

# Meath Local Authorities Annual Report 2013



comhairle chontae na mí  
*meath county council*



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# Foreword



Jackie Maguire  
County Manager



John V Farrelly  
Cathaoirleach

We are pleased to present, on behalf of Meath Local Authorities, the Annual Report for 2013, which outlines the activities and achievements of Meath County Council and the Town Councils of Navan, Trim and Kells.

Again, it was a difficult year economically but the prudent and efficient approach to the management of the adopted budget of €99.5m resulted in the achievement of a surplus of €2.9m. at year end. For a fourth consecutive year, commercial rates in the county remained unchanged illustrating the Council's commitment to supporting businesses and attracting new business investment into the county. Job announcements made during the year in the county were welcomed and there were also some positive indicators in the retail sector.

An important Council initiative in 2013 was the launch of a voluntary Economic Forum for the county. Chaired by former Taoiseach and former EU Ambassador to the US, John Bruton, the Forum, comprising business

leaders operating and/or living in the county, will lend its considerable knowledge, experience and expertise to the Council in its efforts to increase economic activity and job creation in the county. As well as giving high level strategic advice and guidance, the members of the Forum are also willing to act as ambassadors for the county and help deliver a positive message about Meath as a quality business location. In addition, we are confident that the new County Development Plan, with its focus on a sustainable economy, sustainable heritage and sustainable communities, will be a catalyst for economic recovery in Meath.

A major investment by the Council, in 2013, was the purchase of the former Quinn Insurance Building in Navan as its new civic headquarters. The acquisition, at a cost of €5.15m, will result in considerable savings and consolidate the Council's operations which are currently spread over nine different locations in Navan alone. This new modern facility, together with a renewed focus on customer service, will put the Council in a strong position to deliver the actions set out in the programme. We are preparing for the new local government structures coming into effect in 2014 and the delivery of the Government's Action Programme 'Putting People First'. The Town Councils of Navan, Trim and Kells will no longer exist from 1st June 2014 and we will see the establishment of six Municipal Districts in County Meath. We are currently

planning for these changes both from an administrative and a financial perspective and we look forward to working with all the stakeholders to implement the new structures in 2014.

Without doubt, Meath celebrated the year of the 'Gathering' in style. Throughout the county, over 50 individual 'Gathering' events were supported with funding. We congratulate and thank the many volunteers in our towns and villages who worked so hard to make these events memorable occasions for residents and visitors. We were very proud when Kells secured the internationally renowned Hay festival of arts and literature. The inaugural three-day festival brought together the best of Irish and international authors giving the town a huge tourism boost. The festival drew almost 10,000 visitors to Kells in June, many of them from abroad and we look forward to building on this event in 2014.

Building strong partnerships with communities is very important to the Council and we continue to support their efforts and

encourage participation in the development of cultural and environmental programmes. We experienced many proud moments in 2013 and Moynalty's success on being awarded the title of Ireland's Tidiest Town was a great occasion for the small community and a wonderful reward for years of hard work and commitment.

All the achievements outlined in this Annual Report could not have been accomplished without the collective input of the Councillors, Chairpersons and Members of the Strategic Policy Committees, Area Committees, Management Team and Staff, together with the support of the many voluntary and community organisations.

2013 was a challenging year and, undoubtedly, further challenges lie ahead for our county and its citizens. Nonetheless, we look forward to facing those challenges in the coming year and working together to make Meath a better place for people to live, to invest in and to visit.

# Local Democracy

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# Community

## Introduction

The Community Department develops and promotes a wide range of programmes and services that empower people to participate in community activity and development; and to work together within the Council, with communities and with stakeholders, to build confident sustainable communities.

The Social Inclusion Unit which is part funded by Department of Environment, Community and Local Government (DECLG) continues to support and facilitate the role out and embedding of social inclusion within Meath Local Authorities.

## Achievements 2013

The Age Friendly County initiative has progressed significantly since it was launched in September, 2011. It seeks to engage older people and all citizens in making their communities better, healthier and safer places for older people to live and thrive.

An Older Peoples Forum has been established in association with Meath Partnership (Laterlife Network) to assist in the implementation of the Strategy and they are the voice of the older citizens of Co. Meath.

The Age Friendly Alliance has formed 3 Working Groups to bring the objectives in the Strategy to life.

- Transportation Working Group
- Housing & Security Working Group (Crime Prevention Ambassadors Programme)
- Communication & Information Working Group

## Trim – Meath’s First Age Friendly Town

The Age Friendly Alliance with the assistance of Meath County Council and the Ageing Well Network has engaged a Planner to assist Trim in becoming an Age Friendly Town. A Steering Group has been formed to work together on this Project. The aim is to create a town where the community understands and responds to the needs of older people including those with dementia.

## Kells Age Friendly Business Initiative

The launch of this initiative took place on Friday 15th November in Kells. This is an initiative in conjunction with Meath County Council and Kells & District Chamber under the Meath Age Friendly County Programme.

## Joint Meath/Louth Age Friendly Information Day

‘Caring & Sharing’ information event to provide up to date information for the East Meath area and South Louth. This was held in November 2013 and received excellent feedback.

## Social Inclusion

The Social Inclusion Measures Group continued to meet and form alliances during the year. A very successful social inclusion week was held in October as a result of networking and the activities of sub groups which were formed under the overall Social Measures Group. Among the activities supported throughout the year was an event held to create awareness of domestic violence and the supports available through Meath Women's Refuge.

Cultúr - a local community development group, funded by the Office of the Minister for Integration through Meath County Council, provides an information service, English language programme and provides general assistance to all migrants.

The actions from the Interagency Traveller Strategy - 'Together Improve the Lives of Travellers' 2010 - 2013 continue to be implemented. Funding was received from the Department of Justice & Equality to provide a Traveller Living History Exhibition which visited 5 schools, one in each of the Meath electoral areas.

Meath Travellers' Employment Initiative continues to be a success, assisting young travellers in preparing for and finding employment. This Project has now been mainstreamed by Department of Social Protection (FAS) in 2012 due its success as a Pilot in County Meath.

Other initiatives include:

- Community & Voluntary Forum activities, which included training for community Groups by the Civil Defence Officers in the use of Defibrillator equipment, an Information Day for unemployed persons held in Dunshaughlin Parish Centre with support from many Agencies. The Forum also funded and took part in the Community Choral event held on the Hill of Tara during the Bealtaine Festival in May.
- Smoke Alarm Scheme for Deaf & Hard of Hearing - a pilot initiative funded by the Department of Environment, Community & Local Government has commenced in County Meath. This will allow the Community Department provide and distribute 20 special alarm systems to be placed in vulnerable households.
- Circulation of 'Fridge Bottles' for older people.

## Comhairle na nÓg/Dáil na nÓg

Meath Comhairle na nÓg, the Youth Council for County Meath held a very successful Annual General Meeting on October 18th 2013, in Simonstown Gaels Football Club, Navan. Over one hundred and twenty young people from across County Meath attended representing all ages between 12-18 and all areas of Meath.

Young people had an opportunity to put questions to a number of Councillors, TD, Senator and MEP's regarding issues important

and relevant to young people living in Meath. The AGM also demonstrated the commitment of Meath County Council and County Development Board to the ongoing success of Meath Comhairle na nÓg.

This year, 18 young people from around the County were elected to join the existing members making a total of 33 members. The members of Meath Comhairle na nÓg represent all areas, both urban and rural in Meath.

Comhairle na nÓg are working on a project that explores the variety of youth facilities in County Meath. They have held a number of focus groups in Oldcastle and Navan and in July 2013 visited a peer led youth facility in Cork City. This project will continue into 2014.

The young people have participated in a number of consultations such as Meath Children Services Committee Needs Analysis, the East Meath Local Area Development Plan 2014- 2020, Jigsaw Meath Youth Advisory Panel, Kells Joint Policing Committee, Leargas European Youth Day, Meath Youth Federation Youth Information Initiative, Department of Education consultation and Department of Health and Children consultations.

## Community Initiatives – Pride of Place

Meath County Council Community Initiatives through the Pride of Place, the Anti Litter League, Kells Enhancement Scheme and the

Schools Pride of Place Awards continued in 2013. The programme delivers a series of environmental and quality of life initiatives that encourages, recognises and rewards active community groups, schools and individuals who participate in community development and enhancement projects in their areas.

In 2013, over 140 groups throughout the county participated in initiatives under the Pride of Place umbrella, with 35 schools taking part in Schools' Competitions and 80% of Meath Schools now having Green School status.

Throughout 2013, many groups took part in developing plans for their area with assistance from a landscape gardener. These plans allow them to develop their area in a coherent manner, and to draw down funds from other agencies.

The Council promoted four groups to take part in the All Island Pride of Place Awards Scheme, of which 2 won national awards.

The Council also assisted Julianstown and District Development Association with their entry to the International Awards for Sustainable Communities, LivCom, 2013. The finals were held in Xiamen China in November. Julianstown participated in 2 categories.

The Carranstown Community Grant Scheme committed funding of €211,000 to nineteen eligible projects in the area in 2013, many of which are now underway. Of particular note is the extension of the lit walkway to the Indaver facility from the village, creating a

year round 5 km. walking route much used by locals and visitors.

Green Dog Walkers - Meath County Council has joined forces with the Greater Dublin Local Authorities in rolling out the Green Dog Walkers' Campaign, this campaign was originally piloted in Falkirk in Scotland. Meath County Council is delighted to be involved in this regional programme and to join with our neighbouring Local Authorities - South Dublin, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown, Fingal, and Wicklow to drive this initiative.



*Cathaoirleach Cllr. Niamh McGowan at Green Dog Walkers' Launch in Ashbourne*

## Meath Local Sports Partnership

### Sports Inclusion Disability Officer

The Sports Inclusion Disability Programme has provided sport and physical activity opportunities to over 300 children with disabilities in County Meath. In particular the Learn2 Cycle Programme and the Hockey4All

programme have been the highlight of 2013.

The central aim of the Learn2Cycle programme is to teach each child to cycle independently. Cycling is hugely important for the inclusion of children in recreational activities and 30 children with disabilities successfully learned how to cycle in 2013. This life long skill is imperative to the social inclusion of children with disabilities.

The first National pilot of the Hockey4All programme ran in conjunction with the Irish Hockey Association commenced in Navan on 11th May 2013. The programme has proven to be a huge success with 20 children with disabilities participating in the weekly training session. This programme was shortlisted for and received funding from the National SPAR 50th Anniversary bursary award. The Hockey 4 All programme was selected on the basis of its contribution to local communities.

The first ever Disability Inclusion Training for coaches and teachers took place in November. The Sports Inclusion Disability officer with Meath LSP is one of 6 tutors trained in Ireland to deliver this course.

### Community Sports Development Officer

An Post Meath Heritage Cycle tour - 3200 cyclists participated in this countywide initiative over the weekend of the 27th and 28th July. This was the 5th year of the cycle tour which commenced in 2009 with 350

cyclists. Economic value of the tour to Meath is estimated to be approx. €1,520,600. As part of the Gathering initiative, 178 overseas visitors participated in the cycle tour.

Irish TV covered the tour on behalf of Sky.

