.
- The library in Claremorris was refurbished and computerised in 2001.

Information Technology in Libraries

Internet Access

Internet access is now available in all of the libraries in the county. A total of 46 public access computers are now provided throughout Mayo.

Computerisation of Branches

A programme of computerisation of all branches was initiated in 2001. To date the complete automation of all procedures including cataloguing, book issuing and overdues in Claremorris, Ballinrobe and Ballyhaunis branches has been completed.

Newspapers on CD ROM

A project to transfer all local newspapers to CD-ROM was initiated in 2001. Currently the Western People is being converted to CD-ROM, thus making it available in Ballina and other branch libraries in the county.

Microsoft Libraries Online

The Libraries Online project in Castlebar Library continues to be an immense success. The multimedia computers, donated by Microsoft Ireland are been used by over 20,000 people per annum.

Optical scanners for the Blind

Optical scanners for the blind are provided in Ballina, Castlebar and Westport Libraries.

Computers for the aged

A series "Introduction to Computers for the Elderly" was run in a number of libraries as part of the Bealtaine festival in May.



1 Staff of Ballina County Library with children who received certificates for writing poetry during Children's Book Festival.



2 Terry Reilly, Editor of the *Western People*, Austin Vaughan, County Librarian, Cllr. Willie Nolan, Cathaoirleach Ballina U.D.C., David Dwane, *Western People* with Annie May Reape, Cathaoirleach Mayo County Council launching the *Western People* on CD-ROM in Ballina Library.



1 Reading is fun -

Two Children enjoying story time in Crossmolina Library.

2 Visit by the Castlebar Active Age Group to Castlebar

Library for talk on the history of the town by Cllr. Johnny Mee, Cathaoirleach Castlebar U.D.C.

Library Web Site

The library created its own website www.mayolibrary.ie in 2001. The site is the most up-to-date library site in the country and includes the following facilities.

- Online catalogue search service - complete listing of over 150,000 titles in stock.
- Book request service
- Book renewal service
- Suggestions for book purchases
- Book review service - "If you liked this you will love this..."
- Sale of the library's own publications and CD ROMs
- A local history and genealogy service
- Advice for parents of children with reading problems
- Digitised products - extracts from newspapers, reports and other local publications.

Archives

The Bald Map of Mayo from the 1830s has been painstakingly restored and will go on display in Aras an Chontae in 2002.

Exhibitions

Irish Press Photography Exhibition - Castlebar Library.

Nósanna agus Scealtaí Mhuigheó, Bilingual exhibition on local folklore - Castlebar Library.

A Part of Ireland Now - exhibition on refugees' experience of Ireland - Ballina, Castlebar and Westport Libraries.

Exhibition of work by students of Westport Vocational School PLC. - Westport Library.

Emerging Trends in Housing - Castlebar Library.

Westport Art and Design PLC exhibition - Westport Library.

Exhibition of recent acquisitions to the local history collection - Castlebar Library

From the Wireless to the Web - a major audio visual exhibition celebrating 75 years of Irish radio will go on display in Castlebar library in November.

Members of the public or groups who wish to exhibit private collections, hobbies or artwork are always welcome.

Cultural Activities

A Poetry Circle, which meets fortnightly, ran in Castlebar library throughout the year.

Traditional music concerts by Noel Hill, Johnny Connolly and Grainne Hambly were held in Claremorris Library.

A Reading Group was initiated in Castlebar Library. The club, which has over 30 members, meets fortnightly to read and discuss books.

A Reading Club was also run in Ballinrobe Library.

Writer's Group Meetings in Westport and Castlebar Library.

Open University Information Evenings - Westport, Ballina and Castlebar Libraries.

Talk on stress - Ballinrobe Library.

Guided tours of the library in Castlebar for the elderly with a talk on the history of the area by Cllr. Johnny Mee.

American poet **Thomas Kramf** held readings in Castlebar, Ballinrobe and Westport library.

Children's writer **Yvonne McGrory** held workshops in Westport Library
Children's writer **Brid Og Brady Dawson** held readings in Foxford and Crossmolina libraries.

Poet **Seamus O'Maoilearca** held a reading in Claremorris library.

Puppet Show.

Eachtraí Cultúrtha

Bhí an t-Oireachtas ar siúl i gCaisleán an Bharraigh ag tosach Mí na Samhna. Bhí taispeantas leabhair Gaeilge i Leabharlann Chaisleán an Bharraigh agus chomh maith le sin bhí seisear údar i nGaeilge ó Chontae Mhuigheó ag léamh sliochtanna óna gcuid leabhar.

I leabharlann Chlár Chlainne Mhuiris i mí Eanáir bhí léacht dár teideal “A bhfuil i ndán don Ghaeilge: Súil siar agus súil romhainn”. B’é an tOllamh Gearóid Ó Tuathaigh, an staraí mór-le-rá ó Choláiste Ollscoil na Gaillimhe a thug an léacht.

Bhí taispeántas speisialta de leabhair Ghaeilge do pháistí i leabharlann Chlár Chlainne Mhuiris mar chuid de Sheachtain na Gaeilge. Tá an-chuid leabhair bhreátha sholáite ar fáil i nGhaeilge anois,

Bhí taispeántas de leabhair Ghaeilge do pháistí i leabharlann Cluain Cearbháin freisin.

“A bhfuil i ndán don Ghaeilge: Súil siar agus súil romhainn” an tOll. Gearóid Ó Tuathaigh i leabharlann Chlár Chlainne Mhuiris

Donations

Mayo County Library is an approved body under Section 484 of the Taxes Consolidation Act, 1997. This means that tax relief at the marginal rate is available on donations of cash between £100 and £1000 to the library by individuals or corporations.

In 2001 the following donations were received:

Pamphlets incorporating the *Westport Magazine* and the *South Mayo Magazine* of the Church of Ireland - donated by Mr. Donal Downes.

The Urban Social geography of an Irish Town: A Case study of Ballina, Co. Mayo 1850 - 1910 - a thesis donated by the author Mr. Colm F. Mc Loughlin B.A.

The Last Speech and Dying Words of Martin McLoughlin (photocopy) - donated by Mr. Steve Dunford, Courthouse St., Killala.

Impartial relation of the military Operations which took place in Ireland in consequence of the landing of a body of French Troops in August 1798 - donated by Mr. Steve Dunford, Courthouse Street, Killala.

The Achill Yawl - a thesis by Mr. James Kilbane, Achill - donated by author.

Letters of legendary singer John McCormack - donated by Padraic O Hara

Roll Books of Dereens National School - donated by Irving Moran, Achill

1936 All-Ireland football - donated by Mr. Seamus O Malley (Captain) - to Claremorris library

Acquisitions

Mayo County Library added a number of valuable items to its collection during the year:

- Thesis on the geography and culture of the Loch Cullin area - donated by Mr. Gerry Flynn, Foxford.
- Pass and immigration List on CD ROM
- *Irish Times* 1850 - 1932 on microfilm
- *A Tour Round Ireland* by Barrow, 1836
- *The Land League Manual* by Michael Davitt

Children's Activities

Numerous activities for children, such as storytelling, quizzes and competitions are held in all library branches throughout the year. Highlights this year included:

- A weeklong Interactive Storytelling programme was run in Westport during Arts Week.
- A series of children's events as part of the Sonas Festival in Louisburgh Library
- *Meet the Author* – children's authors Michael Mullen, Arthur Flynn and Una Leavy
- *Workshops on Making Christmas Decorations* - Swinford, Ballinrobe and Belmullet Libraries.

Heritage Lectures in Library

To celebrate National Heritage Week, in September, a series of shows and talks on various aspects of the history, heritage and folk life of County Mayo were organised in the libraries. These included talks on *The Music and Songs of Mayo*; *Viking Raid*: an interactive show for children, and “*Connaught men and horned cattle to the left platform please*”: a multimedia presentation on the Irish men who built Britain.

Mayo Soldiers of World War 1

Mayo County Library is compiling a record of people from the County who died in World War 1. A draft list is currently on display in all library branches. Persons who wish to submit names of relatives or local people who were killed in the War can contact their local branch to amend the register. It is planned to compile a list for each town and district in the county and publish a book containing the names of the soldiers.

An exhibition on the theme of World War 1 was held in Westport Library during November.



1 A Mayo Moment

Launch of A Mayo Moment photography competition in Castlebar library - Anne McCarthy, Arts Officer, Annie May Reape, Cathaoirleach, Austin Vaughan, County Librarian and Eleanor O'Toole, Assistant Librarian.

2 Launch of Workhouse Minute Books

on CD-ROM in Ballinrobe Library - Austin Vaughan, Cllr. Damien Ryan, Cllr. Michael Burke, Des Mahon, County Manager, Cllr. Pat McHugh.

