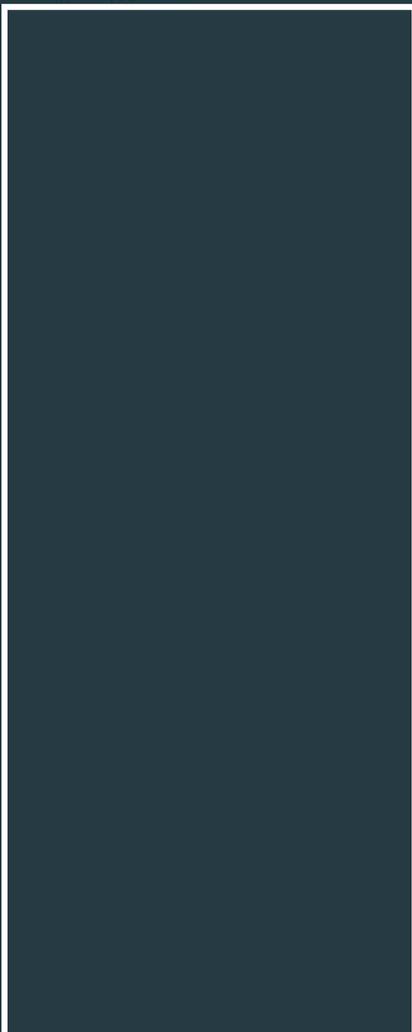


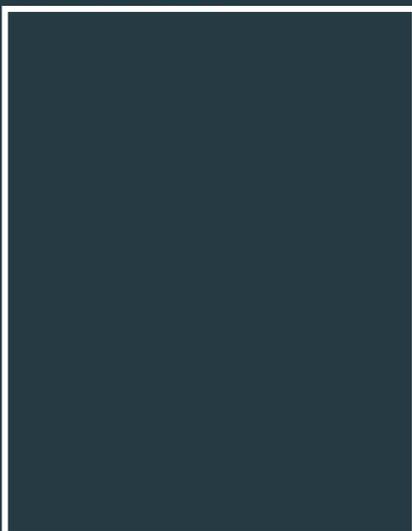


February 2022

Highlights



Dates to Note



CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT

Chief Executive Report

KEVIN KELLY



Finance

The Council has been notified by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage that it is to receive **€2,564,110** in respect of Covid-19 Related Costs and Income Losses 2021. This amount is split as follows:

Loss of Income	€1,863,813
Covid-19 Related Costs incurred	€ 700,297

The amounts allocated was based on Covid-19 Costs and Income Losses for the nine months ended 30th September 2021 which in the case of Mayo County Council were:

Loss of Income	€1,863,813
Covid-19 Related Costs incurred	€1,867,925

The amounts received represents 100% of the Income Losses for the nine month period and 37% of Covid-19 related expenditure, with a combined total of 68% of total amount claimed.

Mayo House

Members will be aware that Mayo County Council previously leased the second floor of Cedar House, Moneen for over 10 years to accommodate approx. 35 staff. Following the sale of part of the building and the expiry of the lease, Mayo County Council were unable to secure a new lease on agreed terms and moved to Mayo House in 2018. Mayo House extends to approximately 10,000 sq. ft and can accommodate 46 Mayo County Council staff.

The original agreement was for a lease for two years with a possible 1-year extension and an option to buy the premises from the owner which was now due to expire in February 2022.

Having considered all relevant aspects including continuing a lease, the property being sold to another party, the price and our ongoing office accommodation requirements, Mayo County Council has issued Notice to the owner to avail of the Option to Purchase and it is expected that the purchase will be completed late February/early March.





February 2022

Directorate Highlights

Active Travel funding of €5.027m allocated to Mayo County Council by National Transport Authority.

New velocity patcher delivered and has commenced operation.

Contractor has commenced on site on N17 Lisduff Claremorris scheme. Scheme completion due in Q1 2023.

Design work has commenced on 2022 National Road Pavement Overlay and safety programmes

Vacanthomes.ie, an initiative by Mayo County Council on behalf of the local government sector represented Ireland at the Innovation in Politics Award 2021/22.

Contract awarded for “Green” Procurement Training for all local authority staff.

