



MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT UPDATE



Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo
Mayo County Council



SEPTEMBER 2023 MEETING



Directorate Highlights

Roads

Additional Restoration Improvement funding of €655,500 provided by DoT.

Additional LIS funding of €567,000 provided by DRCD.

Local Transport Plans for Castlebar, Ballina and Westport being progressed and will be finalised by Q3.

Architects

Tenders received from Mount Street, Claremorris(6 units) & Cross West (8 units) Housing Schemes
Tender issued for 12 unit scheme at Ballyvary.

Stage 1 Approvals received for 16 social housing units

Conservation

Works complete at Ballyglass Lighthouse Keepers Cottage.
Development of events program for Architecture at the Edge Festival
Tender issued for MCC – Build Heritage Stocktake

Dates to Note

Public consultation in relation to Belclare to Murrisk Greenway route options to be held on 13th Sept.

CIS proposals for 2024 / 2025 to be submitted to DoT by 12th October.

Hedgecutting Season is now open to 29th Feb., 2024.

Roads & Transportation SPC – October (tbc)

Housing, Roads and Service Development

TOM GILLIGAN



Roads

- Construction works on-going on N60 Heathlawn scheme with completion due in August 2024. Approximately 1km of the eastern end of the scheme is complete and open to traffic.
- N26 / N59 Ballina By -Pass is at Phase 2 route option stage. Options selection report is being compiled. Scheme to proceed to Phase 3 Design & Environmental Evaluation in Q3 2023.
- N59 Newport – Derrada scheme to proceed to tender in Q3 2023.
- N60 Breaffy Active Travel and Safety Scheme now at land acquisition and detailed design phase.
- N26 Mount Falcon to Foxford scheme to proceed to Phase 2 Options Selection in Q3 2023.
- N60 Manulla scheme to proceed to Phase 3 Design and Environmental Evaluation in Q3 2023
- Design works on – going on National Road safety projects. Feasibility and Options report for N5 / R320 junction scheme at Swinford approved by TII and scheme will now proceed to design and planning phases with construction in Q1 2024
- Proceeding with land acquisition and detailed design for R332 Kilmaine to Foxhall scheme.
- Consultant has completed Phase 1 Concept & Feasibility for R345 Cong Relief Road. Approval to proceed to Phase 2 Options Selection requested from DoT.
- Design report submitted to TII for N60 Brickens re alignment at railway overbridge.

Housing

In August 2023 the following were delivered.

HAP & RAS (Aug- 2023)

- 13 No. delivered under HAP
- 1 No. delivered under RAS

Total of 1953 active households supported by RAS/HAP at the end of Aug.

Leasing (Aug- 2023)

- 3 No. house delivered under the Leasing Programme.

Total: No. 371 households currently supported under the Leasing Programme.

Homelessness – 25 No. homeless presentations (July., 2023.)

20 No. homeless presentations (Aug., 2023)

Defective Concrete Block Grant Scheme

To date: -

350 Stage 1 Confirmation of Eligibility Applications received.

332 Stage 1 Approved

108 Stage 2 Grant approval applications received and 99 approved to date.

7 Properties completed.

Croi Conaithe - 259 applications received.

Repair & Leasing Scheme – 21 active leases & 33 applications for 86 units.

Buy& Renew - 63 active applications.



Water Services, Environment, Climate Change & Emergency Services

JOHN CONDON



Directorate Highlights

Fire Services

Crossmolina Fire Station

Construction of Crossmolina Fire Station has been completed and the building has been handed over to Mayo County Council. Final commissioning of communications systems to take place shortly.

Fire Service fleet

Mayo County Council have taken delivery of 1 number new Class B Fire Appliance. The vehicle, built at Sidheán Teoranta, Spiddal, at a cost of c. €480,000, is 100% capital grant aided and has been put on the run at Ballina Fire Station.

Environmental Awareness:

- Throughout the Summer months - MCC partnered with Leave no Trace to run a social media campaign 'love this place, leave no trace'. This campaign, aimed at day trippers and tourists, encouraged care for the fragile environment in many of our scenic and coastal areas.
- Mayo County Council supported Achill Tourism in rolling out a beach library on Keel Beach to promote reuse and reduce plastic litter on our beaches.
- 'Water Refill' point information signs were designed and roll out began of same to GAA clubs to promote reuse and reduce plastic litter as part of Mayo's Green Clubs Programme.
- Dog fouling awareness advert ran throughout the summer in Mayo Cinemas to tie in with high profile new releases over the Summer Months.