Building on the success of the Operational Transformation (O.T.) Walk, a new community walking programme, Walk 4 Fitness was piloted in 3 areas, Navan, Kells and Kiltale with 62 adults braving the winter weather and walking their way to fitness. The OT walk held in January again received coverage in the national media featuring on RTE's televised programme.

The Women in Sport initiative continues to expand with new areas coming on board in 2013 with over 1500 women participating in our spring/summer programme.

In Spring 2013, demand for the Learn 2 Run programme continued to grow, 2 new locations, Blackwater Park, Windtown and Dunshaughlin were added to the roll out in Navan, Kells and Kiltale. 225 joggers and runners took part in this 10 week training programme and their first challenge was to complete the Royal 5K in Kells.

The Schools' Cycle Safety programme in 2013 facilitated training for 1312 primary school children in safe cycling. 54 % of Meath primary schools (64 from 118) are now actively involved in this programme which promotes safer cycling.

Programmes for older adults, in 2013, included Mature Movers (now running in

Athboy, Kells, Navan, Dunshaughlin and Trim), Fitness Made Easy (gym based programme), Easy Movers (physical activity programme for those with impaired movement), Walk 4 Fitness, Fleet Feet (indoor walking programme) and Games for Life. Once again a team of Older Adults from Meath competed in the final of the Go for Life games in Dublin. Over 1200 older adults including those with a disability participated in our programmes in 2013 and increase of 20% from 2012.

## Arts Office Programme

The Meath County Council Arts policy and mission is 'to increase access to the arts for all sectors of the community, encourage and increase awareness and interest in the arts, increase participation in the arts, whilst recognising the importance of the arts in areas of personal development, community development, employment and tourism'. The Arts Office continues to implement key aims and objectives as per the Council strategic Arts Policy.

## Achievements 2013

- Implementation of the FÉACH professional artist mentoring and training programme in partnership with visual Artists Ireland, the Irish Writers Centre and the Arts Council.
- Installation of new Per Cent for Art Feature 'At the End of the Day' by Patrick Barry Knightsbrook roundabout, Trim.
- Eight exhibitions held at Toradh Gallery, Ashbourne Cultural Centre.
- Implementation of Bealtine Arts Festival on a county wide basis.
- Introduction of the 'Cultural Companions Scheme' in partnership with Solstice Arts Centre and Age and Opportunity..
- Children's Arts Festival 'Menagerie Mayhem', Easter 2013.
- Implementation of 'Pucas and Potions' Children's Arts Festival, Halloween 2013.
- Support of Kells Typetrail festival and fringe events at the Hay Literary Festival, Kells.
- Implementation of community arts projects e.g. Athboy No Name Club/Ann Hugh Ceramic art for Athboy.
- Programming for and management of elements of Mary Lavin Literary Season 2013 in partnership with County Library Services, Solstice Arts Centre, Bellinter House hotel and the Arts Council.
- Hosting of Irelands first International Music Symposium ' Music in Health Care Settings', in partnership with DKIT.
- Premiere of 'Chronicles of Meath', a new work for Harp Ensemble (Per Cent for Art Scheme).
- Management of Indaver Public Art Project, implementation of community and schools programme with winning artists.
- Continuation of outreach programme with RTE Symphony Orchestra and Julianstown Youth Orchestra.
- Management of on going Per Cent for Art Scheme projects.

# Library Services

## Achievements 2013

- Major refurbishment of Kells library, which re-opened to coincide with Hay Literary Festival in June, 2013.
- Fifty-three groups /events/activities now accommodated on a weekly basis in Ashbourne Library and Cultural Centre.
- Wi-Fi service introduced at Dunshaughlin and Oldcastle.
- PC Reservation system introduced at Trim library
- Total visits to Ashbourne Library and Cultural Centre increased by 7% on previous year.
- Total issues from Meath Libraries on course to exceed 560,000 in 2013.
- Books of Kells bookshop developed in partnership with Kells Chamber of Commerce.
- Developed, programme and hosted Mary Lavin Season 2013 in partnership with the Arts Office and Solstice Arts Centre.
- Internationally recognised authors including, Derek Landy and Andrew Lane headlined the annual Children's Book Festival in October. Eighty seven events were organised around the county with sixteen authors visiting the county .Over 4,500 children attended events organised by library staff making this Meath's leading cultural event for children.
- Published Field Names of County Meath in partnership with IFA and Meath Archaeological and Historical Society.
- Published Politics and War in Meath 1913-1923.
- Schools Service re-organised and re-launched.

# Heritage Services

## Trim Development Plan 2014-2020

Provided heritage, tourism and green infrastructure input into the preparation of the Trim Development Plan 2014-2020.



## INTERREG IVA – Action for Biodiversity (Year 3)

The key objectives of this cross-border project are building capacity within local authorities, raising awareness and understanding and biodiversity enhancement and conservation.

The project steering group meet every month in 2013. And a number of projects were progressed working with the Project Officers including an All-Ireland Conference on

Working Together for Biodiversity, Regional Family Fun Day, published Regional Biodiversity Framework and developed and delivered a Communication Plan for Biodiversity and completed five regional projects. Local projects completed in County Meath included Hydrology Survey of Girley Bog, Interpretative panels for Dalgan Park and Duleek Commons and Coastal Erosion Project.

## County Heritage Plans Projects 2013

The following projects were completed in 2013 as part of the County Heritage Plan supported by the Heritage Council:

### Meath Heritage Awareness Programme 2013

The following projects were developed and delivered to raise heritage awareness:

a) **Power, Prayer and Public Archaeology - celebrating 750 years since the foundation of the Black Friary, Trim**

A two-day conference featuring national and international speakers was held in Trim in July 2013.

b) **Heritage Week Grant Scheme**

A grant scheme was launched to encourage community groups to organise events during Heritage Week. Fourteen events were funded and a brochure outlining all events in the county was published.

c) **My Tara - Public Art Project - Research (Phase 2)**

In partnership with Meath Arts Office, Michael Fortune (Artist) was commissioned to produce a new photographic driven publication based around people's individual experiences of the site and place. The field work and draft publication phase was completed in 2013.

d) **Trim Walled Town Festival - Heritage Week 2013**

Heritage Council supported elements on the Trim Walled Town Festival during Heritage Week 2013.

e) **The Boyne Valley in the Albert Kahn Collection (1913) Exhibition**

In partnership with Droichead Arts Centre, OPW, National Monuments Service, Drogheda Borough Council and Louth County Council an exhibition of one of earliest collections of colour photographs taken in Ireland was held from June 27th to August 31st 2013 in Droichead Arts Centre. In addition a programme of talks, workshops and lectures ran concurrently with the exhibition.

## Promoting cultural heritage learning initiatives in County Meath

The aim of this project was to build on existing strategic partnerships to develop and promote Meath as a location for overseas students to gain experience in archaeology and the field of cultural resource management through the Black Friary Community Archaeology Project.

Work continued in 2013 on the Black Friary excavations in Trim, the community liaison

committee met three times and the academic committee met twice. The project was included in the National Geographic book 100 Places That Can Change Your Child's Life. A number of awareness events were held to engage the public with the project including talks and open days. The project was presented at the Annual Meeting of European Association of Archaeologists. An interpretative panel was designed and erected on site.

## Meath County Council Cultural Tourism Working Group

In partnership with Meath Tourism reviewed Meath County Council's cultural heritage initiatives and discussed a cultural publication.

## Heritage advice on plans, projects and to the public

On-going heritage advice on planning referrals, to the public and community groups in County Meath.

## Member of National Landscape Strategy Committee

Two meetings held in 2013 to advise on the preparation of National Landscape Strategy.

## Conservation and Management Plan for State-Owned Lands at the Hill of Tara

Two meetings held with the Discovery Programme, Heritage Council, OPW, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht on the preparation of a Conservation Plan for State-Owned Lands at the Hill of Tara and review of draft plan.

## Invited Conference Papers in 2013

<b>Conference:</b>	<b>Eastern River Basin District – Biodiversity Workshop</b>
<b>Date:</b>	March 2013
<b>Venue:</b>	Dublin
<b>Title:</b>	Action for Biodiversity

<b>Conference:</b>	<b>Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht World Heritage Seminar</b>
<b>Date:</b>	September 2013
<b>Venue:</b>	Dublin Castle
<b>Title:</b>	UNESCO World Heritage Site of Brú na Bóinne – A Local Authority Perspective

<b>Conference:</b>	<b>EU Water Framework Directive Workshop</b>
<b>Date:</b>	December 2013
<b>Venue:</b>	Dublin
<b>Title:</b>	Action for Biodiversity- A Partnership Approach

# Corporate Services

## Corporate Events

### Civic Reception for Moynalty Tidy Towns

The Cathaoirleach and Members of Meath County Council paid tribute to Moynalty Tidy Towns at a civic reception held in the Council Chamber in November. The Chair of the Committee, Peter Rogers, was presented with a Certificate of Excellence in recognition of the outstanding achievement of winning the National Tidy Towns title in 2013. In addition, the Council presented a tree that was planted in the village to mark the year of Moynalty's win in this major competition.



Cathaoirleach, Cllr. John V. Farrelly and Jackie Maguire, County Manager presenting a certificate of Excellence to Peter Rogers, Chair of Moynalty Tidy Towns



Tree planting in Moynalty with Cathaoirleach John V. Farrelly, County Manager, Jackie Maguire and Tidy Towns Group

## Naming of Mary McAleese Boyne Valley Bridge

The Mary McAleese Boyne Valley Bridge naming ceremony was held at Oldbridge, site of the historic Battle of the Boyne in July 1690.

The Taoiseach, Enda Kenny and the Cathaoirleach of both Meath and Louth County Councils were in attendance together with an audience of community and political leaders including Martin McGuinness MP MLA, Deputy First Minister, Northern Ireland. Meath County Council and Louth County Council decided to name the bridge in recognition of the work done by Mary McAleese and her husband, Dr. Martin McAleese, to advocate greater cross-community understanding and respect as part of the Northern Peace Process. The event featured a performance by uilleann piper Liam O'Flynn of An Droichead/The Bridge, a musical composition commissioned by Mary McAleese for her inauguration in 1997.

## Meath County Council Choir

Meath County Council hosted a special charity event at Solstice Arts Centre in October. The Meath County Council ladies' choir was joined with choirs from Kildare and Louth County Councils and the very popular Navan Male Voice Choir. Other artists performing on the night were flautist, Hayley O'Sullivan and counter tenor Eimhin Colgan both of whom are currently studying music and are regular performers at choral events. The proceeds of the concert were presented to the two charities nominated by Meath County Council staff, the Irish Cancer Society and Feileacáin

(Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Association of Ireland). The Meath County Council Choir, under the directorship of Paul Strachan, was founded seven years ago and performs at various Council functions and community events.



Meath County Council Choir

In April, the Choir of the Coteaux d'Azur joined the Meath County Council Choir and the Dunboyne Consort for an evening of French and Irish music in St. Mary's Church of Ireland, Navan. The visit of this French choir was one of the many events under the auspices of Boyne Valley Tourism, in the context of the Gathering 2013. The idea of inviting the choir, was given momentum by the support of The Gathering, under the local sponsorship of Meath Tourism.

## New Civic Headquarters

In May, Meath County Council announced the purchase of the former Quinn Insurance Building in Navan as its new headquarters.