Publications by Library

A Mayo Moment

In March 2001 Mayo County Council ran a photography competition to commemorate the turn of the millennium. The aim of the competition was to give visual expression to every form of activity and life in Mayo during the "big snow" of Christmas Week 2000. Almost 3000 entries were received which were exhibited in the Custom House Centre, Westport in June and in the Foxford Woolen Mills in October. The winning entries were published in a book in December which has been widely acclaimed and is selling well both locally and nationally.

Shooting from the Lip

Mayo Co. Library published Shooting from the Lip, a collection of stories from Mayo's new young writers. The book is the result of a project that involved the participation of the most creative students from all of the second level schools in Co. Mayo. These selected students took part in an intensive course in creative writing under the direction of professional writer, Ré O Laighléis. The book has sold over 2000 copies and has been widely praised. A story from the book has been selected for the new Applied Leaving Cert Textbook.

The Famine in Mayo

In 1998 Mayo County Library published The Famine in Mayo to commemorate the 150th anniversary of this tragic event. The book provided a comprehensive picture of life in famine times covering topics such as evictions, emigration, workhouses and relief measures. It has sold 2000 copies and has become the definitive account of the famine in the county.

Millennium Publication

As part of the celebration of the end of the Millennium, Mayo County Council decided upon the ambitious plan of publishing a comprehensive book on the history of Mayo. The aim of the book would be to provide a popular history of life in Mayo, from the earliest known inhabitants c.5,000 years ago to modern times. Emphasis will be placed on the book having a strong and attractive visual impact, with an accessible feel, in the style of a 'coffee table' book. It will be extensively illustrated. Photographs, paintings, drawings, maps, documents, and other images selected from a variety of sources will be used throughout.

The book will take a thematic approach to aspects of daily life within the context of political influences. It is envisaged the book will appeal to a wide audience while promoting an understanding of the wide and varied social and cultural history of Mayo.

Mayo County Council 1910-1919

To commemorate the centenary of the Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898, Mayo County Council published a history of the first ten years of Local Government in the county in 1998. In 2002 we propose to publish a history of the Council from 1910 to 1919.

These publications will play an important role in popularising the culture and heritage of our county as well as providing excellent PR for the council. It is envisaged that the costs of producing the publications will be recouped through sales.



The County Arts service is continuing to develop in line with the principles of quality, access and inclusion.

The service includes the following areas: information, promotion, advice, programming, planning and policy. It covers all art forms: music, visual arts, drama, dance, film, community arts, festivals and public art. The effectiveness of the service is maximised through networking and strategic partnerships, with emphasis on the integration of arts into everyday life.

Arts Information, Promotion and Advice:

This advisory service is availed of by over 200 community groups and arts organisations which regularly seek advice about arts events and sources of funding for their projects and programmes. Furthermore, the Arts office advises on Arts Acts grants which are available annually to any community or group wishing to run their own Arts-based event. These grants are administered through the County Secretary's Office.

ARTS PROGRAMME 2001

Residency Programme:

Extensive work was completed through the residency programme in 2001:

- Visual artist Deirdre Walsh continued her excellent work in the Sacred Heart Hospital, working with older people.
- Aileen Keogh, Dramatist in Residence, developed Mayo Youth Theatre further, provided workshops through the school's programme and older person's programme.
- Musician Niamh O'Kelly worked with choral groups, with older people, travellers and gave two well-received public workshops in sight-reading music.
- Musician Mary Curran worked with the Parkside Project, provided workshops in schools with younger children and gave recitals throughout the county.

Mayo Arts Squad:

Established in 1997, Mayo County Council's Arts Squad has continued to provide excellent training in community arts skills for fifteen participants annually. The Arts Squad encompasses people from a wide variety of backgrounds who work with groups from all communities, providing workshops, training and entertainment.



1 The New York Shields Pipes & Drums Band in Achill, with Cllr. Jimmy Maloney, Cathaoirleach Mayo County Council, Cllr. Frank Leneghan and Senator Frank Chambers.

2 Members of the Careers in Music Seminar panel, Mayo County Council Arts Officer Anne McCarthy and members of the Arts staff in the Traveller's Friend Hotel, pictured before the seminar.

3 Members of the Donegal Traveller's Project at TravArt exhibition in Castlebar.



1 Mary Curran (French Horn) and Anne Jones (Harp), performing in Kiltimagh as part of the Summer Music Series 2001.

2 The Vindobona Piano Trio who performed in the Friary, Ballyhaunis.

Art in Education Programme:

In 2000, the Arts Office conducted a county-wide, national school survey with the intention of identifying means to support and develop the provision of arts in schools.

- In 2001, in order to begin addressing some of the needs emerging from that audit the arts office ran a series of introductory workshops in 47 schools throughout the county. School children enjoyed workshops in dance, visual arts, drama and music provided by experienced facilitators.
- In partnership with the Mayo Education Centre, a series of experiential arts workshops was held to give teachers an opportunity to explore their creativity and develop the confidence to initiate their own arts activities in the classroom.
- Through the residency programme and Mayo Arts Squad, artists are enabled to work in the classroom.

Force 11:

This annual writer's weekend in Belmullet was directed by Frank Galligan in 2001. Guest writers included Rita Anne Higgins, Brian Leyden, Kate & Joan Newman, Ger Reidy and Leland Bardwell. Local people were encouraged to become more actively involved through the presence of Writer-in-Residence Ré O'Laighlais. Other aspects of the weekend include a visual arts exhibition and a number of musical performances.

Older Persons Arts:

Bealtaine: To mark the annual festival which celebrates creativity in older age, in May 2001, the Arts Office ran an extensive, interactive programme for older people throughout the county. Workshops included drama, dance, creative writing, music and storytelling. Events were held in 28 locations and over 300 people participated. As part of Bealtaine, an Active Arts Gala was held in Knock in partnership with the Sisters of Mercy. This event was attended by more than one hundred retired nuns, who explored their creativity through a variety of art forms.

Workshops for Older Persons:

Throughout the year older people participated in series of workshops organised and funded by the arts office. In 2001, over eleven retired groups benefited from such provision including Westport, Castlebar, Ballyhaunis, Kiltimagh, Belmullet, Swinford, Achill.

Public Art & Visual Art:

Dealbhóireacht Mhaigh Eo: as a result of this significant initiative, three sculptures were sited in 2001:

- Turlough Park House: *Raon an Tuthail*, Colin Brennan.
- Turlough Park House: *Portal*, Barry Linnane.
- Claremorris by-pass: *Untitled*, John O'Connor.

Louisburgh Sculpture Symposium: in July a successful symposium was directed by John Mayock, Anna McLeod and Liam Sharkey of the Fine Art Department, Dublin Institute of Technology. Students from DIT and Louisburgh Creative Activities Art Club worked together on Scotts Island using natural materials such as wood and willow in a direct response to the landscape.

The Wandering Building: French sculptor/architect Laurent Reynes, who lectures at Strasbourg L'Ecole D'Architecture, came to Mayo to place a three-day temporary sculpture at Croagh Patrick in Murrisk. Laurent gave a public talk about his work at Murrisk Community Centre and also gave a workshop to local school-children.

Mayo County Council Collection:

The Mayo County Council Collection was augmented by the purchase of art works by Camille Souter, Margaret Morrison, Chris Doris, Deirdre Walsh, Karen Cazabon, Lorraine McDonnell, Carmel Greevey McVie, Theresa O'Hara and Irma Van Baalen. Furthermore work by the Donegal Traveller's Group was also purchased.

Exhibitions:

- Chris Doris, *Forty Days & Forty Nights*: work arising from his residency shown in the Custom House Studios. January 2001.
- *The Elemental Spirit*: an exhibition of work by eight Mayo artists which was shown in The Queen's Hall Arts Centre, Halifax.
- Deirdre Walsh, *Spring Notes*: paintings shown in Belmullet Library, June 2001.
- *TravArt*: work by the Donegal Traveller's Project was brought to the Linenhall by Mayo County Council, October 2001.

Theatre:

Mayo Youth Theatre:

Established in 1999, Mayo Youth Theatre has grown considerably and is now based in four locations: Castlebar, Ballina, Belmullet and Foxford. Through the promotion and support of quality youth theatre, emphasising personal and social development, MYT provides access to drama for those aged 13 - 22. There are now over ninety young members countywide. The youth theatre continued to flourish in 2001 with weekly workshops in all locations, provided by skilled facilitators.