Climate Action:

- The Climate Action Plan pre-draft engagement was held throughout July and August with numerous presentations and workshops given. Over 550 submissions were received.
- Mayo County Council were a partner in the Mary Robinson Climate Conference held in Ballina from July 5th – 7th.
- Mayo County Council are partners in three successful [Creative Climate Action projects](#).
- Protect our Sand Dunes events were held on Bertra and Keel beaches in August as part of the [national campaign](#).

Veterinary Department: During the months of July & August we ran a Dog Licencing campaign. Through social media platforms dog owners were advised that the dog wardens would be checking for dog licences in the following areas: – Belmullet, Bangor, Ballycastle and Killala and the surrounding areas. This campaign aims to raise awareness of the requirement to licence dogs, the costs of dog licences and where licences can be purchased.

Dates to Note

List upcoming events & meetings:

- Green Clubs Workshops in North Mayo.
- Composting in schools programme.
- Green Schools Visits.
- Sustainable Goals Week.



Directorate Highlights

Planning Data July / Aug 2023

- Applications Received: 221
- Decisions to Grant: 210
- Decisions to Refuse: 9
- Formal Preplanning applications: 7
- Appointments at planning Clinics: 106

Mayo County Council has been awarded €12,000 from the Healthy Ireland Wellbeing Fund to develop workplace wellbeing initiatives initially targeting outdoor staff. The Workplace Wellbeing Committee will meet be re-established in September.

Work is ongoing at the Outdoor Training Centre at Saleen with view to completion at end of October/early November.

July & August

- FOI Requests: 37
- Insurance PL Claims: 17
- Ombudsman Cases
- 3 new cases – 1 case not upheld.
- Total Calls Answered: 8267

Dates to Note

Planning, Human Resources, Communications, Information Systems, Corporate Affairs & Architectural Services



CATHERINE MCCONNELL

Human Resources July 2023 and August 2023.

New Appointments

14 X Assistant Staff Officers, 4 X Clerical Officers, 2 x Beach Lifeguards, 1 x Executive Technician, 1 x Civil Tech Grade 1

Promotions July 2023

5 x Clerical Officer, 3 x Assistant Staff Officers, 1 x Environmental Enforcement Officer, 1 x Pool Lifeguard/Swim Teacher, 1 x Exec Planner, 1 X Community Climate Action Officer (3-year Contract), 1 x Climate Action Officer (5-year Specific Purpose), 1 x Climate Action Co Ordinator (5-year Specific Purpose)

Competitions Advertised in July 2023

IS Project Leader, Pool Lifeguard Swim Teacher, IS Analyst Developer (Grade VI), IS Technical Support Officer (Grade V), Ganger, Foreman, General Services Supervisor.

Screened/Shortlisted in July 2023

Creative Communities Engagement Officer, Pool Lifeguards, IS Project Leader, IS Analyst Developer, IS Tech Support.

Interviews held in July 2023

Assistant Architect, Senior Executive Technician, Retained Fire Fighters Belmullet and Ballinrobe, Substation Officer – Westport, Childcare Coordinator, Clerical Officers, Creative Communities Engagement Off.

Retirements - July 2023

1 x Craftworker, 1 x Traffic / Litter Warden

Training Figures for July & August 2023

153 outdoor staff participated in the following - In-house Competency Based Interview Training (80)

Roads Services Supervisors Course, Manual Handling, Safe Pass, Hygiene in Water Services, Confined Spaces-Management of Risk, Driver CPC Module 4, Commercial Vehicle Road Worthiness

Confined Spaces – Medium Risk, Safe Loading & Cargo Securing, Location of Underground Services-Refresher.

Corporate Communications / Diaspora / Oifig na Gaeilge / Road Safety

- Responses to local and national Media queries.
- Annual Report 2022 adopted.
- Milwaukee Irish Festival attended by Cathaoirleach and Council delegation.
- Return to School Safety Campaign

Press and Social media Activity – Press Releases and Campaigns

Development of Mayo First Climate Action Plan, Heritage Week in Mayo, Amber Thursday, N17 Lisduff Junction opening, N5 Westport to Turlough Temporary Road Works, Opening of Great Western Greenway extension, Home to Mayo Competition, Mayo Vacant Home Matchmaker, Grant, Dog Licence campaign,

Oifig na Gaeilge

- Pop-Up Gaeltacht held in Ballina as part of Connacht Fleadh
- Evaluation stage of translation services procurement completed.
- Compliance, translation and event support provided to all Sections.