The acquisition, at a cost of €5.15 million (including VAT) will consolidate the Council's operations which are currently spread over nine different locations in Navan alone, into one new modern facility that will result in considerable savings. The Council has needed new premises for several years but was prohibited due to the high costs associated with developing a green field site. The

new building, on an 8 acre site, has sufficient floor space for all of the Council's current activities, over 500 car parking spaces, as well as facilitating options for future expansion.

## Media

Meath County Council continued to avail of print media, local radio and social media to increase public awareness.

In 2013, the Council issued in excess of 50 press releases/statements and responded to over 150 media queries. The Council's twitter account was set up in 2012 to inform citizens of important information and to respond to queries via this media channel.

## Higher Education Grants

Provision has been made for the statutory demand of the Vocational Education Committee.

A single unified grant scheme governs the administration of Higher Education Grant applications

- Student Support Act 2011
- Student Support Regulations 2013
- Student Support (Amendment of second schedule) Regulations 2013
- Student Grant Scheme 2013
- Student Grant Scheme 2013 - Guidelines

All new student grant applications are now processed by Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI) which is operated by the City of Dublin VEC.

A total of 470 renewal applications have been submitted for funding under the Student Grant Scheme for the academic year 2013/2014.

## Register of Electors

*To capture information and manage the quality control, publication and distribution of the Register of Electors, in accordance with the provisions of the Electoral Act.*

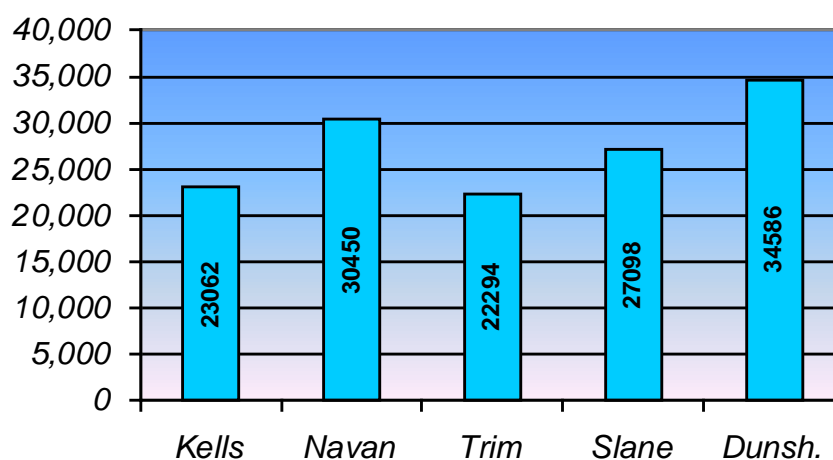
The Register of Electors was published in February 2013 and showed a voting population as follows:

<b>Dáil Electors</b>	<b>133,580</b>
<b>Presidential Electors</b>	<b>131,984</b>
<b>European Electors</b>	<b>135,348</b>
<b>Local Electors</b>	<b>137,490</b>
<b>Postal Voters</b>	<b>682</b>



The chart below gives a breakdown of Local Electors by Electoral Area:

## Register of Electors 2013/2014



During 2013, there was a Bye-Election and two Referenda:

- Meath East Bye Election was held on 27th March 2013
- Referendum on Abolition of Seanad Éireann and Court of Appeal were held on 4th October 2013.

Supplement Registers were prepared in advance of each polling day in 2013. Total Electors included in Supplement Register 2013/2014 was 2,309.

## Corporate Governance and Risk Management

The Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2009) defines corporate governance as *“the systems and procedures by which enterprises are directed and managed”*. It goes on to say that *“state bodies must serve the interests of the taxpayer, pursue value for money in their endeavours (including managing risk appropriately) and act transparently as public entities”*.

# Key developments in 2013

## Risk Management

- The departmental and town council business plans and risk registers were reviewed mid-year;
- The draft corporate risk register was also reviewed in July 2013;
- A Guide to Business Planning was prepared in conjunction with the Human Resources Section and circulated to all departments and town councils;
- The 2014 business planning process commenced in December 2013;
- A draft risk register and risk policy was created for the Transition Project.

## Legal Risk Management

- The Major Litigation Cases Review Team met on four occasions to monitor and, where appropriate, make recommendations on the management of existing or potential legal cases that are or could be significant in nature;
- All legal cases were reviewed throughout the year.

## Corporate Governance

- A corporate governance section was created on the Intranet with a variety of documents published including business plans, audit reports, etc.;
- The draft Corporate Governance Framework was edited and an external peer review undertaken.

## Corporate Governance Unit

- The Corporate Governance Unit provided information as requested throughout the year, for example to Irish Water, the Local Government Audit Service and in respect of the External assessment report regarding the Planning Change Programme;
- A draft Services Catalogue for all departments was prepared, in conjunction with IT;
- A report was compiled on Meath County Council's performance based on the National Service Indicators 2011 - 2012;

- A set of Local Performance Indicators was drafted in conjunction with each department and an online returns facility provided;
- A business process improvement exercise was carried out in conjunction with IT around the management of public liability claims.

## Audit Committee

The role of the Audit Committee is to:

- Review the authority's financial and budgetary reporting, practices and procedures;
- Foster the development of best practice in the authority's internal audit function;
- Review the reports of the Internal Auditor and Local Government Audit Service in relation to the authority and assess any action taken by management in response to such reports;
- Assess and promote efficiency and value for money with respect to the authority's performance of its functions;
- Review systems that are operated by the authority for the management of risk and make such recommendations to the authority as the Committee considers appropriate in relation to the foregoing matters.

Meath County Council's Audit Committee met four times during 2013 and presented its Annual Report to Meath County Council in May. The Committee received a number of presentations and reports from the Head of Finance, Director of Corporate Services, Head of Internal Audit, Senior Executive Officer - Planning and Administrative Officer - Corporate Governance Unit.

## Freedom of Information

Meath County Council continues to ensure that anyone who has a proper interest in receiving information has access to that information through the Freedom of Information (FoI) Acts, 1997 & 2003.

Records made available under the Freedom of Information Act, are those records not already available under alternative legislation and applies to all local authority records created after 21st October 1998.

The following are the 2013 statistics relating to Freedom of Information Requests:

<b>Applications Received</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Carried Forward from 2012</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>No. of requests granted/part granted</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>No. of requests refused</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Requests transferred</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Withdrawn or dealt with outside FOI</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Live cases at end of 2013</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>No. of Internal Reviews</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>No. of Appeals to the Information Commissioner</b>	<b>0</b>

## Health and Safety

### Introduction

In 2012 a Safety Management System (SMS) Working Group was set up to review and amend as necessary the National Guidelines, Policies and Procedures and draft an implementation schedule and methodology with a view to recommending adoption by the SMC. Work continued on this throughout 2013 with the result that MLA has reviewed, amended and updated and adopted all its Occupational Safety and Health Policy and procedures including support documentation.

### Achievements 2013

Work was ongoing on providing assistance to MLA Sections on the revising and in some instances the development of risk assessments.

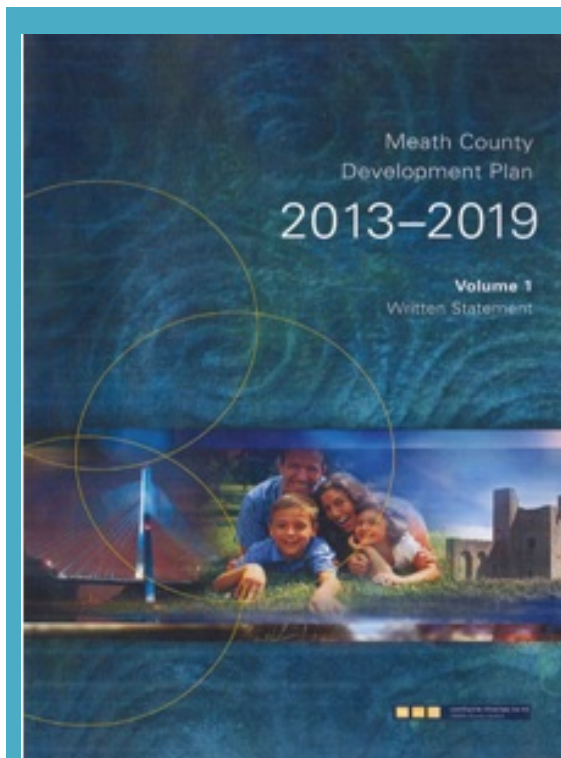
The Safety Section initiated the roll-out of the web-based legal register (Pegasus) across the Organisation.

Safety inspections were undertaken across the Organisation throughout 2013 main issues identified were included safety documentation (e.g. SSWP, TTMP, risk assessments, statutory inspections) not being available at the time of inspection. Area / Section Senior Line Management have been notified and undertaken.

# Economic Development and Innovation

## Economic Development

### Achievements 2013



The Meath County Development Plan 2013-2019, which focuses on business and economic development in the county came into force in January 2013.



*Economic Forum Members 2013*

A voluntary 11 member Economic Forum was established in 2013 and met on two occasions during the year. In addition, Forum members have made themselves available on an individual basis to advise on specific aspects of the proposed Economic Strategy.

An Economic Action Plan, *Keep Meath Working* has been developed. This six theme plan ranges from foreign direct investment and supporting tourism businesses to SMEs and supporting the rural food sector. The final plan will be published in 2014.

Over 30 Meath companies have been financially supported to join a range of business networks including S.T.E.M (Sustainability through Environmental Management), Smart Eco Hub, Life Sciences Supply Chain and PLATO. These networks are funded by the Interreg Programme through our participation in East Border Region.



Launch of Life Sciences Supply Chain Collaboration October 2013

The Retail sector is being supported through a pilot “Age Friendly Business Recognition Scheme” initiative being piloted in Kells in partnership with the local Chamber of Commerce and Age Friendly Ireland. This will be rolled out to other towns when the pilot is complete in 2014.



Launch of the Kells Age Friendly Business Recognition Scheme November 2013

2013 saw a focus on The Gathering and over 50 individual Gathering events were supported with funding.



The Hay Festival drew almost 10,000 visitors to Kells in June, many of them from abroad and this iconic international arts and literature event will be repeated again in 2014. The festival was supported by a €10,000 Gathering Grant.

The Hay Festival Kells, June 2013 (Photo by Finn Beales)

The Council also partnered with the Meath Chronicle and a number of private sector sponsors to support the annual Business and Tourism Awards. This is the 4th year of the event and it has gone from strength to strength. Largo Foods were awarded "Meath Business of the Year 2013" and The Hay Festival won "Best in Tourism 2013". It is proposed to continue this partnership in 2014.



Meath Business & Tourism Awards 2013 - Winners

2013 saw a number of job announcements in the county including Alltech, HDS Energy, Mafic Black Basalt Ireland and Hanley Energy. There were also some positive indicators in the retail sector with almost 20 new businesses established in Kells alone during the year.

The Council also provided financial assistance to work in partnership to assist economic growth. Financial support was provided to a number of initiatives including Kells Gift Voucher initiative to encourage people to shop locally in during the Christmas period, and Cúltur was also facilitated with funding to assist the Migrant Business Event in December 2013 amongst others.