- In April, MYT members had a very successful trip to Galway and participated in training with Macnas, followed by a visit to the Town Hall Theatre.
- In November, Mayo Youth Theatre visited Tipperary Youth Theatre in Thurles for a weekend of workshops and performances.
- Also in November, all members met in Castlebar to share performances with their peers.
- In order to develop the skills-pool within the county, a training for trainers programme was initiated to provide workshops for potential youth theatre leaders/ facilitators. Kevin Crawford, lecturer in drama in Trinity College delivered two intensive weekend training courses during 2001.
- *The Gallant John Joe*, Skehanna Theatre Productions and *Hamlet*, Praxis Theatre Laboratory, toured in Mayo.
- *Miley's Tractor*, Linenhall & Carrowbeg Enterprises and *Abisano*, Terman Theatre: both productions appeared in schools and were supported by Mayo County Council.
- *Witch Way to Santa?* Streetwise Theatre Company, came to Mayo and over 1,400 school children in the Erris and Achill regions attended six performances in December 2001.

Music:

Summer Music Series: A series of county-wide music events was organised in July. All kinds of music were represented: folk, rock, traditional and classical. Hundreds of local people attended the events in Westport, Castlebar, Kiltimagh, Foxford, Louisburgh, Ballina and Belmullet.

Careers in Music Seminar:

This extremely successful seminar was run on September 1st and was designed to provide information to people interested in pursuing a career in the music industry, as musicians, music journalists, music publicists or broadcasters and in other related areas. A number of local bands played at a late-night event designed to show-case original local talent, which had a capacity audience. Over 100 people attended the seminar, which received hugely positive press both locally and nationally.

Other music events organised and supported by the arts office include:

- The New York Shields Pipe and Drum Band visited Achill for a musical exchange with local bands including Dookinella and Tonragee in August.
- The Vindabona Trio gave a wonderful performance in The Friary, Ballyhaunis in December.

Arts Grants:

The Arts Office advised on the provision of Arts Acts Grants and Partnership funding. Other grants including exhibition assistance, materials grants, music recording grants and Tyrone Guthrie awards were administered through the office. Funding was also allocated under the music recital scheme and guarantee against loss scheme.

Publication:

'Forty Days & Forty Nights', A Mayo County Council Artist in Residence Project, was published in January. This publication documents the work of Chris Doris during his residency on Croagh Patrick.



1 Author Michael Mullen leads a Creative Writing workshop with Balla Active Retirement Group, as part of the Bealtaine programme of arts events for older people.

2 Art in Richmond-Cross N.S., as part of the Schools Workshop series.

3 De Jimbe performing in Westport as part of the Summer Music Series 2001.



Pictured at the newly installed Play Park in Ballina which was provided under the Social & Economic Fund in conjunction with Ballina Tidy Towns Committee.

Mayo County Council and Ballina Town Council, in association with the Belleek Forest Park Enhancement Committee and Coillte, made an application for grant assistance in June 2000 to the Department of the Marine and Natural Resources under the Neighbour Wood Scheme. The aim of the scheme is to support the establishment or development, by local authorities, of woodlands in or near centres of population for the purpose of public enjoyment and recreation. The grant application was in respect of a scheme of works to the Belleek Woodlands which are in the ownership of Coillte and the parklands which are in the ownership of Ballina Town Council, covering an area in total of 80 hectares. Works were approved by the Department to be carried out in three phases.

Phase one of the works are complete and phase two is currently under way. It is expected that phase three will be completed by the end of 2002.

Works being carried out under the scheme include pathway establishment and improvement, creation of new picnic areas and car parking, improved signage, diverse planting and weed control and various ancillary works which will leave the woodlands more accessible to and enjoyable for members of the public.

The partnership approach to the delivery of this project, involving the Local Authorities, Coillte, Belleek Forest Park Enhancement Committee, The Forest Service, Tree Council of Ireland and Moy Valley Resources has undoubtedly contributed greatly to the schemes success as is evidenced by the receipt of the 2000 Category 2 Award in the RDS Irish Forestry and Woodcraft Awards ceremony for Belleek Woods.



Mayo County Fire Service serves one of the largest fire authority areas in the country. It has an obligation under the Fire Services Act, 1981 to *“make provision for the organisation of Fire Services, Fire Safety, Fire Fighting, the protection and rescue of persons and property and related matters”*.

Mayo County Council is the Fire Authority for the administrative area of County Mayo and the three Town Council areas of Castlebar, Westport and Ballina.

The Council currently employs 136 fire fighters in 12 fire stations and 8 hose and ladder units located around the county. These firefighters deal with, on average between 1300 and 1450 responses annually ranging from chimney fires, house fires, bog/forest fires, road traffic accidents, rescues, chemical spills and flooding.

Number and Type of Call-Outs for 2001

In 2001 (full year) the Fire Service responded to 1,202 incidents in the County (details hereunder), which resulted in 1,412 responses by the Fire Service

Chimney	421
Bog	144
Fires (structural)	180
Road Traffic Accidents	107
Flooding	15
Chemical incidents (oil spillage)	63
Special Services	64
False Alarms	126
Miscellaneous	27
Motor Vehicle Fires	55

Total 1,202



1 Front Row from left to right; Bernadette Murray, Achill Fire Brigade, S.O Martin Gilligan, Claremorris Fire Brigade, S.O Jim Cahill, Charlestown Fire Brigade, C.F.O Seamus Murphy, Fire Brigade HQ. Castlebar, A.C.F.O Tony Shevlin, Fire Brigade HQ. Castlebar, Sub S.O Pete Mc Donnell, Castlebar Fire Brigade, Aileen O'Connell, Fire Brigade HQ. Castlebar.
Back Row from left to right; Gary Bohan, Belmullet Fire Brigade, Simon Craig, Charlestown Fire Brigade, Frank Collins, Westport Fire Brigade, Pat Scahill, Westport Fire Brigade, Kevin Connor, Crossmolina Fire Brigade, Conor Smith, Castlebar Fire Brigade, Timothy Plunkett, Ballyhaunis Fire Brigade, Vincent Beattie, Ballina Fire Brigade, John Finnerty, Castlebar Fire Brigade.

2 Extrication of a casualty from a crashed vehicle at a Road Traffic Accident (RTA) Course in Ballinrobe, Oct 2001.

3 Tests with the newly refurbished Hydraulic Platform in Fire Brigade HQ., Castlebar.

The Council have responsibility for ensuring that buildings are planned, designed, constructed and maintained in a safe manner and a number of Fire Officers are employed who are engaged in highly specialised work in the public safety area, particularly in response to legislative requirements, such as the processing of :

- Fire safety certificate applications,
- Liquor licence / dance licence / club licence applications,
- Petroleum licence applications,
- Gaming and Lottery licence applications.

The Council also carry out inspections of buildings under the various acts and are continuing with their programme of random inspections of night clubs with the assistance of the Gardai to detect and prevent overcrowding. The Council also promotes fire safety awareness in the community by means of meetings, seminars, school visits and various targeted information campaigns.

During National Fire Prevention week in October 2001, the Council did a lot of work to promote the Fire Safety message including the advertising campaign which involved placing notices in each of the local newspaper publications and also in a special supplement in The National Press.

Fire fighters in the three Town Council areas of the county, namely, Castlebar, Ballina and Westport took their fire appliances out to the central shopping locations in each area and distributed leaflets and gave advice to members of the public.

A new development this year was a special fire demonstration, held in Castlebar fire station, which simulated a real chip pan fire and how it could be extinguished safely. Open days were again held in various stations around the county during the week.

The infrastructural work on the CAMP West project was substantially completed during the year and it is expected that the Site Acceptance Testing will begin early in 2002.

The Council took possession of refurbished Hydraulic Platform (H.P.) early in the year. The platform extends to an operational height of 65ft and its arrival marked part of the program for upgrading the existing fleet of fire appliances in the County.

Ballinrobe Fire Station was the location for a three day intensive Road Traffic Accident (R.T.A.) course in November, 2001 which is part of the continual training received by fire-fighters in the County.

Mayo Fire Fighters are trained to a very high level and they demonstrate high commitment and team spirit.

September 11

September 11, 2001, was a sad day for the world. Thousands were killed in the New York Twin Towers terrorist attack.

In common with people throughout the world, we extend our sincere sympathy to the American people everywhere. We also commend the brave Firefighters, Police and others who lost their lives in this huge tragedy and also those who survived and their relatives and friends. Ar Dheis Dé go roimh a ainm.

The world has changed forever because of events of September 11, 2001.

Mayo County Council shared in the grief of New York by hosting Books of Condolence in all its offices and website and participated in the National Day of Mourning which saw the closure of all Council offices.

May the American Spirit of Freedom continue to live on.



Civil Defence is a voluntary organisation financed by central and local Government as a support to the Front Line emergency services in the state. Members of Civil Defence bring their talents into the organisation. They learn skills in an active and resourceful group, which develops them and serves communities throughout the country.