Dates to Note

16th February – Housing SPC Meeting.

21st February – Roads SPC.

The Hedgecutting Season will end on 28th February 2022.

Housing, Roads, Architectural Services and Service Development

TOM GILLIGAN



Roads

- Construction works ongoing to N5 Westport – Turlough scheme with project completion due in Q1 2023.
- Construction works ongoing to N26 Cloongullane scheme with scheme completion due in July 2022.
- Design work and contract documents practically complete on N60 Heathlawn scheme and approval is about to be sought from TII to proceed to tender.
- N26 / N59 Ballina By -Pass Phase 1 at route option stage with Consultant about to be appointed.
- Design and survey work’s ongoing for N60 Breaffy Active Travel and Safety Scheme with Part 8 planning to follow in April 2022.
- Design work proceeding on Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project with tender publication in Q2 2022.

Housing

Rebuilding Ireland 2016-2021 is now complete, and Mayo County Council exceeded the target of 708 with a total of 737 housing solutions delivered under the programme.

The new Housing Programme ‘Housing for All ‘2022-2026 is now underway and Mayo County Council have a target of 730 Social Housing new builds. Mayo County Council have submitted an Implementation Plan to the Department which outlines how these targets will be delivered. The target for 2022 is 90 houses and projects are currently in progress to achieve same. In relation to Affordable Housing, Mayo County Council do not have a target however we are endeavouring to utilise the national Affordable Housing schemes within the constraints set by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government.

HAP & RAS

16 No. delivered under HAP.

5 No. delivered under RAS.

Total of 2,107 active households supported by RAS/HAP.

Leasing

8 No. house delivered under the Leasing Programme.

Total: 321 No. households currently supported under the Leasing Programme.

Homelessness - 8 No. homeless presentations for January 2022 (10 adults & 6 children).

Defective Concrete Block Grant Scheme

To date: -

212 Stage 1 Confirmation of Eligibility Applications received.

96 Stage 1 Confirmation of Eligibility have been issued.

21 Stage 2 Grant approval applications received and 12 approved to date.

Procurement & Efficiency

- Several tenders advertised and evaluated for the hire of all vehicles, plant & associated equipment for all MDs with & without Operators throughout 2022.
- RFT for Contactor to provide tree felling & associated works at the National Museum of Ireland – Country Life Turlough.
- Request for Quotations for Bulk Fuels.



February 2022

Directorate Highlights



**Water Services, Environment,
 Climate Change & Emergency
 Services**

JOHN CONDON



Mains Rehab Crew - Shrule: The Direct Labour Mains Rehab Crew are continuing to work on Dalgan Rd., Shrule. This involves the replacement of approximately 1600m of existing 100mm asbestos cement watermain along local road L-1616-0 Dalgan Road from its junction with the N-84 at its southern end in Shrule, to the junction with the Dalgan Demesne road L-16162-0. 61 individual service connections, a mixture of domestic and commercial customers and two bulk connections are supplied by the water main to be replaced. All works are confined to the townlands of Shrule, Ramolin and Dalgan in Shrule County Mayo. As at 28th January 2022, a total of 800m was installed.

Find & Fix Project - Ballina & Claremorris District Metered Areas (DMA's):

The crews have completed works in the following DMA's with substantial savings -:

- BA_RUR_Lisglennon_Carrowmore_Lacken_GWS – MA02516
- BA_RUR_Lisglennon_Kincon – MA02515
- BA_RUR_Lisglennon_Toreen - MA02513
- MA02643 - LM_Cmorris_Dalton_Street DMA.
- DMA MA02639 - LM_Cmorris_Ballinrobe_Road
- MA02642 - LM_Cmorris_Mount_Street DMA

The Find & Fix Crews have moved back into **Ballina town** since mid-January 2022 and in **Claremorris**. Monitoring continues in **Claremorris**. Investigations will commence shortly in **Knockmore**.

Ctri Project

To facilitate the refurbishment works at our regional control centre (CAMP West) the migration of the control centre to a temporary control room was successfully completed.

West Regional Communications Centre (WRCC)

WRCC have successfully maintained their NSAI certification to *I.S. EN ISO 9001:2015* for a further 3 years until 2024 subject to the annual audit.