Launch of Kells Gift Voucher Initiative November 2013

The Make It....Meath marketing campaign progressed during 2013, with the completion of Make it Trim, Dunshaughlin, Dunboyne / Clonee and East Meath Economic Opportunities Brochures.



Launch of the Make it Trim Economic Opportunities Brochure (May 2013)

## Tourism

### Achievements 2013

In 2013, work was completed on the Boyne Valley Drive Signage Project, incorporating a signed driving route of 225km and town map panels in addition to phase two which consisted of promotional materials - brochure and map insert, language guides and maps. This important piece of infrastructure forms the backbone to further developing the potential of the Boyne Valley Tourism Destination.

2013 saw a focus on The Gathering and 3 separate grant schemes were introduced to support community events. Irish Public Bodies supported 3 large scale festivals. Fáilte Ireland provided grants to small community gatherings and this fund was augmented by funding provided directly by Meath County Council.



Hill of Tara



Knowth



Slane Castle



Trim Castle



Moynalty



River Boyne

# Environment, Water, Fire and Emergency Services

## Water Services

Water and Sewerage are probably the most fundamental and essential services provided by the Council. These services are essential to not only the residential, but also the business life of the county.

Investment in the day to day operation and maintenance of the County's extensive Water and Sewerage facilities as well as upgrading water services infrastructure continued throughout 2013 and was crucial in continuing to safeguard public health and the environment whilst also providing for the planned, sustainable development and growth of County Meath.

## Achievements 2013

In 2013 the Council supplied drinking water to c. 145,000 residents and c. 5,000 non-domestic premises and collected and treated wastewater from c. 120,000 residents and c. 3,000 businesses. To provide this service the Council consistently operated and maintained almost 270 separate facilities, over 1,800 km of watermain and approximately 1,000 km of sewer.

In recent years, considerable investment has been made under both the Water Services Investment Programme (WSIP) and the Rural Water Programme adding significant additional water and wastewater capacity and also upgrading much of the county's water services infrastructure.

The challenges faced under this Service Division continue to grow due to a number of factors, including:

- Additional responsibilities and duties as a result of EU and national legislation/ regulations such as the Drinking Water Regulations and wastewater discharge licensing.
- The centralisation of Water Services - In early 2013 Meath County Council successfully centralised the provision of Water Services. All Water Services functions are now dealt with from the main Water Services offices in Navan and hence the Area offices no longer have an involvement in day to day Water Services issues.
- Managing the major change associated with the transition to Irish Water.

## Irish Water

In April 2012 the Government decided to establish a public water utility company, Irish Water, as an independent state owned company within the Bord Gais Group to take over the operational and capital delivery functions of Local Authorities.

Throughout 2013 the Council was very heavily involved in planning and preparing for the substantial change and transition to the new national utility. Meath County Council ceased to be the Water Services Authority (WSA) for Meath on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2013. From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014 Irish Water will be the national Water Services Authority.

However, under a Services Level Agreement entered into in December 2013, Meath County Council will continue to provide day to day operation and maintenance and capital delivery services on behalf of Irish Water for a period of up to 12 years.

Irish Water does not have responsibility for Storm water, storm flooding, Group Schemes or well grants and hence the Council will continue to have direct responsibility for these issues.

## Major Water Services Investment Programme Projects

### Water Schemes at Construction:

#### County Wide Water Conservation Project & Strategic Water Plan for County Meath:

The Meath Countywide Water Conservation Project commenced in November 2005 and consists of three Stages:

**Stage 1:** Establishment of a Water Management System that enables water use and loss throughout the water supply networks to be monitored;

**Stage 2:** Establishment of an Active Leakage Control programme.

Stages 1 and 2 are in place. Meath County Council continues to use, update and maintain these systems to sustain benefits. The setting up and continued use of Stages 1 and 2 has facilitated the reduction in Unaccounted for Water (UFW) from 58% (Nov 2005) to 30% at the end of 2013.

### Stage 3: Watermains Rehabilitation

Phase 1 was included in the Water Services Investment Programme (WSIP 2010 - 2013) under Contracts to Start 2010 - 2013. Site works commenced in April 2011. The project involved the replacement of approximately 14km of defective water-mains in 8 locations in the county i.e. Athboy, Duleek, Kells, Navan, Kilmessan, Kentstown, Claristown and Ballinaclose, and works were successfully completed in Summer, 2012.

Phase 2 was included in the Water Services Investment Programme (WSIP 2010 - 2013). Phase 2, which consists of the rehabilitation of approximately 43km of defective water-mains in a number of locations throughout the county. Subject to Irish Water approval construction is expected to commence during 2014.

**Dunshaughlin Water Supply:** The new well field, water treatment plant and tower came into service in early May 2012 and has performed very satisfactorily throughout 2013.

**Navan & Mid Meath Water Supply:** Works completed on Contracts 1, 2, 3 & 6;

**East Meath South Louth & Drogheda Water Improvement Scheme:** Augmentation works at Rath are complete. Stage 1 works at Kiltrough on Contracts 3 and Contract 4 are complete and have performed very satisfactorily throughout 2013.

### Water Schemes at Planning Stage:

**East Meath, South Louth & Drogheda Water Supply:** Preliminary Report Review completed and submitted to DoECLG for approval in August 2009;

**Navan & Mid Meath Water Supply:** Contracts 4, 5 & 7 at advanced planning stage. These have not been included in the 2010 - 2013 WSIP to proceed to construction. Their inclusion in Irish Waters Capital Investment Programme (CIP) is anticipated.

**Kells/Oldcastle Water Supply Scheme;** Included in the 2010 - 2013 WSIP. The Preliminary Report relating to the required upgrade of Lough Bane WTP was completed in August 2012 and the detailed design is currently underway. Subject to Irish Water approval construction is expected to commence during 2014.

### Sewerage Schemes at Construction Stage:

**Oldcastle Sewerage Scheme:** Works commenced on site in October 2012 and the new WWTW is programmed to be complete and operational by mid 2014.



Ashbourne / Ratoath / Kilbride Sewerage Scheme: Network rehabilitation contract was awarded in February 2012 and is due for completion in mid 2014.

Grouped DBO Scheme (Rathcairn, Rathmoylon, Kilmainhamwood, Summerhill, Moynalty, Donore, Athboy and Duleek): Works complete and these new facilities operated very satisfactorily throughout 2013.

### Sewerage Schemes at Planning Stage:

Kells Sewerage Scheme: Included in 2010 - 2013 WSIP. The brief for the appointment of Consultants was approved by the DoECLG in summer 2012. The Council appointed consultants in 2013 to prepare the required Preliminary Report which is due for completion by mid 2014.

## Rural Water Programme

Substantial monies continue to be expended under the Rural Water Programme, covering the following sectors:

**Group Water & Sewerage Schemes:** 62 schemes completed at a cost of over €5m (1997 - 2013);

**Small Water & Sewerage Schemes (threshold limit €1m):** 170 Schemes completed at cost of over €13m (1997-2013);

**The Takeover of Group Schemes:** 35 Schemes completed at cost of over €1m (1998-2013);

**Well Grants:** Expenditure in excess of €3.5m.

## Drinking Water Services Unit (DWSU)

Despite the reduced availability of human resources in this area, and the ever-increasing demands of new legislative requirements and customer expectations, Meath County Council continues to supply drinking water of a high quality and ensures compliance with legislative requirements in the provision of safe drinking water.

## Operation & Maintenance (O&M)

The Council continues to provide a high level of service to domestic and non-domestic customers through its drinking water provision and wastewater collection treatment. Substantial cost savings have been achieved again in 2013 in day-to-day operational activities. This is without impacting on the quality or level of service provided.

## Wastewater Services Unit (WWSU)

In conjunction with the centralisation of Water Services, in early 2013 the Council successfully established a small internal Wastewater Services Unit. This unit's primary function is to provide process expertise and support to wastewater operations so as to ensure ongoing compliance with the requirements of wastewater discharge licences and the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive and by extension to help move us towards compliance with the requirements of the Water Framework Directive.

## Wastewater Discharge Licences (WWDLs)

In 2013, 12 of the Council's 20 Waste Water Discharge Licences have been granted, as well as all Waste Water Authorisation Certificates. The issuance of these licences and certificates will continue to increase the Council's statutory obligations, and the associated costs, which continue to pose a particular challenge.

# Environmental Services

## Introduction

The protection of the environment is of significant importance for the residents of, and visitors to, County Meath. Clean air and water, a litter free countryside, pristine beaches and sustainable waste management systems are fundamental to improving the quality of life of our citizens. The Environment Department continues to provide a wide range of regulatory and enforcement services throughout the County in relation to waste, water quality, air and noise pollution, burial grounds, veterinary services, energy management and derelict sites.

The key areas of activity in the Environment Area are as follows:

## Achievements 2013

### Household Food Waste Regulations 2013 (Brown Bins)

The Household Food Waste Regulations 2013 were signed into law in February, 2013 and impose obligations on collectors to provide a separate collection service for household waste and on householders to segregate household food waste and to keep it separate from other non-biodegradable waste.

The Regulations were introduced as part of Ireland's obligations to comply with an EU Landfill Directive to divert biodegradable waste away from Landfill where it causes odours and nuisance and put it to other uses primarily into a high quality compost product.

The Regulations are being phased in over the following timetable:

Date	Agglomeration size	Towns/Villages
1st July 2013	> 25,000 persons	Navan, Drogheda South
31st December 2013	> 20,000 persons	None
1st July 2014	> 10,000 persons	Ashbourne, Bettystown/Laytown/Mornington
1st July 2015	> 1,500 persons	Trim, Kells, Ratoath, Dunboyne, Dunshaughlin, Duleek, Stamullen, Athboy, Enfield
1st July 2016	> 500 persons	All other town and villages

As part of the preparation for the roll out of the Brown Bins in Navan and Drogheda South from the 1st July 2013 the Environment Department in association with our colleagues in Louth County Council engaged in a comprehensive media and information campaign, which included Radio Advertisements and Interviews, newspaper advertisements and features, distribution of information leaflets and the holding of meetings and workshops with the Waste Collectors.

## Extensions to Smoky Coal Ban

In May, 2013, Navan was one of 7 new towns which became subject to the Smokey Coal Ban due to its population being in excess of 15,000. While the town of Drogheda was subject to the ban since 1998, new Regulations provided for an extension of the area covered including areas located within the Meath administrative boundary.

In advance of the ban coming into place, the Environment Department engaged in an extensive information campaign which included consultation with Retailers, and Newspaper and Media Advertisements.

## Water Services (Amendment) Act 2012 – Registration of Septic Tanks

The Water Services (Amendment) Act 2012 introduces a new Registration and inspection system for septic tanks and other domestic wastewater treatment systems. The legislation was introduced following a ruling in 2009 of the European Court of Justice that Ireland was in breach of the EU

Waste Framework Directive 2006/12/EC in relation to the treatment of waste waters from septic tanks and other on site wastewater treatment systems.

The legislation requires owners of property connected to a septic tank or other system to register with the Local Authority before the 1st February 2013 and for County Meath over 18,000 property owners complied with this requirement.

In January 2013, the EPA published a National Inspection Plan for these systems and requiring that Meath County Council carry out a minimum of 40 inspections during the period July 2013 to June 2014. Risk based Inspections have now commenced as provided for in the Inspection Plan.