- Teaches life saving skills to its members; first aid, rescue, firefighting, radiation monitoring, crisis counselling.
- Forms teams of trained people to support communities; stewarding crowds, searching for missing people, ambulance duties.
- When a major emergency happens we have equipment and trained people to work with the other services to save life and treat the injured eg; collapsed buildings, train crashes.
- Provides self development programmes for members in a co-operative supportive environment, team leadership, event management, public speaking.

Nationally there are approximately 6000 volunteers who give up their spare time once or twice a week to train and exercise, so that in the event for a call for assistance they are ready to help and cope with any emergency in which they may be asked for assistance.

Activities in 2001

- Mayo Civil Defence were very much involved at the front line of the efforts to combat the spread of Foot and Mouth disease last year. All ports, Piers and harbours throughout the County were provided with footbaths and replenished weekly during the height of the scare by Civil Defence volunteers.
- Ambulance cover at several sporting and community events throughout the County.
- Stewarding and Crowd control at the 'House of Prayer' Achill, novenas at Ballina and Swinford
- A number of searches for missing persons in conjunction with the Gardai, Killala Coast Guard/ Ballyglass Coast Guard.
- Provided assistance at Road Traffic Accidents
- Assistance to the Chaplaincy in Ballina for the visit of the 'Relics of St. Therese'
- Transportation of Chernobyl children to and from Shannon airport.
- Stewarding at Corpus Christi Processions
- St. Patrick's Day Parades.
- Ambulance and First aid cover at Community games
- First Aid courses for Mayo VEC, schools and several community groups
- RNLI open day Westport, water safety cover.
- Stewards, Drivers and Ambulance cover for the official Opening of Turlough House National Folklife Museum

Members of Civil Defence attended courses in the following disciplines in 2001:

- Critical Incident stress management Course
- Search and Rescue Course, Garda College, Templemore,
- Teaching methods and Induction Courses, First Aid Instructor Courses, Workshops on Search & Rescue, Welfare Course at Mc Kee Barracks, Army School of Catering.
- Troll Heights Rescue Courses.
- Level 2 Kayak Course, Clonmel Co. Tipperary
- Level 1 & 2 Boat Course, Westport.

Future of Civil Defence.

A new Civil Defence Bill 2002 is currently passing through the committee stages of the Dail, and should form part of the new Act to promote and support the development of Civil Defence planning and management to facilitate the implementation of Civil Defence measures into the future.

This Bill will see the organisation as an effective service in support of the emergency services and will provide for the recruitment and registration of Civil Defence members.



1 Boat Exercise on Lough Lannagh.

2 Kayaking on Lough Lannagh.



1 Motor Tax Office

An interior view of the new, improved and more accessible premises at Glenpark, The Mall, Castlebar.

Mayo County Council's commitment to improving the quality of service to its customers was further progressed in 2001 by the relocation of the Motor Tax Office from the rear of the Courthouse on The Mall, Castlebar to a new, improved and more accessible premises at Glenpark, The Mall, Castlebar. The move is the beginning of a process which will enable Motor Tax offices to be opened in other towns around the county and it is expected that this project will be commenced in Summer 2002.

The public will now be able to carry out their business in a much more pleasant and modern environment. Our new public office, which has been designed to a high specification, is more spacious which gives the public more privacy when carrying out their business.

There is ample carparking available in the vicinity of the new office which is essential when most of the visitors to our office are vehicle owners. We are within a 2 minute walk of the carparks at the rear of the Library and the rear of the County Council offices on the Mall, the rear of the old cinema on Spencer Street and the Castle Street carpark.

Information on issues relating to Motor Tax can be obtained on Mayo County Council's website at www.mayococo.ie. A postal system is in place which removes the necessity to have to call to the office in person.

The following range of services are delivered by the motor taxation department in accordance with legislation;

- Taxation of vehicles
- Driver licencing
- Issue of certificates of road worthiness for commercial vehicles
- Supply of licensing particulars
- Certification of traffic offences
- Issue of trade plates
- Issue of RT2 receipts (Public Service Vehicles)

In 2001 a total of €16m was collected by the office in Castlebar. €359,335 relates to driver licensing and the remainder relates to road tax.



Approximately 9% of Mayo County Council's revenue expenditure is raised through rate charges. The collection of rates on commercial and industrial properties is thus essential in maintaining the range of council services.

Mayo County Council's Revenue Department deals with the collection of

- Commercial Rates
- Water Charges
- Refuse Charges

Commercial Rates:

In 2001, 2,504 rate demands were issued with €6,942,332 collected. This represents a collection percentage of 88.48%.

Water Charges:

Local Authorities levy charges for water supplied for non-domestic purposes, such as agricultural, commercial and industrial. Large consumers are billed on a metered charge basis while fixed amount charges are levied on others.

Total amount of Water Charges collected in 2001

Fixed Charges	€377,992
Metered Charges	€1,224,334
Total	€1,602,326

Refuse Collection:

Mayo County Council provides a wheelie bin service for the collection and disposal of refuse. The charges collected in 2001 amounted to €1,560,149.

Payment Practices

General Payments are made weekly through the Finance Section. All payments must be properly checked and certified by the relevant Senior Officer, before submission for payment.

Revenue payments must have been provided for in the Estimate of Expenses. Capital payments on foot of Contracts are made in accordance with the terms of Contract.

Prompt Payment of Accounts

The Prompt Payment of Accounts Act, 1997, requires the Council to ensure that payments be paid within 45 days of receipt of an invoice or the receipt of goods, whichever is the later. Where payment is not made by the due date the Local Authority is obliged to add a daily interest payment to the amount outstanding.

In 2001, the Council paid €4,675 on 21 late payments under the Act. The total value of the invoices was €70,994.

Financial Management

The Council seeks to improve Financial Management by:

- On-going monitoring, management and control of the Council's financial resources.
- Ensuring value for money in all the Council's activities.
- Strengthening the role of internal audit and continually reviewing internal control procedures to ensure propriety and transparency in all the Council's activities.
- Maximising the financial resources available to the Council through the ongoing investigation and pursuance of funding opportunities at local, national and EU level and effective management of debt collection.

REVENUE ACCOUNT

Summary of expenditure and receipts and balances

Figures quoted in this extract are provisional as the Annual Financial Statements had not been considered by the Council at the time of publication.

		2001 Estimates €'000	2001 €'000
EXPENDITURE			
	(A)	75,757	94,124
RECEIPTS			
State Grants		49,967	54,689
Goods & Services		7,164	6,933
Commercial Rates		5,313	4,842
County Demands		1,432	1,501
TOTAL RECEIPTS	(B)	75,757	90,256
(Deficit)/Surplus (B-A=C)	(C)	0	(3,868)
Opening Revenue (Balance 1/1/'00)	(D)	0	2,392 CR
Closing Revenue (Balance @ 31.12.'01) (C+D=E)	(E)		(1,476) DR

DEBTORS / CREDITORS

A summary of the amounts owed to/by the Council with comparison for previous year follows.

A more detailed breakdown will be set out in the Annual Financial Statement.

	1999 €'000	2000 €'000	Change €'000
Government Grants / Subsidies	5,466	3,500	-1,966
House Purchase etc, loans	1,343	1,288	-55
Housing Rents / Annuities	259	250	- 9
Other Goods & Services	2,511	2,750	+239
Commercial Rates	254	500	+ 9
TOTAL	9,833	8,338	-1,495
LESS DOUBTFUL DEBTS	825	834	9
TOTAL	9,008	7,504	-1,504
CREDITORS (UNPAID BILLS)	4,417	6,583	

SUMMARY OF NET CASH POSITION

	1999 €'000	2000 €'000	Change €'000
Net Bank Position	3,936	(8,474)	(12,410)
Loan to other Authorities	381	381	0
TOTAL	4,317	(8,093)	(12,410)
Less Refundable Deposits	584	1,514	930
	3,733 CR	(9,607) DR	(13,340)
Capital content of above	552 DR	(8,474)	

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

Analysis of Payments and Receipts on the Capital Account

PAYMENTS

	2000 €'000	2001 €'000
Housing & Building	16,681	23,842
Road Transportation & Safety	16,136	32,387
Water & Sewerage	16,360	50,454
Development Incentives & Controls	5,943	4,198
Environmental Protection	5,224	8,094
Recreation & Amenity	600	8,094
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	88	1,068
Miscellaneous	1,585	3,109
TOTAL	62,618	123,152

RECEIPTS

	2000 £'000	2001 £'000
Loans	5,656	16,604
State Grants	44,253	80,571
Revenue Transfer	910	570
Other	10,001	9,033
TOTAL	60,820	106,778

	2000 €'000	2001 €'000
Opening Balance	376	2,174
Out turn for year	1,798	16,374
Closing Balance	2,174	15,584

Included in the Accounts are:

1. Cost of attendance of members at meetings of the Council / Seminars / Conference	391,328
2. Cost of attendance of members at foreign conference & events	29,367
3. Payment to Chairman	33,013
4. Cost of civic receptions & special events	12,850

REVENUE EXPENDITURE 2001

	€	%
Housing	9,069,930	10%
Roads	37,106,617	39%
Water / Sewerage	9,649,336	10%
Planning	4,723,499	5%
Environment Protection	12,533,219	13%
Recreation / Amenity	4,109,283	4%
Agriculture / Education	7,868,298	8%
Miscellaneous	9,064,231	11%
TOTAL	94,124,414	100%



Castlebar Regional Training Centre

The Facility

The training centre offers;

- Ground floor lecture facilities seating up to 60 people, theatre style
- State of the art integrated audio visual equipment
- Demonstration laboratory
- Reception area
- Canteen facilities
- Practical training unit including purpose built vertical shaft chamber & trenching area
- Outdoor leak detection facility
- Toilets, showers and changing area

Further Education

In conjunction with the Institute of Public Administration (IPA) the Centre commenced Bachelor and Master of Arts Programmes in the areas of Public and Local Government Management, as well as similar programmes in the area of Healthcare Management typically aimed at Health Boards. This encompasses the concept of Life Long Learning, presenting the opportunity for staff to build on previous educational achievements.