Environmental Awareness:

- Advertising campaign on Mid-West Radio for the responsible use of the bottle banks post-Christmas & New Year when usage and demand was particularly high. The advisory message was broadcast 5 x times daily for ten days and commenced on the 6th January 2022.
- Successful applicants under the Anti-Litter & Anti-Graffiti Awareness Scheme were notified. Fourteen groups were successful for grant aid under the Scheme. Arrangements for payment of first instalments was arranged.

Climate Action:

- A light Pollution workshop was held with the Environment SPC and members of the Climate Action Steering Group. The workshop was given by Mayo Dark Skies with support from Trinity College and NPWS.
- The [Climate Action Connect page](#) was published. The page contains information for staff on MCC's Climate Commitments, Energy, Smarter Travel, Nature Based Solutions, Waste and the Climate Ambassadors as well as relevant news updates.
- Mayo County Council submitted an entry to the [Green Public Sector Organisation of the Year | Green Awards](#)

Energy:

- Mayo County Council energy review for 2020 has been completed. Just under €2.9million was spent on energy in 2020.
- Mayo County Council have validated their 2021 GPRNs and MPRNs and submitted to SEAI for the annual Public Body Monitoring and Reporting. The national public body report for 2020 is due to be published in Q1. 2022.

Dates to Note

An Taisce Online Portal has opened registrations for National Spring Clean 2022 - www.nationalspringclean.org



February 2022 Directorate Highlights

Planning Statistics January 2022

- Planning Applications Received 24 December 2021- 31 January 2022: **105**
- Planning Decision to Grant: **86**
- Planning Decision to Refuse: **11**
- Forthcoming Decisions: **172**
- Preplanning Applications: **30**
- Appeals: **6**

TRAINING

Indoor

103 indoor staff received training.
2 indoor staff members signed up for Further Education.
175 indoor staff completed Climate Awareness Training.

Outdoor

36 outdoor staff received training.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

13 FOI requests in January 2022.

INSURANCE

6 PL Claims in January 2022.

OMBUDSMAN

2 ombudsman requests in January 2022.

Dates to Note

Corporate, Education, Cultural, Heritage & Library Services Strategic Policy Committee Meeting - 21st February 2022.

The Central Policy Unit in the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER) has commissioned Ipsos MRBI to undertake 3 separate surveys to provide an understanding of the FOI process, both from an internal and an external standpoint.

These surveys will take place in February 2022 and are for FOI Officers, FOI Decision Makers and the general public (requestors).

Planning, Human Resources, Communications & Corporate Affairs

CATHERINE McCONNELL



DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

- Customer Relationship Management (CRM):
- Discovery Phase Complete.
- CE Orders Project:
- Joint collaboration with South Dublin County Council.
- Planning Digitisation Project
- Procurement Phase.

HR

New Appointments

- 1 Sports Promotion Awareness Officer ■ 4 Work Placement ■ 2 ASO
- 1 Executive Librarian ■ 1 General Operative ■ 1 Fitter ■ 1 Env. Tech Grade 11 (water).
- 1 Assistant Planner.

Promotions

- 2 ASO ■ 2 Exec. Technician (Civil) Housing ■ Senior Assistant Chief Fire Officer
- 1 Assistant Civil Defence Officer.

Interviews held in January 2022

- Water & Sewerage Caretaker Grade 3 ■ Plant Operator.

Competitions Advertised in January

- Beach Lifeguards/ Belmullet Tidal Pools ■ Executive Technician Civil (Water Services).
- Emergency Control Operator.

Competitions Screened / Shortlisted

- Assistant Scientist ■ Assistant Engineer ■ Executive Engineer
- Project Manager Life Lough Carra.