The DoECLG introduced a new income related Grant Scheme in July, 2013 to assist householders whose systems were identified from the inspections as requiring remediation, repair, upgrading or replacement and subject to certain conditions.

## Water Framework Directive

This Directive which is based on River Catchments and River Basin Management Plans provided the framework for the protection of all waters (rivers, lakes, canals, reservoirs, estuaries, costal waters and groundwater's) and set out timelines for improvement of waters as well as the prevention in the deterioration of waters of waters which are currently good status. In 2013 Meath County carried out 587 inspections of farms and other locations as part of its compliance obligations under the Directive.

## EU Floods Directive

This framework Directive which came into force in 2007 requires Member States to follow certain processes including the undertaking of Preliminary Risk Assessments to identify areas of existing or foreseeable future potentially significant flood risks. Following completion of this assessment the OPW are co-ordinating the preparation of flood hazard and risk maps which will be the subject of consultation in 2014.

## Burial Grounds

Following completion of a detailed survey of all 231 burial grounds in the County, a policy document is at an advanced stage of development, which will address and formalise the long term burial policy requirements for the County. The findings from the survey will be hugely beneficial to persons engaged in genealogical research and will complement studies carried out by the Heritage/Conservation and Library departments of the County.

Work is currently taking place to incorporate the data arising from these projects on to an Intranet web based GIS mapping application called Location Publisher which will allow access from remote

locations to online data and which will facilitate links to other web sites including Genealogy Portals and locations where photographs etc are hosted.

Given the difficulties in finding a suitable site in geological terms and the cost implications of extending and maintaining small extensions to existing burial grounds the developing burial policy favours a regional approach to provision of burial grounds.

Contract documents for the development of a new burial ground at Derrockstown Dunshaughlin were signed in December 2013 and works are expected to be completed by the end of 2014. Further site investigation works are being undertaken at a number of other burial grounds including Dunboyne and Kilcloon to determine their suitability for expansion at reasonable cost.

## Environmental Education and Awareness

The Council through its Environmental Awareness Officer, other Environment Staff and Community and Enterprise Staff are involved in a wide range of measures designed to elicit public support for the eradication of litter from our society and funding from the Grant scheme and other sources greatly assists the Council in providing support and encouragement to those who implement anti litter awareness and action initiatives and especially at a time of reducing staffing levels.

During 2013, the Council provided funding and facilitated Community participation in various Environmental initiatives including:

- The allocation of funding of €30,000 to over 200 groups / associations under the Amenity and Lawnmower Grant Funding Scheme.
- Increased participation in the Pride of Place Scheme where the Council works in partnership with communities.
- Local Agenda 21- processing of applications from 49 different groups / organisations under this co-funded scheme, which promotes sustainable development by assisting small scale, non-profit environmental projects at local level.
- The introduction of Medal Standards for the Anti Litter League, a scheme which involved the participation of 138 Community groups and secondary schools in vying to become the most litter free place in the County.
- Participation in the National Litter Pollution Monitoring System - this system seeks to quantify and qualify the occurrence of Litter across the entire country.
- Participation and co-operation in the Irish Business against Litter (IBAL) League - this League monitors litter management performance in town of population greater than 6000.

## Re-Configuration of Waste Management Planning Regions and the preparation of new Waste Management Plans

In October 2012 the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government indicated a reconfiguration of the Waste Management Planning Regions from 10 down to 3 and in line with the Regional Assembly Regions provided for in the Local Government Reform Document "Putting People First".

While Meath was previously the lead authority in the North East Waste Management Planning Region, which also included Louth, Cavan and Monaghan, agreement was reached in April 2013 that Dublin City Council would assume this role in the newly configured 12 County Eastern Midlands Region which comprises all the

Leinster Counties except Carlow, Kilkenny and Wexford.

Following completion of the evaluation of all existing Waste Management Plans by the statutory deadline of the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012 as required under the European Communities (Waste Directive) Regulations 2011 new Plans have now to be prepared and Dublin City Council having commenced the initial consultation phase propose to have a draft plan out on public display by the third quarter of 2014. In association with the preparation of the new Plan, a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and an Appropriate Assessment (AA) will also be required.

## Other developments relating to Environment during 2013

- Trim Civic Amenity Site, which is managed by Oxigen on behalf of the Council, was awarded Civic Amenity/ Recycling Repak Centre of the year by attracting 26,700 users and resulting in 1900 tonnes of waste being removed from the site.



- The Council continues to pursue a number of historic illegal dumping sites throughout the county and with 4 cases the subject of legal proceedings at High Court Level.
- An enhanced programme of activity using CCTV at litter black spots and at bring banks throughout the County in order to enforce compliance with the Litter Pollution Act.
- An increase in the Landfill levy from €65 to €75 per tonne for waste disposed of at an authorised landfill facility.
- Investigations commenced on developing more sustainable solutions for dealing with leachate and gas arising from the Basketstown Landfill facility.
- Public Consultation commenced by the EPA in respect of a proposed Revised National Hazardous Waste Management Plan.
- Dissemination of information on the Aarhus Convention which lays down a set of basic rules to promote citizens involvement in environmental matter and improve enforcement of environmental law.

- An IT based management system, which facilitates greater efficiencies in dealing with derelict sites was developed and implemented during the year.
- Increased activity under the Control of Horses and Dogs Legislation
- Development of a new IT System for recording and managing Derelict Sites.

## Fire Service

In 2013, the National Directorate for Fire & Emergency Management produced a document for all Fire Authorities entitled Keeping Communities Safe (KCS). This document is a “blueprint” for the Fire Service within each Local Authority in Ireland into 2015 and beyond. It takes outputs from a recent national Fire Services Review and delivers on a number of key actions from the 2011 document ‘Irish Fire Services National Development Framework, 2010 - 2015’. KCS sets out a strategy to ensure the safety of the public and also that of fire service personnel, and challenges the Fire Service nationally to continue to deliver a service which is cost-effective, streamlined and focussed. Areas covered by the KCS documents include:

- Managing risk.
- Addressing public safety improvement
- Fire incident reduction
- Response standards
- Fire service delivery structures for the future.

During 2013, work continued on the implementation of the national training programme of ‘Standard Operational Guidance’ modules. This training programme is in addition to the regular training required and is well advanced in Co. Meath. The guidelines operate as tools for further educating and enhancing fire-fighters skills by utilising a consistent platform of standardised training. The programme is being run in parallel to the existing training needs within the Fire Service and therefore extra financial resources continue to be required to implement this programme fully.

In 2013 Fire prevention work continued across the county in tandem with the Fire Operations work. Primary areas covered are the assessment of Fire Safety Certificates; fire safety inspections of buildings across Co Meath, in particular for licensed premises & ‘potentially dangerous buildings; promoting community fire safety including rolling out the ‘schools safety programme; compiling Pre-Fire Planning registers of high-risk buildings; co-ordinating During Performance Inspections of licensed premises; and general monitoring of fire safety throughout the county.



During National Fire Safety Week, 2013, Meath Fire Service ran a series of activities comprising media campaigns, meeting special interest groups, hosting Fire Station Open Days and carrying out school visits to promote the fire safety message.

## Fire Statistics – 2013

	Navan	Duns	Ashb	Trim	Kells	Oldc	Nobber	Total
<b>Domestic Buildings:</b>								
Chimney Fire In Houses	27	8	5	35	16	14	2	107
Other House Fires	32	11	10	14	8	5	5	85
Apartments, Flats & Bedsitters	4	2	1	2	2			11
Caravans/Mobile Homes	1	1						2
<b>Institutions:</b>								
Schools/Hospitals/Other	3				2	1	1	7
<b>Industrial:</b>								
Factories	6	2	2	2	3	2	3	20
<b>Commercial:</b>								
Shops/Supermarkets/ Offices	4		1		1			6
Restaurants			1					1
Hotels/Guesthouses/Boarding Houses				1				1
<b>Service:</b>								
Public Houses		1						1
Restaurants								0
Places of Public Entertainment								0
<b>Other:</b>								
Motor Vehicles	42	14	17	15	8	2	3	101
Petrol Stations & Garages	1	1						2
Unoccupied Buildings	10	2	5	3				20
Agriculture Buildings		1	2	1	1			5

	Navan	Duns	Ashb	Trim	Kells	Oldc	Nobber	Total
Forest/Bog/Grass etc	24	8	14	15	9	3		73
Outdoor Storage	11	3	4	5	3	1	2	29
Outdoor Rubbish	44	6	14	9	11	3		87
Miscellaneous								0
<b>Total Fires 2013</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>558</b>
<b>False Alarm Incidents</b>								
1. Malicious	6	3	1	4	1			15
2. Good Intent	22	10	10	14		3	1	60
<b>Total False Alarms</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>Special Services</b>								
Road Traffic Accidents	22	23	23	14	5	5	4	96
Water Pumping Flooding	2			2	4	17		25
Hazardous Subs	2		2		1	7	1	13
Other Non-Fire Rescues	6		1				3	10
Miscellaneous	32	15	13	23	5	18	9	115
<b>Total Special Services</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>259</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>892</b>

# Civil Defence

There continues to be a significant interest in people wishing to volunteer their time to Civil Defence. There are currently in excess of two hundred Civil Defence volunteer members throughout the county which nationally ranks as one of the highest per capita levels of participation.

It is envisaged that an active membership of this magnitude will be required to fulfil the many duties and services which the Meath Local Authorities provide throughout the year. In addition to regular training activities Civil Defence volunteers were involved in one hundred and thirty events throughout 2013 providing assistance to the emergency services and local communities. As there has been a strong retention of volunteers over recent years it is likely to

become necessary to cap recruitment so as to manage the financial allocation to maximum effect.

The Civil Defence grant allocation in 2013 allowed the organisation to retain its training and emergency response programmes throughout the nine training centres and four specialist training activities in operation throughout the county.

New training modules in Urban Search and Rescue, Swift water rescue and Welfare skills allowed for a substantially increase the training programmes available to volunteers and will have to re-focus expenditure in these areas. It is anticipated that a national review currently under way of the grant allocation system will favour Meath based on the level of activity and volunteer participation in the organisation.



# Housing

The re-orientation of housing policy away from traditional construction and acquisition of housing to greater sourcing of supply from other delivery mechanisms including long term leasing, RAS, and Approved Housing Bodies through the Capital Assistance Scheme etc, has resulted in reduced Capital allocations in recent years. This has been a major challenge for the Housing Authority. However, notwithstanding this, the Housing Department of Meath County Council has been in a position to advance a number of projects in 2013.



The following projects were advanced in 2013:

- The centralisation of Housing Assessment and application services was completed in February 2013.
- The purchase of 7 houses for allocation to social housing applicants under the social housing investment acquisition programme was completed.
- Substantial progress was made on the Remedial works scheme in Townparks Navan with Capital funding in excess of €3m being spent in 2013. The total cost of the scheme is €10million. The scheme is due for completion in early 2014.