Castlebar Regional Training Centre

"Committed to providing quality training and development"

Castlebar Regional Training Centre is a modern purpose built facility catering for the training needs of Local Authority personnel in the Sanitary Services and Group Water Schemes Sector within Mayo, Galway, Leitrim, Longford and Roscommon. The Centre has been operating successfully since September 2000.

The primary aim of the Training Centre is to service the training needs of a broad range of out-door Local Authority personnel, with many courses serving both the Sanitary and Roads Services. All courses have a practical element, allowing each delegate to put theory into practice through practical exercises and assessments. The Training Centre is also pro-active in providing courses and seminars for **all** Local Authority Personnel.

To date the Training Centre has delivered approximately **70** training courses/seminars with over **1,100** Local Authority and Group Water Scheme Personnel having attended same. Listed hereunder are just some of the training courses, which have been delivered at the Centre:

- Abrasive Wheels Training
- CIS Data Capture
- Chainsaw Operation
- Confined Spaces & Breathing Apparatus
- Colour/THM Removal/Clarification Process
- Decision Driving
- Distribution Systems Operation & Maintenance
- Expert Witness Programme
- Fluoridation
- Leak Detection & Location
- Laboratory Procedures Course
- Managing Discipline & Performance
- Media Skills Training
- Pesticides Awareness
- Planning Law Seminar
- Office Safety
- Pesticides Awareness
- Project Management
- Playground Inspection
- Public Contact Skills Programme
- Road Signage Course
- Ride on Roller Programme
- Safe Pass Programme
- Safety Representative Course
- Stress Management
- Testing and Verification Course
- Train the Trainer Course
- Water Clarification
- Troubleshooting the Activated
- Water Quality for Group Water Schemes Sludge Process
- Water Treatment- Dealing
- Winter Maintenance with Problems



NEW APPOINTMENTS TO MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL IN 2001

Clerical Officer

Martina Clark, Deirdre Gallagher, Jacqueline Kelly, Assumpta Skeffington, Kerry Anne Loughrey, Fiona Biggins, Natasha Maher, Therese Heneghan, Lynda Lynott, Caroline Murnane, Geraldine Joyce, Mary Reilly, Stephanie Ryder, Fiona Duggan, Helen O'Toole, Geraldine Hopkins, Martina Moore, Sinead Heaney, Judith Cawe, Paula Letourmeay, Paula Prendergast, Breda Ginnelly, Celena McCormack,

Library Assistant Alan King

Executive Engineer Padraic Philbin, Pat McHale.

Assistant Engineer

Colette Scahill, Padraig Higgins, Thomas McDonnell, Sean Higgins, Nicola Walsh, Claire Barwick (AP), Gerard Walsh (AP).

Assistant Chief Fire Officer Andrew Donal Reilly, Aileen O'Connell.

Technician Grade I Eugene McTigue

Technician Grade II Mark McDonnell, David Murphy, Danny O'Toole

Caretaker Peter Murphy

Lifeguard Andrew Glynn, Michael Lyons, Brian Flannery, Ron Burnside

Foreman Gerard Moran

Labourer

John Murphy, Joe Moran, Thomas Lowe, Farrell Gallagher, Sean Barrett, Vincent McNulty, Michael Leneghan, Padraic Molloy, Austin Meehan, Henry P. Flanagan, Richard Kirkpatrick, John Cronnelly, Thomas Gorman, Eamon Clarke, Dermot Mullaney, John Hooks, Michael Horan, John Garvey, John Devane, John Gavin, John Waldron, Declan Shannon, Martin McNicholas, Patrick Gillard, Vincent McDonnell, Thomas Morris, Cormac Gallagher, Pat Conway, John Moran, Kevin Bourke, Brendan Forkan, Patrick Rowley, Seamus Hughes, Declan Morley, Patrick Feerick, Noel Killeen, Thomas McHale, Martin Heaney, Martin Ward, James Kavanagh, William McDonnell, Kevin Cawley, Michael Conway, Tom Feeney, Michael Kelly.

Plant Operator / Driver

John Nilan, Declan McGuire, Martin O'Grady, Brendan Nally, Patrick Burke.

Road Overseer James Butler, Patrick Reilly.

Caretaker Michael Collins

STAFF PROMOTIONS IN 2001

Director of Services

Peter Hynes, Seamus Granahan, John Coll, Joseph Loftus, Tim Mullen.

Senior Executive Officer

Paul Benson, Sean Smyth, John Condon, Martin Keating, Pat Commons, Padraig Flanagan, Pat Carroll.

Administrative Officer

Bernie Commons, Fiona Campbell, Patrick McDermott, Marie Crowley, Carmel Murphy, Mary McHugh, Michael Gormley.

Senior Staff Officer

Mary Gordon, Kieran Greally, Kathleen Hussey, Padraic Brogan, Patsy McNulty, Barbara Horkan.

Executive Librarian Richard Hickey, Mary Gannon.

Staff Officers

Mary O'Grady, Teresa Melia, Breege Gordon, Martina Walsh, Eileen Goldrick, Martina Hughes, Helen McDermott, Carmel Heneghan, Muriel Finnerty, Joe Moran.

STAFF PROMOTIONS IN 2001 continued . . .

Assistant Librarian

Marguerite Foy, Thomas Murtagh, Ivor Hamrock.

Assistant Staff Officer

Christina Murphy, Maura Connolly, Orla Cunningham, Kathleen McHale, Patricia Flynn, Eileen Corcoran, Myra Lynagh, Padraic Durcan, Mary Walsh, Aidan Mulvihill, Sharon McDonnell, Mary Cusack-Mahon, John Hynes, Ann Marie Brett, Rose Doherty, Anne Conway, Orla Burns, Paul O'Shea, Evelyn Devane, Carmel Mulchrone, Fiona Foy, Joanne Walsh, Teresa Burke, Bridie Gallagher, Catriona Jennings, Geraldine Brennan, Mary Barrett, Breege Griffin, Mary Forde, Kathleen Eaton-Tolan, Sally Grealis, Breege McHale.

Senior Library Assistant

Claire Ryan, Margaret McHugh, Bernadette Costello, Barbara Varley.

Library Assistant

Mary Murphy, Mary Conway, Anne Coyne, Chris White.

Social Worker Orla Hughes

Senior Engineer

Noel Burke, Paddy Mahon, Ray Norton, Tony McNulty, Brian O'Reilly, Michael Mongan, Patsy Burke, Iain Douglas (SP).

Senior Executive Engineer

Cyril Aitken, Luke O'Malley, Kieran Lynn, Tony Reidy, Edward Munnely, Padraic Walsh, Stephen Verity, Tom Feerick, Ann Sweeney, John Ferguson, Michael Lyons, Ger Munnely, Paul Dolan, Kitty O'Malley-Harlow (SEP), Geeta Keena (SEA).

Executive Engineer

Alan Kennelly, Kieran Irwin, Margaret Sweeney, Kathy Lally-Tiernan, Theresa Durkin, Patrick McHale, Paul Hardiman, Pat McLoughlin, Jim Moore, Michael O'Boyle, Shane McDonnell, Bernadette Burke, Philip Durkin, Conrad Harley, Peter McLoughlin, Sean Conroy, Frank Jennings, Pat Staunton, John Broderick.

Chief Technician John Clark

Senior Executive Technician

Peter Byrne, Olivia Feeney, Martin Lardner, Muredach Tuffy, Tom McLoughlin, Ray Walsh.

Executive Technician

Angela Forkan, Patrick Gallagher.

Technician Grade I Sean Munnely.