Retirements

- 2 General Services Supervisors ■ 1 Ganger ■ 1 Administrative Officer

COMMUNICATIONS

- **Public information updates** on Road Gritting, weather alerts, traffic disruption, Water repairs, recruitment, Covid-19.
- **Media Responses** to local and national Media queries. Co-ordination of corporate Advertising.
- **Diaspora** – Planning meetings for Mayo Day 2022.
- **Key promotional Campaigns**
 - Home to Mayo – Working with partners at home and away to increase promotion of home to Mayo Festival for May 2022.
 - Funding calls - **Community Activities Fund - Architectural Heritage Funding - Community Monuments Fund.**
 - Careers webinar.
 - Christmas Tree Recycling.
 - Library promotions - Various Mayo History features on the website, Information sessions.
 - Photos of the Day.
 - Road Safety messaging.
- Website figures (www.mayo.ie) for 2021 - 1,091,0892-page views, an increase of 4.2% on 2020.
- Social media channels experiencing increased engagement and growth in January compared to December (Likes up 324%, Retweets up 207% on Twitter).



February 2022

Directorate Highlights

- Mayo County Library held an online information session on assisting adults on autistic spectrum to gain and maintain employment in January.
- 885 people participated in 21 Operation Transformation / MSP Walks across the county on 16-01-22.
- Mayo LCDC Training Education and Skills Working Group Webinar “What students need to know” took place on 12-01-22 with over 500 viewers. Archive available [here](#).
- Local Enterprise Office Mayo Spring 2022 training schedule commenced with sessions on the Trading Online Voucher, Start Your Own Business, Instagram for Beginners, Essential Tax, Vat, Cashflow, Debt Management taking place throughout January.
- The first event of the In the Open | Faoin Spéir – Castlebar took place at Turlough Park on 30-01-22.

Dates to Note

- Meeting of the Economic Development, Enterprise Support, Planning and Marine SPC on 22-02-22.
- MegaAWE to start construction of Bangor Erris test site in February 2022.
- Closing date 25-02-22 for National Grant Scheme for Physical Activity in Older People by Age & Opportunity applications.
- Neven's Irish Seafood Trails, featured Mayo on RTE1 19-01-22. Follow up programme to air on 09-02-22 on RTE1 at 8.30pm.

Enterprise, Community, Economic Development & Tourism

JOANNE GREHAN



Enterprise & Economic Development Unit

- An Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment Leo Varadkar TD, announced the annual employment results of the LEOs for 2021 which showed that LEO Mayo supported companies created 172 jobs in 2021.
- A networking event for Mayo food and drink producers took place and included a presentation from the Tipperary Food Producers Group.
- Liaison is continuing with NBI on the rollout of the National Broadband Plan.
- Wifi4EU: Works to install street signs advertising the free outdoor Wi-Fi service completed in 7 towns with works on-going in the other 2.
- Broadband Connection Points (BCPs): ongoing collaboration with the 10 Mayo BCPs on their Connected Hubs projects.

Strategic Capital Projects

- Internal briefing for all relevant MCC staff working on CLÁR, TVRS, ORIS and LIS schemes, and DRCD Training, took place in January 2022.
- Works are ongoing to address external audit outcomes across all DRCD schemes, including the implementation of new project management structures across these schemes.

Community, Arts, Sports, Childcare

- Sport Ireland has allocated a budget of €369,612 for the operation of MSP in 2022.
- MCC has been successful in obtaining €75,000 under the Disability Participation Awareness Fund. The funding received is allocated towards improving beach access in specified locations, creating a sensory pod in Swinford Library & supporting the South West Mayo Development Company's social farming project.
- Mayo County Childcare has undertaken three surveys on staffing levels in Early Years and School Aged Childcare setting due to Covid and staffing crisis. This data has been returned to DCEDIY to support the analysis for assessing options to tackle staffing issue in childcare settings.

Tourism, Recreation & Amenity

- Construction works are well advanced on the extension to the Monasteries of the Moy Trail, between Achill Sound and Bunacurry and at Achill Sound and Saula West.
- For the development of the wider Clew Bay Project, the following staff members have been assigned - Anne McCarthy as Project Transition Lead to TII and Anna Connor as Project Liaison Officer.
- TII has approved a total of €2.4m to develop the Clew Bay Greenway in 2022 comprising €1.9m for the Achill section and €500,000 for the Murrisk section.
- Ongoing meetings with Fáilte Ireland regarding new Visitor Experiential Development Plans.

Library Services

- MCC are currently working on a Programme of Works for 2022 including the Decade of the Centenaries and the Creative Ireland Programme.
- Class visits now resuming in many branches including special needs classes using the new sensory Cubbie in Castlebar.