Directorate Highlights

- The Mayo Business Awards launched, info available [Here](#)
- Fun Family Play Day July 8 as part of National Play Day.
- Expressions of Interest were sought for Oweninny Community Fund Category 1 & 2
- The annual Milwaukee Irish Fest held 17-20 Aug. It is the largest outdoor Irish event in the US.
- Minister Jack Chambers officially launched the Great Western G/way Achill Sound – Cashel Section on 1 Sept.
- Workshop for Cllrs, 29 Aug, to discuss the ORIS Scheme & the submissions received.
- Heritage week events: Production of a new guide to researching local history in the county by Mayo County Library; talks & events in branch libraries; Document Conservation Workshop in Ballina Library.
- Abuses at Ballinrobe Workhouse – a lecture by Dr. Michael O’ Connor 11 Aug Ballinrobe Library
- Blood Pressure Monitors continue to be lent from Castlebar library in assoc with Croí. Mayo is the first County to undertake this pilot project. The Scheme will be rolled out to further branch libraries in 2023

Dates to Note

- Culture Night 2023, Sept 22, with a full programme of events right across Mayo – [Click Here](#)
- Art in the Landscape events - ‘Your local stories about working in local industries’, 1 Sept, Áras Inis Gluaire, Belmullet & ‘Have a Go - Bhangra Dance & Light-painting!’ 2 Sept, Ballina Civic Offices
- 2023 Mayo Ideas Month events running from Oct 2-27.

Enterprise, Community, Economic Development & Tourism

JOANNE GREHAN



Enterprise & Economic Development Unit

- Business Advisory Clinics took place in Ballina, Claremorris & Westport during August. This followed an introductory Start Your Own Business workshop. The Autumn training programme schedule is available to book online on LEO website.
- ThinStone Ireland, based in Westport, will exhibit their business to 300k people at the National Ploughing Championships as part of the Local Enterprise Village.

Community Arts, Sports, Childcare

- SICAP Programme for 2024-2029 advertised. Closing date for submission is 11 Sept.
- Funding for new Resettlement Programme approved by DCEDIY. Valued at €279k with one to tender. The SLA will be in place for an 18 month period from 1 Aug.
- The LCDC, Local Development strategy (LDS) for Mayo was submitted to the Department on 28 July for evaluation.
- An Age Friendly Homes Regional Co-Ordinator & 2 local Co-Ordinators have been appointed under the Age Friendly Programme in Mayo.
- Mayo County Childcare service processed 20 Childminding Development Grant applications for 2023.
- “Levelling Access” mapping Arts & Disability Provision in Clare, Galway City & Mayo launched online on 16 Aug.
- €29k allocated by MAP to 7 Community Facilities as part of the Gov’s Phase 2 Energy Supports for Sport.
- Pride of Place judging took place at end of August. The Mayo representatives are: The Butterfly Garden, Swinford, Integrated Community Campus, Aghamore & the Community Café Ballyhaunis.

Tourism, Recreation & Amenities

- Phase 2 - Asset Renewal Works will commence on the Great Western G/way from Sept - Nov 2023. Works will consist of path reinstatement, drainage & fencing improvements across the entire G/way Network from Westport to Achill Sound.
- Work is continuing with “Toposopy” on the development of a longer-term Visitor Management & a Sustainable Tourism Development Plan for Keem Bay.
- **Outdoor Facilities at Keel** - Tender documents to appoint an engineering design team to tender and to deliver the construction works of the project have been prepared. Details will be published on eTenders the 1st week of Sept 2023.
- **Ceide Coast Project** – Site assessment carried out by Sport Ireland, Environmental Reports nearing completion, collaborations ongoing with landowners & agreements being finalised. Documents currently being prepared for Part 8 Planning.
- Details of ORIS 2023 announced by DRCD on 1 June – M1 (grant up to €30k – closing date 5 Sept), M2 (grant up to €200k – closing date 27 Oct), M3 (grant up to €500k – closing date 27 Oct).