STAFF OF MAYO CO. CO. WHO RETIRED IN 2001

Name	Address
Michael Durkan	Boradruma Castlebar
Hugh Gallagher	Cashel, Ayle, Westport
Vincent McLoughlin	Market Street, Killala
Patrick Lyons	Aghatarn, Tooreen, Ballyhaunis
Michael McNeely	Briska, Bangor Erris
Owen Casserley	Cloondace, Knock
Patrick Jordan	Springfield, Castlebar
John Stagg	Hollymount, Claremorris
Thomas Heneghan	Baloor, Castlebar
Martin Bourke	Knoxbarrett, Ballina

Retirement of Machinery Yard Foreman

Mr Michael Durcan, Machinery Yard Foreman, retired from Mayo County Council on 21st December, 2001, having worked with Mayo County Council over a fifty year period. Michael worked as a Plant Operator for many years and was Machinery Yard Foreman for almost ten years leading up to his retirement.

Michael is wished a long and happy retirement.

Family Friendly Workplace

Mayo County Council promotes a Family Friendly Workplace by offering the following family friendly schemes:

- Parental Leave
- Force Majeure Leave
- Job-Sharing
- Paternity Leave
- Career Breaks
- Maternity Leave
- Adoptive Leave
- Flexitime



Presentation to Michael Durcan on his retirement.



John McHale, Workplace Partnership Facilitator.

WORKPLACE PARTNERSHIP

The objective of Workplace Partnership is:

To achieve joint ownership by management, unions and staff and to replace the adversarial approach to change with an open co-operative process based on effective consultation and participation by all concerned for the progression and implementation of strategic goals, service delivery objectives and associated action programmes.

New Workplace Partnership Groups have now been formed in the new super areas. These groups have a representational inclusion of grades and disciplines and aim to keep all the stakeholders involved up to date with the current changes taking place with the devolution of services to the areas.

The main working Partnership Committee are presently involved in some new and interesting projects. Among these are;

- The implementation of an Employee Assistance Programme. This staff support programme is meant to help, protect and enhance the health and wellbeing of Local Authority Personnel through the development of in-house help and referral services.
- Health Screening. This programme has been made available, free of charge, to all employees of Mayo Local Authorities.
- Reference Library. This involves the putting in place of a Dedicated Reference Library/Learning Centre for staff and elected representatives of Mayo County Council and incorporates access to Information Technology. This facility will be situated in the County Library.
- Environmental Awareness Project. This project involves the production of an Information Pack for staff of Mayo County Council and the public. It will contain information specific to Mayo and will be also used in the schools throughout the county. It will become an essential tool for Council staff and will help in the protection of our Environment. This is a Partnership funded project and is being overseen through the offices of Sharon Joyce, Environmental Awareness Officer.
- Sports and Recreation Club. The Sports and Recreation Club has been formed and the Committee has put in place an interesting Calendar of Events for the coming year. The Club will co-ordinate social and sporting events and has been set up on a formal basis.
- Benevolent Fund. The Committee are presently examining a draft constitution for such a Fund. The objective of the Fund is to give relief and assistance to employees and retired employees who have become impoverished or needy through infirmity or illness.

Many of the above projects are jointly funded by LANPAG, the National Partnership Group, and Mayo County Council.

Freedom of Information

102 requests for information were received under the Freedom of Information Act in 2001.

Higher Education Grants

Third level grants continue to provide vital and essential assistance to Mayo students both inside and outside the country.

New grants awarded	382
Renewals	926
Total benefiting	1,308

Total expenditure for Higher Education Grants for 2001 is in excess of €2.79 million.

INTERVIEW BOARDS DURING 2001

Number of Boards:-

Gender Breakdown of Interview Boards

Male: 127 Female: 27

Training and Development

Mayo County Council is committed to Human Resource Training and Development to achieve our objectives and goals. We recognise that our success in providing a high quality of service to the community has been built on a loyal, dedicated and committed workforce. We deem it important to foster a team spirit in all our employees by implementing a forward looking Training and Development Plan for our employees throughout all areas of activities, a Plan that each employee has an input into in its preparation and execution.

FÁS Excellence Through People Award

Mayo County Council is a recipient of the prestigious FÁS Excellence Through People Award and have obtained renewal of this Award on an annual basis, most recently in August 2001, for a two year period.

European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL)

ECDL - The following employees received the ECDL qualification in 2001:-

Murrach Shannon	Ann Sweeney	Nessa Connor
Kathleen Gill	John O'Malley	Angela Forkan
Aoife Gavaghan	Sheila McDonnell	Breege Gordon
Tom McDonnell	Therese O'Malley	Joan Lydon
Rosa Meehan	John Lundy	David Cusack
Padraig Cunneiffe	Ciaran Gielty	Sean Higgins
Larry Walsh	Lynda Lynott	Yvonne McNulty
Marian English	Joanne McNicholas	
Colette Scahill	Ger Munnelly	



1 New Appointments to Mayo County Council
Left to Right; Martina Clark, Judith Cawe, Helen O'Toole, Therese Heneghan, Assumpta Skeffington, Fiona Duggan, Geraldine Joyce, Martina Moore, Caroline Murnane, Celena McCormack, Stephanie Ryder. Missing from photo: Deirdre Gallagher, Jacqueline Kelly, Kerry Loughrey, Fiona Biggins, Natasha Maher, Linda Lynott, Mary Reilly, Geraldine Hopkins, Sinead Heaney, Paula Letourmy, Breda Ginnelly, Paula Prendergast.

2 Presentation of Certificates in Finance

3 ECDL Presentation of Certificates

4 Presentation to Vincent McLoughlin, Barrack St. Killala on the occasion of his retirement.



Certificate in Finance 2001 Participants

Ms. Cathy Jennings, Mr. Padraic Lyons, Mr. John Loftus,
Ms. Mary Gannon, Ms. Orla Healy, Ms. Loretta Reape,
Ms. Helen McDermott, Ms. Patricia Donnelly, Ms. Kathleen Hussey.

Graduates

Ann Marie Brett - B.A. (Public Management)
Virginia Cosgrove - B.A. (Public Management)

Certificate in Local Government Studies 2000/2001 Participants

Ms. Joan Lydon, Ms. Maureen McGee, Mr. Gary Smyth,
Ms. Sally Grealis, Ms. Mary Byrne.

Higher Certificate in Local Government Studies 2001 Participants

Ms. Martina Hughes, Mr. John Hynes.

Health and Safety

Safety Statement

Mayo County Council issued a Corporate Safety Statement to all staff in November 2001. Site Specific Safety Statements were also drafted for some of the large Water and Sewerage installations throughout the county.

Safety Training

In 2001, the Health & Safety Training included the following

- FAS Safe Pass Awareness Training Programme
- Confined Spaces Entry & Safe Use of Breathing Apparatus (Pic. 1)
- Safe use of Abrasive Wheels
- Safety Representative Training
- Pesticide Awareness
- Basic Chainsaw Operation (5 day)
- Temporary Signage at Roadworks
- Occupational First Aid

The Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations 2001 came into effect and one of its regulations requires that all construction workers must receive the FAS Safe Pass Training by the end of 2002. If a worker does not receive this training he/she will not be allowed work on site.

Safety Consultation & Representation

Mayo County Council has established Safety Committees in each of the Engineering Areas. Each committee meets monthly to review and resolve Health & Safety issues.

Each Area has appointed a Safety Representative.

A Safety Management Committee was established within Mayo County Council to implement the safety management system.

Visual Display Unit Assessments

Mayo County Council commissioned Universal Safety Associates to conduct VDU workstation assessments (See Picture 2 below). It is intended to assess all remaining workstations during 2002 using in house trainers.



Strategic Policy Committees (SPC's)

Mayo County Council established six Strategic Policy Committees covering the following areas:

- Housing
- Cultural, Education, Heritage & Corporate Affairs
- Roads & Transportation
- Water Supply & Sewerage
- Planning & Economic Development
- Environmental Policy & Emergency Services

The membership of the Strategic Policy Committees comprises elected members, representatives from the Town Councils and representatives of the social partners and voluntary/community groups.

The committees aim to meet at least four times a year and will assist and advise the Council in relation to policy formation.