- Capital Assistance to North & East Housing Association to construct 4 units of accommodation for elderly persons at Carrick Street Kells
- Capital Assistance to Muiriousa Foundation for the acquisition of a 5 bedroom house to accommodate disabled persons in Trim
- The Council entered into a contract to lease 23 units at the Maudlins, Duleek under the Long term leasing scheme
- Grant funding of €624,431 was paid out to 44 housing grant applicants under the following schemes - Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability, Housing Aid for Older People and Mobility Aids Grant.
- 3 Extensions and 8 adaptation works were progressed to Council stock
- Due to the increase in persons presenting as being Homeless, the appointment of an additional Outreach Settlement Worker.
- The accommodation targets in the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2009 - 2013 were fully completed in March 2013, being 9 months ahead of schedule.
- The first Mortgage to Rent transfer was completed in the county with two other cases approved

Notwithstanding the difficult economic conditions the Council continued with its emphasis on the management and improvement of the existing stock, including a continuation of its programme of upgrading the housing stock. In particular the following works were carried out:

- Energy efficiency upgrade works were carried out to over 200 housing units throughout the county with funding provided from the Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government, S.E.A.I and from the Councils own resources. The current scheme aims to provide attic and wall insulation to all social houses over a three year period.
- Refurbishment works were carried out to 75 casual vacancies
- All Gas Boilers were serviced in 2013 and over 80% of oil boilers and many solid fuel systems serviced under response maintenance.

# Social Housing Support

## Housing Needs Assessment 2013

The Housing Needs Assessment was carried out in April 2013. As a result the nett housing need for the county equates to 2,525 households. The Housing Authority receives on average 25 applications per week seeking social housing support.

## Housing Allocations

220 households had their accommodation needs met by Meath Local Authorities during 2013 under the various schemes including through casual vacancies, the Rental Accommodation Scheme and social leasing and the voluntary housing bodies.

## Homelessness

During the year the funding of the Homelessness services was devolved from the Department of the Environment Community & Local Government to Kildare County Council being the lead Authority of the Mid-East Homelessness Region. Funding to Meath County Council for 2013 was capped at €186,593. Despite the substantial reduction in funding, 120 households and predominately single persons availed of the Councils Homeless Services during the year. Homeless presenters were facilitated in emergency accommodation, private rented accommodation, standard local authority housing or linked up with other interagency services depending on their particular needs.

# Human Resources

## Achievements 2013

2013 was a particularly challenging year for Meath County Council from a human resources perspective.

Local authorities were required to continue to reduce payroll and general administrative costs.

Initiatives include the continued moratorium on recruitment (other than specifically sanctioned posts), the reallocation and reorganisation of work and staff accordingly,

the non-filling of temporary vacancies arising from staff on long-term absences, the cessation of acting-up arrangements, the implementation of the Public Service Stability 'Haddington Road' Agreement 2013 - 2016, the processing of the requirements of the nationally introduced local authority Voluntary Redundancy Scheme, and the transition and change requirements for the transfer of the Water Services function to the new water utility company 'Irish Water'.

## Staff Returns

Breakdown of staff by sector as of December 2013 submitted to the Department of Environment, Community & Local Government.

### Breakdown of Staff by Sector

Sector	Number	WTE
Managerial	6	6
Clerical/Administrative	298	272.5
Professional/Technical	130	130
Outdoor	207	188.5
Supernumeraries	6	4.6
Contract	15	6.5
Fire-fighter	72	12
Non DoECLG	2	2
Other	3	2.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>739</b>	<b>624.4</b>

*The total number of staff at the same period of 2012 was 752 with a WTE at 636.1*

# Superannuation

Activity	Number in 2013
Meath Local Authority Retirements	7
Fire Fighters Gratuities	2
Preserved Benefits	1
Voluntary Redundancy Scheme	1
Death in Service Gratuities	2



## Training

During 2013, the Training Unit completed a comprehensive review of training and in particular, Health & Safety training throughout the organisation assisted by the implementation of the CORE Training module. Significant progress was achieved in terms of record-keeping, identification of training gaps, and provision of training & reporting methods. Further analysis of training across the organisation will take place in early 2014 in order to complete the process before a Training Plan is devised in line with Personal Development Plans (PDPs) and Continued Professional Development (CPD) plans.

## Industrial Relations

The council continually work with all staff and their respective trade unions in order to resolve a wide variety of issues, which arise from time to time. Meetings continued with all unions in relation to the initiatives being implemented to achieve the necessary cost savings. Regular IR/HR meetings with a number of unions took place in 2013 for the purposes of raising and addressing both operational and strategic issues and initiatives.

# Information Technology

During 2013, the Information Systems department continued to deliver business improvement projects across the entire organisation while maintaining its focus on operational stability and data security.

## Business Solutions

Meath County Council has implemented SugarCRM to act as an organisation wide case management system. Initial services being managed through the system include Fix Your Street. Other highlights include the rollout of an intranet GIS solution with many key datasets mapped, providing management and staff with greatly improved location based information. We commenced implementation of the iHouse system to support housing processes and extended the rollout of the Alfresco document management system to support all Health and Safety documentation.

## IT Operations

Key projects included upgrade of our telephony system, upgrade of SQL Server databases, and migration of our HR and Payroll systems to central hosting.

# Road Transportation and Safety

## Introduction

Meath County Council has over 3,500 kms. of road network to manage and maintain. This is achieved with the co-operation and assistance of the NTA, NRA, and DTTAS through 4 main elements, namely:

- Road Upkeep, which includes routine maintenance, winter maintenance, surface dressing and public lighting.
- Road Improvements, which includes Discretionary Improvement, Restoration Improvement, Specific Improvement Schemes and other improvement schemes.
- Road Traffic, which includes traffic management and safety.
- Sustainable Transport Initiatives.

## Achievements 2013

In 2013, a number of Road Improvement schemes were completed or commenced, which will contribute to improving the overall efficiency and safety of the road network. In June 2013, an additional €2.1m. allocation for restoration improvement was provided by DTTAS following representations on behalf of the Council's Elected Representatives. An additional €105,000 was also specifically provided for drainage works:

Achievements included:

- Delivery of €20.3m. roadworks programme.
- Securing €1.5m. over 2 years from DTTAS for pilot Community Involvement Schemes. These commenced in 2013 and there are currently 19 schemes in progress.
- Establishment of a 4-year Framework to procure contractors.

The following National Secondary Road Schemes were advanced in 2013:

- N51 Navan Slane Road - Blackcastle, Navan and Slane Village, due for completion in February, 2014.

- N51 Dunmoe Phase 2
- N51 / R164 Junction Ballyboy
- N51 Tullaghanstown Cross West Pavement Rehabilitation
- N52 Stephenstown to Fringestown Realignment Scheme
- N51 Athboy Main Street- Pavement reconstruction substantially completed.

The following lengths of the non-national road network were maintained in 2013:

*Road Restoration:*

- Regional Roads 9 km
- Local Roads 55 km

*Surface Dressing:*

- Regional - 19km (including road restoration lengths)
- Local - 127km (including road restoration lengths)
- Emergency repairs were carried out following subsidence on the L56042 in Mellifont.

## Sustainable Transport Schemes

A €2.6m. programme was delivered in 2013, which included:

- Part 8 approval obtained for 3 major Greenway Projects:
- namely Boyne Greenway (Phase 1);
- Royal Canal Greenway
- Boyne Valley to Lakelands County Greenway.
- Commencement of construction of the Boyne Greenway Phase 1.
- Construction of a substantial cycle network in Johnstown, Navan following on from the opening of Phase 1 of the new school campus with works to be substantially completed by end of 2013.
- Transport plans for Kells and Trim.

MMaRC contracts by the NRA to maintain motorways and dual carriageways commenced in 2013 and the Council is committed to collaborating with the NRA and its contractors to implement these successfully.

Work continued to delivering the following services:

- Ordinary Maintenance
- Winter Maintenance Service
- Public Lighting Services,
- Development Control / Transport Planning Advice
- Maintenance of Plant & Machinery
- Road Safety Improvement Schemes
- Road Safety Promotion & Education
- Energy Efficiency

## Road Safety Promotion and Education

Road Safety Promotion is a very important aspect of Transportation Department and there is a dedicated Road Safety Officer who in 2013 continued to initiate road safety campaigns, working in partnership with Schools, Clubs and Associations to promote Road Safety, and assisted in the implementation of the Government Strategy on Road Safety.

# Planning and Strategic Transportation

## Development Management

The number of Planning Applications received weekly has decreased marginally from 21 in 2012 to 20 in 2013.

1024 applications were received and processed during 2013 which represented a 7% decrease on 2012 while the demand for formal pre planning consultations remains strong.

Profile of planning applications decided by Meath Local Authorities:

Category	Applications determined	% Grants	% Refusal	Number of cases confirmed by An Bord Pleanala	No of cases Reversed by An Bord Pleanala
Housing Developments	13	10	3	0	0
Individual House	169	142	27	4	1
Other development not requiring an EIS	500	456	44	28	5
Requiring EIS	18	15	3	2	0

# Major Planning Applications Received or Determined during 2013

## School Facilities

Julianstown, Ashbourne, Cannistown, Boardsmill, Ratoath, Dunshaughlin, Carrickleck, Dunboyne, Mulhusey, Kildalkey, Carnaross, Bohermeen, Lismullen, Drogheda, Athboy, Johnstown and Longwood.

## Sporting or Community Facilities

Ballinlough, Ashbourne, Oldcastle, Kilbride, Julianstown, Duleek and Pilltown.

## Housing Developments

Ballivor, Dunshaughlin, Ashbourne, Donacarney, Dunboyne, Trim, Kilcock and Bettystown.

## Childcare Facilities

Clonee, Balrath and Carnaross.

## Quarries

Slane, Kilmainhamwood and Duleek.

## Tourist / Amenity Facilities

Curragha, Rathbeggan, Trim, Carlanstown and Oldcastle.

## Commercial / Industrial /Energy Facilities

Athboy, Slane , Duleek and Carlanstown

# Application Profile

Outline Permission	3
Permission subsequent to outline	1
Permission	688
Retention	168
Extension of Duration	164
Part 8	10
Section 5 and S97 Exemption certs	48

## Event Licensing

Event Licenses were granted for 2 concerts held at Slane Castle in June and August 2013.

## Development Contributions Scheme

€4.23M was received in Development Contributions during 2013 a 30% increase on 2012 receipts . The Development Contribution scheme was reviewed during 2013 and now includes discounts to incentivize early payment of contributions.

## Planning and Economic Development SPC

The Planning & Economic Development SPC met twice and considered the following policy related issues:

- Forward planning work programmes
- The Economic Forum
- The Preparation of an Economic strategy
- The taking in charge protocol for residential estates
- Bremore Port Ireland



## Quarry Regulation

S261A of the Planning and Development Act required Planning Authorities to examine all quarries in their administrative areas and to determine if development occurred which should have been undertaken with the benefit of planning permission and supported by an Environmental Impact Assessment or a Natura Impact Assessment.

Meath Co Council completed that process in 2012 deeming that 29 quarries should apply to An Bord Pleanala for substitute Consent and that 20 Quarries should cease operations. The statutory right of review was exercised by 37 quarries, An Bord Pleanala confirming the Planning Authorities decisions in 26 cases. 8 Substitute Consent applications were subsequently lodged with An Bord Pleanala.