Library Services

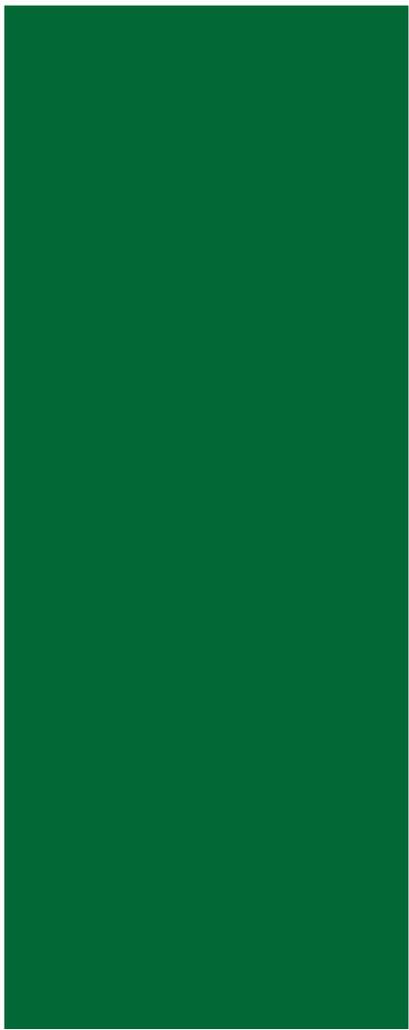
- Library Coding and robotics classes for children in Ballina, Castlebar and Westport.
- The Right to Read programme: Mayo County Library continues to present children starting school with a free bag of books supporting literacy & language development.
- Old faces and places of Westport – a photographic exhibition is currently running in Westport Library.
- The JCC held an exhibition on The Year of the French as part of Ballina 2023.
- Programme of events commemorating The Year of the French was launched on 24 Aug at Castlebar Library.
- English Classes for Ukrainians are run in Ballina Library on Wednesday mornings.



Financial Management & Motor Taxation

PETER DUGGAN

Directorate Highlights



Dates to Note



Mayo County Council

1. Major Expenditure and Income by Division with 2023 Adopted Budget
Seven months ended 31st July 2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW SEPT 2023

APPENDIX A

Service Division	Description	EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
		Exp. To Date Jul-23	Budget 2023	Remaining 2023	% Spent 2023	Inc. To Date Jul-23	Budget 2023	Net Rec'd 2023	% Rec'd 2023
A	Housing and Building	15,288,704	24,035,722	8,746,928	64%	14,993,018	23,804,700	8,841,682	63%
B	Roads Transport and Safety	22,897,106	48,956,825	26,069,719	46%	18,023,909	41,526,728	23,502,819	43%
C	Water Services	8,444,903	17,713,680	8,268,777	53%	11,575,774	21,380,276	9,793,501	54%
D	Development/Management	8,691,237	14,174,044	4,308,807	70%	4,289,822	4,616,985	3,277,033	69%
E	Environmental Services	10,286,201	17,889,861	7,603,660	57%	3,426,940	6,132,349	2,705,409	69%
F	Recreation and Amenity	8,393,732	13,117,245	4,723,513	64%	3,994,794	4,230,700	665,906	84%
G	Agecare, Education Health and Welfare	1,188,441	1,980,731	811,290	59%	419,441	683,533	264,092	61%
H	Miscellaneous Services	7,438,965	12,810,708	5,372,122	59%	8,246,271	14,170,424	5,924,153	59%
J	Central Management Charges	14,644,297	24,672,867	10,328,570	59%	988,161	1,600,000	611,839	62%
	Rates	-	-	-	-	21,966,460	37,741,670	15,775,210	59%
	Local Government Fund	-	-	-	-	12,080,619	20,675,346	8,614,728	59%
	GRAND TOTAL	98,428,886	176,561,938	77,121,737	56%	90,625,309	176,561,981	77,026,271	56%

2. Performance of Local Authority Revenue Collection Levels

	Total for collection Jul-23	Collected Jul-23	Arears Jul-23	Collected %
Rents	6,016,802	4,943,504	1,173,298	80%
Rates	40,625,291	23,015,196	17,610,095	57%
Housing Loans	2,503,809	1,980,471	623,338	75%

3. Recourse to Overdraft Facility

Number of days in overdraft	12
Estimated interest incurred	3,363