Chairs of S.P.C.'s

1 Housing Cllr. John Carty.

2 Culture, Education, Heritage & Corporate Affairs
Cllr. Pat McHugh

3 Roads & Transportation Sen. Frank Chambers

4 Water Supply & Sewerage Cllr. Michael Burke

5 Planning & Economic Development Cllr. Frank Leneghan

6 Environmental Policy & Emergency Services
Cllr. Jim Mannion

Conferences Attended by Members of Mayo County Council in 2001

1. **General Council of County Councils Annual Seminar** - held in the Welcome Inn Hotel, Castlebar, Co. Mayo, on 26th and 27th January, 2001.
2. **Irish Museums Association Spring Seminar** - "Museums and the Community" - held in the Burrendale Hotel, Newcastle, Co. Down, from 23rd to 25th February, 2001.
3. **Local Authority Members Association Annual Conference** - held in Rochestown Park Hotel, Cork, on 19th and 20th April, 2001.
4. **Association of Health Boards in Ireland Annual Conference** - "Health Services in Ireland : Current Issues" - held in the Allingham Arms Hotel, Bundoran, Co. Donegal, on 27th and 28th April, 2001.
5. **Environmental Conference** - "Infrastructure Development : Can the Environment be Protected?" - held in the Carrigaline Court Hotel, Carrigaline, Co. Cork, on 3rd and 4th May, 2001.
6. **International Conference** - "Ireland - The Future - The West" - held in Knock House Hotel, Knock, Co. Mayo, on 14th and 15th May, 2001.
7. **Conference - "Making Sense of Them All"** held in the Duhallow Park Hotel, Kanturk, Co. Cork, from 25th to 27th May, 2001.
8. **National Planning Conference** - "Meeting the Challenges - Implementing the National Development Plan and Planning and Development Act, 2000" - held in the Ormonde Hotel, Kilkenny, on 28th and 29th May, 2001.
9. **Conference - "Sustaining Rural Communities"** - held in Woodlands House Hotel, Adare, Co. Limerick, on 15th and 16th June, 2001.
10. **General Council of County Councils Annual Conference** - held in the Dolmen Hotel, Carlow, from 5th to 7th July, 2001.
11. **Dr. Douglas Hyde Conference** - "Re-Assessment : Irish Leaders of the 20th Century" - held in St. Nathy's College, Ballaghaderreen, Co. Roscommon, from 20th to 22nd July, 2001.
12. **Parnell Summer School** - "Economy and Society - Choices for Ireland in the New Century" - held in Avondale House and Forest Park, Rathdrum, Co. Wicklow, from 12th to 17th August, 2001.
13. **International Humbert School Conference** - held in Moyne College, Ballina, from 22nd to 26th August, 2001.
14. **Conference - "Training - The Key to Success"** - held in the Gleneagle Hotel, Killarney, Co. Kerry, on 13th and 14th September, 2001.
15. **Conference - "The legal, policy and other requirements for further progress in our Equestrian Industries"** - held in the Hibernian Hotel, Mallow, Co. Cork, from 21st to 23rd September, 2001.
16. **Environment Conference** - "WASTE - Crisis to Opportunity" - held in the Nuremore Hotel, Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan, on 25th and 26th September, 2001.
17. **International Conference** - "Regeneration Through Social Enterprise" - held in Kennedy Glasgow House, The Quay Centre, The Quay, Ballina, on 27th and 28th September, 2001.
18. **La Touche Legacy Seminar** - "Global Warming - "Should We Panic" - held in La Touche Hotel, Greystones, Co. Wicklow, from 28th to 30th September, 2001.
19. **Conference - "Local Government Initiatives for Developing Countries"** - held in the Lakeside Hotel, Ballina, Co. Tipperary, on 4th and 5th October, 2001.
20. **Conference - "Supporting Community Initiative"** - held in Kilkee Bay Hotel, Kilkee, Co. Clare, on 19th and 20th October, 2001.
21. **Conference - "Information and Communications Technology in the B.M.W. Region"** - held in Pontoon Bridge Hotel, Pontoon, Co. Mayo, on 27th September, 2001.
22. **Conference - "The National Spatial Strategy** - What does it mean for Regional and Local Development?" - held in the White House Hotel, Ballinlough, Co. Roscommon, on 1st November, 2001.
23. **Local Authority Members Association Winter Seminar** - held in the Hillgrove Hotel, Monaghan, on 9th and 10th November, 2001.
24. **National Tourism Conference** - "Planning for Tourism Development" - held in the Falls Hotel, Ennistymon, Co. Clare, on 23rd and 24th November, 2001.

Register of Electors, 2001/2002

Mayo County Council is responsible for the preparation of the register of electors.

TOTAL ELECTORATE FOR COUNTY MAYO - 91,383

	Presidential Electors	Dáil Electors	European Electors	Local Electors
Mayo Dáil Constituency	90,336	91,104		
Connaught-Ulster European Parliament Constituency			91,228	
Ballina Local Electoral Area				18,288
Ballinrobe Local Electoral Area				8,564
Belmullet Local Electoral Area				11,431
Castlebar Local Electoral Area				19,402
Claremorris Local Electoral Area				11,065
Swinford Local Electoral Area				11,597
Westport Local Electoral				11,036
Total:				91,383

Presidential Electors may vote at all Elections and Referenda

Dáil Electors may vote at Dáil, European Parliament and Local Elections only.

European Electors may vote at European Parliament and Local Elections only.

Local Electors may vote at Local Elections only.

POSTAL AND SPECIAL VOTERS

Dáil Constituency	Defence Forces	Garda Síochana	Foreign Diplomat	Disabled Postal	Circumstances of Occupation	Disabled Special
MAYO	84	36	4	178	5	101

Information Technology

2001 was a very busy year for the IT Department with another milestone passed successfully with the changeover to the Euro. All our software was updated on time and the necessary hardware in place to ensure a smooth changeover.

Mayo County Council's network became the first local authority network in Ireland to be certified as meeting the new benchmarking/SLA standards established by the Department of the Environment and Local Government/Local Government Computer Services Board. This standard, which is similar to the ISO 9000 designation, recognises that the network complies or exceeds industry standards for organisation, operation, integrity, security, etc.

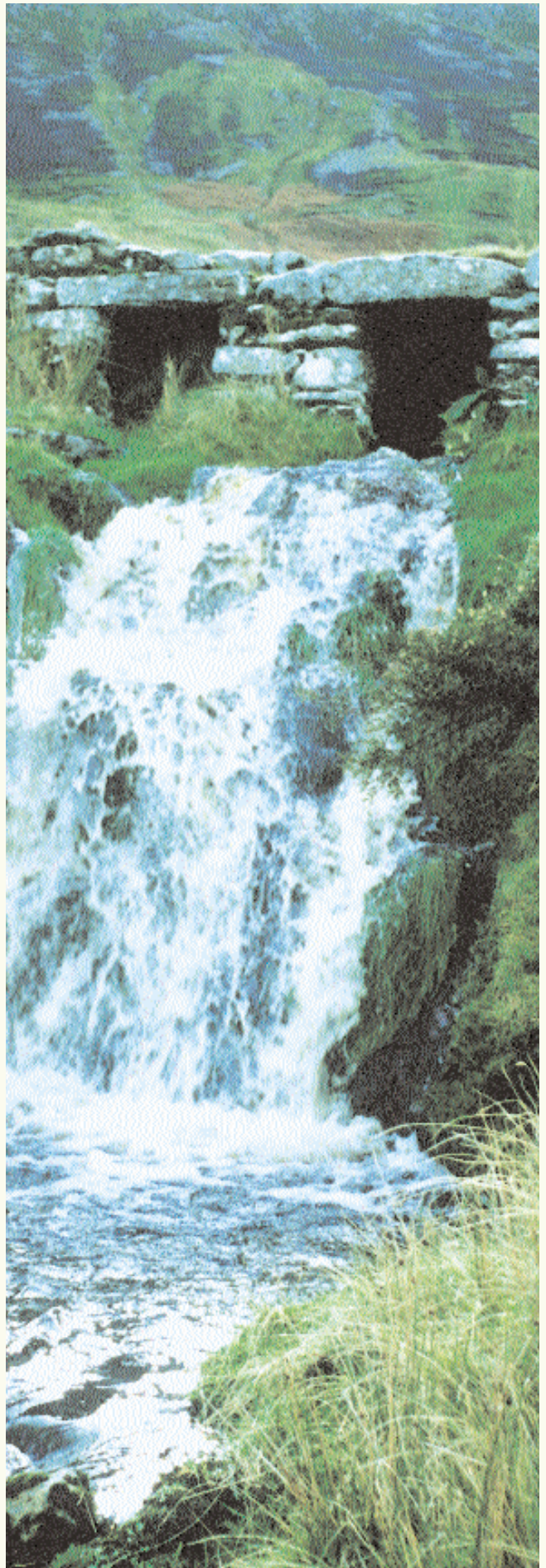
In December 2001, Ireland was recognised as being the EU leader in online Government services. Mayo County Council in conjunction with the Local Government Computer Services Board developed the eForms application which allows the public to complete local authority forms online. This eForms initiative was one of the main reasons Ireland was recognised as the EU leader.

The development of the Internet/Intranet (www.mayococo.ie) is on-going. It is our intention that all interaction with the public currently delivered by Mayo County Council will also, but not exclusively, be available on-line. All application forms are now available and can be printed locally.