## Enforcement of Planning Control

- 345 warning letters have issued for unauthorized developments and non compliance with planning conditions.
- 145 Enforcement notice were subsequently issued with 6 cases proceeding to Court.
- 6 No housing estates have been taken in charge.
- Remedial works to deficient estate infrastructure were commenced on an estate in Ashbourne.

## Buildings' Regulations

- 103 buildings were inspected by the Building Control Officer.
- The Council received 329 commencement notices covering 413 buildings.
- 79 Disabled access certificates were received by the Building Control Authority.

# Forward Planning

- The Meath County Development Plan 2013-2019 was adopted on 17th December 2012.
- Variation No 1, clarifying the methodology for implementation of the Core Strategy contained in the County Development Plan was adopted on 4th November 2013 .
- Variation No 2 which included detailed proposals to identify the quantum of residential and commercially zoned lands in all settlements was subsequently published on 18th December 2013 .
- The Kells Development plan was adopted on 7th October 2013
- The Draft Trim Development plan was published on 9th September 2013.

# Town Councils

## Kells Town Council

### Structure and Services

Kells Town Council is the Local Authority for the Urban District of Kells. It is composed of nine directly elected councillors.

The Councillors on Kells Town Council in 2012 were as follows:

<b>Cllr. Sarah Reilly (Cathaoirleach Jan-Jun 2013)</b>	<b>Fine Gael</b>	<b>36 Bective Place, Kells, Co. Meath.</b>
<b>Cllr. Frankie Lynch (Leas Cathaoirleach Jan-Jun 2013)</b>	<b>Fianna Fáil</b>	<b>40 Beech Lawn, Rockfield, Kells, Co. Meath.</b>
<b>Cllr. Brian Curran</b>	<b>Non-Party</b>	<b>4 St. Colmcille's Villas, Kells, Co. Meath.</b>
<b>Cllr. Tommy Grimes</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>14 Fr. McCullen Park, Kells, Co. Meath.</b>
<b>Cllr. Conor Ferguson</b>	<b>Sinn Fein</b>	<b>Navan Road, Kells, Co. Meath.</b>
<b>Cllr. Bryan Reilly</b>	<b>Fianna Fáil</b>	<b>Rockfield Road, Kells, Co. Meath.</b>
<b>Cllr. Oliver Sweeney</b>	<b>Fine Gael</b>	<b>Hurdlestown, Kells, Co. Meath.</b>
<b>Cllr. Brian Collins</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Cavan Road, Kells, Co. Meath.</b>
<b>Cllr. Sean Drew</b>	<b>Fianna Fáil</b>	<b>8 Kenlis Crescent, Kells, Co. Meath.</b>

## Core Activities

Kells Town council provides a wide range of services that are vital for the development and functioning of the town.

These services include:

- Housing
- Planning control & development
- Urban Roads
- Water & Waste Water

## Housing

- The total rented housing stock for the town council is 127 homes.

## Road Transport & Safety

### Block Grant Funding 2013

In 2013 the Urban Block Grant of €161,300 was used for the following works:

- Re-surface Pitcher Lane, which connects St. Colmcille's Villas and Archdeaconary Glebe to Carrick St.
- Install public lighting to the lane at the back of the houses in St. Colmcille's Villas and upgrade the public lighting throughout St. Colmcille's Villas with more energy-efficient lamps.
- Re-surface Cross Carrick.
- Re-surface Gardenrath Road Lower from its junction with the R164 Athboy Road to Termon Hall.
- Re-surface potholed areas in Headfort Park and Blackthorn Close.
- Re-surface Kenlis Place.
- Repair drainage on John St.
- Install dropped kerbs and tactile paving in footpaths at the Market St./Cross St. junction.
- Repair sections of footpaths at Maudlin St., Farrell St. and New Market St.
- Install a new disabled parking space at Cannon St. and renew line markings on other disabled bays where required.
- Install railings on the stone wall at the entrance to Magdelene Court.

### Paid Parking

The Town Council provided free parking and reduced parking initiatives in 2013 during the Hay Festival weekend and Enterprise week. Free parking was again provided at weekends in the run up to Christmas.

## Development Management

This service division includes the operation of the planning function, economic development, promotion and marketing and tourism development.

The Kells Development Plan 2013 to 2019 was adopted by the Council in November 2013. The plan sets out a vision for the town for the next 6 years and reflects the reality of the current economic climate. Policies and objectives have been included to reflect national and regional directives and guidelines on population and housing numbers and in particular the requirement to comprehensively address the long term negative consequences of potential flooding.

Phase 1 works in relation to the Heritage Centre were completed in 2011 by addressing the structural roofing issues with the building. Phase 2 works commenced in 2012 and completed in 2013.

Kells was chosen as a pilot town by Bank of Ireland for their annual National Enterprise Week with €25k invested in economic promotion activities. Many events were launched during this week including the Gift Voucher scheme, Kells Age Friendly Business Town and the Kells Sports and Community Expo which brought together a variety of sports, clubs, societies and recreational amenities. The Kells Business and Jobs expo saw over 50 enterprises showcase their businesses on the day with a number of key contributors and speakers including John Bruton, Chairman of Meath Economic Forum.

A number of new businesses and/or existing businesses have set up or relocated to new premises within the town in 2013. Mafic Ireland chose Kells as the location for their new business creating 70 jobs. HDS Energy recently announced that they intend to commence work on their bio mass plant early in 2014 which will result in 220 jobs at construction and operational stages. CNN featured

The Local Development Fund contributed €5000 towards Town Festivals/Community groups within the town. In 2013 the Hay Festival made its mark in the town by attracting over 7,000 visitors to the various events over a weekend. The Town Council officially launched the event in the Town Hall and due to the success of the 2013 festival the town has secured the holding of the event again in 2014 and hopefully on an annual basis thereafter. Credit is due to all the committee members involved in organising the event and the local community groups who assisted with the preparations. This internationally recognised festival has the capacity to act as a stimulant for the ongoing economic revitalisation of the town.

Kells in a piece on Irish towns coming out of a recession thereby generating more positive publicity this time in the U.S.

## Environmental Services

The Council greatly appreciates the work of Kells Tidy Towns, Kells Pride of Place, the Chamber of Commerce and the Local Heroes group in supporting the work of the Town Council's outdoor staff. All groups have contributed greatly to the huge improvement seen within the town in the past year.

## Navan Town Council

Navan Town Council is the Local Authority for the Urban District of Navan. It is composed of nine directly elected councillors. Cllr. Caoimhe NiShluáin was the Mayor for the first half of 2013 and was succeeded by Cllr. Francis Deane.

The Councillors who sat on Navan Town Council in 2013 were as follows:

Name:	Political	Address
Jim Holloway	Fine Gael	Farganstown, Boyne Road, Navan, Co. Meath
Joe Reilly	Sinn Féin	Faughan Hill, Bohermeen, Navan, Co. Meath
Anton McCabe	Labour	90 Woodlands, Navan, Co. Meath
Francis Deane	Non Party	5 Blackwater Drive, Navan, Co. Meath
Shane Cassells	Fianna Fáil	52 Oakleigh, Navan, Co. Meath
Caoimbe NiShluáin	Sinn Féin	Gibbstown, Navan, Co. Meath.
Padraig Fitzsimons	Fianna Fáil	Knowth House, Ratholdren, Navan, Co. Meath
Suzanne Jamal	Fine Gael	'Rahmat', Flemington, Balrath, Co. Meath
Phil Brennan	Non Party	41 Silverlawn, Navan, Co. Meath

## Major Projects

### Blackwater Park

Navan has been one of the fastest growing population centres in the Country over the last number of years and is a key urban driver of growth within the Region due to its unique positioning.

Navan has been identified as a primary growth centre in both the National Spatial Strategy and Regional Planning Guidelines. As a result, the Council identified the need to provide for a large park to cater for the existing and future needs of an expanding Town. Having identified and purchased a 68 acre site, a design was prepared by Ferguson McAlveen, Landscape Architects ( now URS Scott Wilson ). Following an extensive planning process by way of EIA, An Bord Pleanala granted permission in May 2005.

Lands purchased and owned by Meath County Council from Tara Mines.



Blackwater Park

#### Overall Scheme itself includes:

The new Public Park will be used as actively as possible and accommodate a variety of different experiences, both passive, active and ecological.

The accommodation of a major element of sporting facilities will be a suitable way to develop an active / recreational element. The development of a series of walkways and cycle paths through

the Park will provide both passive and active recreation. Sporting provisions such as Football pitches, skateboard Park, Indoor Arena, Multi use Games Area, Bowling Greens, Fishing Platforms, Pavilion/Changing Areas etc will be available and accessible by all members of the Community. This demonstrates our Council's integrated approach to developing Communities both locally and within the region.

In order to deliver the Scheme, it was agreed that it would have to be completed over a phased period.

Phase 1 included major undergrounding of all existing overhead cables etc, provision of a looped walkway (2.5km approx.) in length, car parking area, cycle bays and 3 full sized pitches and artistically designed entrance area.

Phase 1 of the Scheme has allowed for the opening up of impressive views from the Park in addition to the landscaping envisaged will represent a visual break in the urban environment whilst the development of arboretum and wildflower meadows will represent the development of environmental ecosystems.

Eventually the Park will also allow the holding of concerts and development of attractions, such as a tea room or café, which will attract more visitors.

- There is a tree planted in the park for each primary school in Navan
- Boulder donated from Tara Mines which was sourced from 1km underground
- The screening mesh depicting photos of the Boyne Valley are all taken along the route of the Boyne, Canal and Ramparts and are a wonderful example of the visual amenity of Navan.



## Ezio Lupo Bursary Schools Exchange

This is an exchange programme between the schools in Broccostella and the schools in Navan which has been running for 2 years now. Broccostella in Italy is the Twinning Town with Navan.

In the first year, 3 Students from St Patrick's Classical School in Navan travelled to Broccostella and they in turn hosted 3 students from Istituto Compressivo Evan Gorga School in Broccostella. In the second year of the Exchange St. Joseph's Mercy Convent Navan travelled to Broccostella.

This schools competition is a social - cultural exchange among young people, and lays the foundations for a solid bond of friendship between both towns and communities.



## St. Ultan's Terrace Navan

A remedial works scheme on homes in St. Ultan's Terrace was completed in 2013. It is the first for the county, and the opening was marked on 9th May.

The works based on ideas from the residents themselves include reducing the number of flatlets from six to three state of the art houses to allow for an increase in floor area and bedroom size. All units fully comply with the new smokeless fuel designation for Navan, which came into force in 2013.

The scheme also comprises the provision of carbon monoxide detectors, bogus caller buttons, emergency pull cords, bed/chair occupancy sensor, CCTV and a gated and landscaped area to the front as well as wellbeing monitors.



St Ultan's Terrace was originally built between 1930 - 1936. The refurbishment project (inclusive of Smart technology employed in the homes) will ensure that these houses are "Future Proofed" for many years to come.

The Cost of the Project was C. €210,000 and was fully funded by Navan Town Council.