We will shortly be developing a payments facility so that customers can pay for services on-line. The development of E-enabled systems will be the focus for all new future systems development. ICT will play a major role in the whole process of raising awareness of environmental issues, also in engaging with interest groups and individuals in the process of consultation, in informing the public of the outcome of key policy areas, and to be transparent and even-handed in its handling of sensitive issues which impact on people's lives, ICT will be utilised to the fullest extent possible, at the outset interaction using the spatial dimension. i.e. IGIS, IPlanning products.

The IT Department also developed a new website for the County Development Board (www.mayocdb.ie) and assisted the Library Service in developing new interactive web functionality.

The completion of the re-structuring process under Better Local Government has brought with it ICT demands which must be developed and implemented. The whole thrust of providing better and more cost effective services to our customers is being achieved through the use of multi-channel delivery structures.





COUNTY MANAGER DES MAHON

DIRECTORS OF SERVICES

PETER HYNES – WESTPORT/BELMULLET
GROUPED ELECTORAL AREAS
SEAMUS GRANAHAH –
BALLINA/SWINFORD GROUPED ELECTORAL
AREAS
ALEX FLEMING –
CASTLEBAR/BALLINROBE/CLAREMORRIS
GROUPED ELECTORAL AREAS
JOSEPH BEIRNE – CAPITAL WORKS
TIM MULLEN – HEAD OF FINANCE
JOHN COLL – COMMUNITY & ENTERPRISE
JOSEPH LOFTUS – CORPORATE AFFAIRS

COUNTY SECRETARY JOHN CONDON

CORPORATE AFFAIRS / HUMAN RESOURCES

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BREEGE GORDON
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ROSE DOHERTY
HELEN STAUNTON
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PADRAIC DURCAN
ORLA CUNNINGHAM
MARY BARRETT
MAUREEN MCGEE
THERESE DEASY
JOANNE WALSH
ANNE CONWAY
JOANNE MCNICHOLAS
OLGA O'CONNOR
CHRISTINA RUANE
SIOBHAN PRENDERGAST
SALLY GREALIS
EILEEN GOLDRICK
BOBBY FEENEY
DAVE MURPHY
SADIE KEANE
CHRISTINA JOYCE
MARGARET LAVELLE
ANN REID
PATRICIA KEENA
VIRGINIA HEGARTY
FIONA LYNCH
ANN-MARIE MALONEY
EILEEN MURPHY

REGIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

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MARCELLA MORAN

WORKPLACE PARTERSHIP FACILITATOR

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I.T.

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JOHN MCGOVERN
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ANN MURRAY
VALERIE KING
CHRISTINA MURPHY
JACKIE BRADY
KEITH KIELY
STEPHEN CAROLAN
BRIAN MCNULTY
RICK LOVE
ALEX FLEMING
SHEILA MULLEN

BRIDGET TOGHER
SEAMUS MALONEY
MARK HEALY
RAMONA LAVELLE

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PATRICK COMMONS, S.E.O.
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MICHAEL MONGAN, S.E.
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REBECCA MUNNELLY
PAULA WRIGHT
MARY LYNN
MARGARET CONNELL
THERESE HENEGHAN
YVONNE MCNULTY
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FRANCIS G. JENNINGS
ANTHONY REIDY
CONRAD HARLEY
P. J. LYONS
SEAN WALSH
KIERAN SHALLY

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P. J. BROGAN
MICHAEL CONMY
JAMES CONNOR
EDWARD COSTELLO
JOE DOHERTY
PAT GALLAGHER
PATRICK GAUGHAN
KEVIN J. GINTY
JOE HENNELLY
PATSY JENNINGS
ENDA JUDGE
GER KEEGAN
J. KINHARTE
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PADRAIG LAVELLE
PADRAIG LYNN
JIMMY MALONEY
MARTIN MCGUIRE
PETER MORAN
JOAN MURPHY
JOHN PHILBIN
PADDY SCANLON
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EDDIE WALSH
WALTER HUGHES
FRANK LALLY

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DARBY MULLEN
THOMAS GRUDDY
PAUL HARDIMAN
NOEL MCNAMARA
PHILIP MCGLYNN
PATRICK O' DONNELL
JOHN O' MALLEY
JIM MOORE
PETER MCLOUGHLIN
SEAN HIGGINS
MARTIN LAVELLE
DANIEL RUANE
JOSEPH DEVANEY
VAL BYRNE
IMELDA O'DONNELL
NICOLA WALSH
ALAN KENNELLY

ASSIGNED TO SANITARY

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MICHAEL CUMMINS
JOHN GILL

GERRY LAWLESS
GERRY MALONEY
JAMES SCOTT
PAT GUAGHAN
JOHN OLDHAM
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JOHN GILMORE
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DERMOT MULLANEY
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MICHAEL JORDAN

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GERRY COSTELLO
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GERALDINE HOPKINS
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SINEAD HEANEY
SHARON JOYCE
GARY SMYTH
JOHN FLEMING
FRANCOIS ROSSI
CHARLES MULCHRONE
MARY MOLLOY
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KEVIN COOKE
EILEEN CAVANAGH
BEATRICE HARAN

MOTOR TAXATION

FIONA CAMPBELL
MARGARET MORAN
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MARY O' MALLEY
DOLORES TOWEY
AISLING DURCAN
MARY WALSH
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DOIREANN GROONELL
NOEL WALSH
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ILISH MCGING
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SHANE SMYTH
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MARIE CAWLEY
PHYL DURKAN
JUDITH CAWE
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STEPHANIE RYDER
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EITHNE MCGUIRE
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GERALDING BRENNAN



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GERALDINE JOYCE
KEVIN BOYLE
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MARY REILLY
NORMAN LONERGAN
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G.I.S

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MICHAEL LIVINGS
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FINANCE

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LORETTA REAPE
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SANDRA DEACY
FIONA FOY
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KERRY LOUGHREY
ASSUMPTA SKEFFINGTON
CAROL SCANLON

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BERNIE COMMONS
MARTIN BURKE
MARY O'GRADY
BREEGE MCHALE

INTERNAL AUDITOR

MICHAEL GORMALLY

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY & ENTERPRISE

DECLAN TURNBULL
NEIL SHERIDAN
CELENA MCCORMACK

RATES

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MICHAEL LAVELLE
PAUL ROCHE
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PAMELA BARRETT
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MAUREEN MCELLIN

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SEAN KELLY
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DEIRDRE MCHUGH
PATSY BURKE
PATRICIA BARNICLE
AILEEN O'CONNELL
DONAL REILLY
FINIAN JOYCE
DERMOT BRADY

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MARY MAHON
BREDAGANNON
TERESA GORMALLY

MARTINA MULLIGAN
TERESA BURKE
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COLETTE SCAHILL
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ANGELA DUDDY

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RICHARD GLANCY
GERRY WALSH
MICHAEL LYONS
MARIAN MCHUGH
PAUL HYLAND
PAT MCHALE
PAT STAUNTON
BERNADETTE BURKE
THOMAS GERARD FLYNN
MUREDACH TUFFY
KEVIN QUINN
FIONA DUGGAN

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MICHAEL DURKAN
PADRAIC CUNNIFFE
PADRAIG GLYNN
HARRY LOFTUS
JOHN CUNNINGHAM
GERRY LYDON
DES HUGHES
JIMMY LAWLESS
MARTIN MCLOUGHLIN
JOHN LUNDY
DECLAN SHERIDAN
DECLAN BARRETT
COLM MCGUINNESS
JOHN MELODY
TOMMY MANNION
TOMMY N. MANNION
GERRY CONWAY
KEVIN O'HARA
CAMILUS FITZPATRICK
GERRY SHALLY
MARK O' MALLEY
BRIAN STAUNTON
KEVIN DEVINE
BRIAN WALSH
DECLAN FORDE
OLIVER BIRrane
NOEL GIBBONS
PADRAIG HIGGINS
PADRAIC BROWNE
PATRICK R. BURKE
PATRICK DOYLE
SEAN EGAN
FRANK FITZGERALD
GERRY FREYNE
ALAN FINNEGAN
MICHAEL GILLESPIE
JOSEPH GRIER
PATRICK GERAGHTY
MARTIN GALLAGHER
KIERAN GIELTY
MARTIN GERAGHTY
THOMAS SR HOLDEN
MICHAEL HAUGH
CHRISTY JOYCE
JOHN MOORE

JOE MCLOUGHLIN
MARTIN MCDONNELL
KEVIN MCHALE
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Photomontage of various images from around Co. Mayo.

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Section of a photo taken by Eamonn O'Boyle;
"I Will Always Remember"
Winter sunshine over Lough Conn, Christmas 2000.
Taken from "A Mayo Moment".

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