Navan Speigeltent Festival 2013

# Trim Town Council

## Structure and Services

The Councillors on Trim Town Council in 2013 were as follows:

<b>Cllr. William Bligh (Cathaoirleach Jan-Jun 2013)</b>	<b>Fine Gael</b>	<b>26 Friars Park, Trim, Co. Meath.</b>
<b>Cllr. James O'Shea (Cathaoirleach Jun-Dec 2013)</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Navangate, Trim, Co. Meath.</b>
<b>Cllr. Philip Cantwell</b>	<b>Non Party</b>	<b>"Villa Maria", Manorlands, Trim, Co. Meath.</b>
<b>Cllr. Trevor Golden</b>	<b>Non Party</b>	<b>Church Lane, Trim, Co. Meath.</b>
<b>Cllr. Noel French (co-opted in May 2013 after resignation of Cllr William Fay)</b>	<b>Fine Gael</b>	<b>10 Kells Rd, Trim, Co Meath</b>
<b>Cllr. Vincent McHugh</b>	<b>Fianna Fáil</b>	<b>Stokestown House, Laracor, Trim, Co. Meath</b>
<b>Cllr. Michael Kenny</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Riverside, 44 Eldergrove, Trim, Co. Meath.</b>
<b>Cllr. Ronan McKenna</b>	<b>Fianna Fáil</b>	<b>6 Lackanash, Trim, Co. Meath.</b>
<b>Cllr. Gerry Reilly (Leas Cathaoirleach Jun-Dec 2013)</b>	<b>Fine Gael</b>	<b>Teaguestown House, Effernock, Trim, Co. Meath.</b>

## Finance

Trim Town Council spent €2.2m revenue in 2013 providing essential services for the town.

The scale of contribution the Town Council makes towards economic, social, cultural and infrastructure is vital to the continued development and attractiveness of the town for investment, through planned programmes and policies.

## Environment

Trim Town Council and Trim Tidy Town Committee in 2013 took on a number of initiatives around the town as we strive towards gold at the National Tidy Towns Competition narrowing the gap from six points to three points at the 2013 awards.

The Council provided a number of flower arrangements on the approach roads and streets of Trim. We continue the upkeep and improvement of street cleaning including at weekends voluntary litter blitzes in the town.

In 2013 Trim Tidy Towns Committee won the silver medal in the National Tidy Towns Competition.

## Amenity Grants

Grants totalling €4,030 were awarded to the following Residents Associations in 2013 to enhance the open spaces and recreation areas within their housing estates:

Residents Association	Amount	Residents Association	Amount
Mornington Heights Residents Association	€250	Griffin Park Stage Two	€280
Trim Family Resource Centre	€250	Cluain Ri Residents Association	€200
Lackanash Residents Association	€400	Avondale Residents Association	€200
Eldergrove Residents Association	€350	Pinebrook Residents Association	€200
Tower View Residents Association	€200	Pinebrook Residents Association	€200
Maudlin Vale Residents Association	€350	Manorlands	€200
De Granville Court Residents Association	€300	De Lacy Court Res Association	€200
St Patricks Park Residents Association	€250	Abbeyview Residents Association	€200

## Colour Trim Beautiful Grant Scheme

In 2013 two applications for funding were approved as part of our painting scheme as follows:

Boyne Cottages, Trim	€250.00
Halpin House High Street, Trim	€120.00

## Pride of Place

The competition was divided into a number of categories depending on the number of houses in the estate. Results for Trim as follows:

- Trim was 1st place in the Towns & Villages awards;
- St Patrick's Park, Trim were joint 1st winners of Anti Litter League 2013 - Category E;
- Gaelscoil Na Bóinne won the Schools Pride of Place Awards in 2013.

## Tourism

The Council continues to promote tourism by providing a Visitor's Centre in the heart of the town. Located beside Trim Castle visitors can easily access information on heritage sites, accommodation and activities in Trim including the Boyne Valley.

In September 2013 the Visitor Centre was Highly Commended as part of the Tourism Town Awards presented by Redmond O'Donoghue, Chairman Fáilte Ireland and Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport Leo Varadkar T.D.

## Porchfields

A number of festival events were held in the Porchfields from May to September. Some of the big events attracted in excess of 5,000 visitors to the town.

- Haymaking Festival - June, 2013
- Swift Festival - July 2013
- Irish Walled Town Festival - August 2013

The Porchfields is a natural amenity; the Council ensures that it continues to be a vital tourist attraction and provided €4,300 for upgrade of the pathways in 2013.

# Appendix 1 - Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) Members

## Environment & Emergency Services SPC

Cllr. Tommy Reilly, Chair	Ardsallagh, Navan, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Navan Area
Cllr. Maria Murphy	3 The Close, Lutterell Hall, Dunboyne, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Dunshaughlin Area
Cllr. Eoin Holmes	Blackhill, Heathstown, Stamullen, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Slane Area
Cllr. Wayne Harding	The Village Inn, Slane, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Slane Area
Cllr. Sirena Campbell	Smithstown, Julianstown, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Slane Area
Cllr. Seamus O’Neill	Resigned from Council on 4th September 2012	Cllr. Slane Area
Cllr. Arian Keogan	Main Street, Duleek, Co. Meath (elected to committee on 3rd December 2012)	Cllr. Slane Area
Cllr. Joe Fox	Clondoogan, Summerhill, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Trim Area
Cllr. Sarah Reilly	36 Bective Place, Kells, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Kells Town Council
Suzanne Brady	The Old Rectory, Rathmolyon, Co. Meath.	Community
Andrea Carroll	10 Maple Grove, Johnstown Wood, Navan, Co. Meath.	Sectoral – Pillar

## Infrastructure SPC

Cllr. Jim Holloway, Chair	Farganstown, Navan, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Navan Area
Cllr. William Carey	Newcastle, Enfield, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Trim Area
Cllr. Gerry O'Connor	23 The Downs, Dunshaughlin, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Dunshaughlin Area
Cllr. Jenny McHugh	Laracor, Trim, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Navan Area
Cllr. Shane Cassells	52 Oakleigh, Navan, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Navan Area
Cllr. Jimmy Fegan	Clonfane, Trim, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Trim Area
Cllr. Joe Bonner	Donaghmore, Ashbourne, Co Meath.	Cllr. Dunshaughlin Area
Cllr. Francis Deane	5 Blackwater Drive, Navan, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Navan Area
Jim Mangan	160 Abbeygrove, Navan, Co Meath.	Community
Hugh Morris		Local Business – Pillar

## Planning & Economic Development SPC

Cllr. Eugene Cassidy, Chair	Possextown, Nobber, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Kells Area
Cllr John V Farrelly	Hurdlestown, Kells, Co. Meath	Cllr. Kells Area
Cllr. Niamh McGowan	3 Hunter's Lane, Ashbourne, Co Meath.	Cllr. Dunshaughlin Area
Cllr. Bryan Reilly	Rockfield Rd, Kells, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Kells Area
Cllr. Oliver Fox	Cogan Street, Oldcastle, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Kells Area
Cllr. Joe Reilly	Faughan Hill, Bohermeen, Navan, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Navan Area
Cllr. Brian Fitzgerald	Warrenstown, Kilcock, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Dunshaughlin Area
Cllr. Trevor Golden	Church Lane, Trim, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Trim Town Council
Kieran Cummins	Trammon, Rathmolyon, Co. Meath.	Community

Brendan Conway	54 Millbrook, Johnstown, Navan, Co. Meath.	Trade Union – Pillar
Sean Boyle	Tara House, Preston Mall, Navan, Co. Meath.	Representative

## Housing, Social, Cultural & Community SPC

Cllr. Tracy McElhinney, Chair	Ballivor, Co Meath	Cllr. Trim Area
Cllr Anne Dillon-Gallagher	Loughbracken, Drumconrath, Navan, Co Meath	Cllr. Slane Area
Cllr. Suzanne Jamal	Flemington, Balrath, Navan, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Navan Area
Cllr. Catherine Yore	The Rock, Rathendrick, Carnaross, Kells, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Kells Area
Cllr. Noel Leonard	4 St Patrick's Park, Dunboyne, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Dunshaughlin Area
Cllr. Nick Killian	Ballybin, Ratoath, Ashbourne, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Dunshaughlin Area
Cllr. Jimmy Cudden	23 St Cianan's Villas, Duleek, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Slane Area
Cllr. Caoimhe Ní Shluáin	12 Kilberry Heights, Kilberry, Navan, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Navan Town Council
Patricia Hehir	The Moate, Rathmolyon, Co. Meath.	Community
Peter Rogers	Moynalty, Kells, Co. Meath.	Community
Tony Darby	Ratoath, Co. Meath.	Community
Robert Bradley	11 Kells Rd, Trim, Co. Meath.	Trade Union – Pillar



# Appendix 2 – SPC Activities

## Activities of the Strategic Policy Committees 2013

Name	Meetings Held	Report on Activities
Environment & Emergency Services	4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fire Service – To receive Reports on National Policy Documents Keeping Community Safe and CAMP</li> <li>2. To receive Report on the New Household Food Waste Regulations 2013 – Roll out of Brown Bins in Navan and Drogheda Environs</li> <li>3. To receive a Report on the proposed re-configuration of the Waste Management Regions</li> <li>4. To Receive a Report on the Inspection Plan for the Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems</li> <li>5. To consider recommendations arising from the Burial Grounds Survey</li> <li>6. To receive an update on Waste Management Cases which are subject to High Court Proceedings</li> <li>7. To receive an update on the Recommended Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections (RMCEI)</li> <li>8. Report on the Acceptance of Waste at Knockharley Landfill</li> <li>9. To receive a report on new Dog Control Regulations and problem associated with Dog Fouling.</li> <li>10. To consider motions submitted by other Local Authorities in respect of the Fluoridation of Water</li> <li>11. To receive an update on the preparation of the Eastern &amp; Midlands Regional Waste Plan</li> <li>12. To receive and consider a Draft Meath Local Authorities Energy Policy</li> <li>13. To receive an update on progress relating to objectives set out in the Eastern River basin Management Plan</li> <li>14. To receive an update on the developments relation to Irish Water</li> <li>15. EPA National Media Campaign –Domestic Heating and Smokey Coal</li> <li>16. Dept of Agriculture Food and the Martine (DAFM) –Weighting Guidelines used in carrying out farm inspections.</li> <li>17. The National Litter Pollution Monitoring System</li> <li>18. The EPA National Ambient Air Quality Programme</li> <li>19. Dep’t Environment Increase in Landfill Levy from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2013</li> <li>20. Leaflets Illegal Waste Collection – and Scrap Metal Theft</li> <li>21. Repak Recycling Awards –Trim Recycling Centre</li> <li>22. Public Consultation - Aarhus Convention - National Implementation Report</li> <li>23. To receive a report on the main provisions of the recently launched consultation document on the regulation of household waste collection system.</li> <li>24. To consider the findings following the review of Producer Responsibility</li> </ol>

Name	Meetings Held	Report on Activities
		<p>Initiatives and in particular proposals for Waste Tyres and End of Life Vehicles</p> <p>25. To receive an update on public consultation in respect of the proposed National Hazardous Waste Management Plan</p> <p>26. To receive a report on the pilot Farm Hazardous waste disposal day held in Trim on the 20<sup>th</sup> November 2013</p> <p>27. To receive an update on the implementation of the Smokey Coal Ban in the Navan Area.</p>
Infrastructural Development	1	<p>1. To receive report on Sustainable Transport Initiatives.</p> <p>2. To receive Report on Draft NTA Strategy.</p> <p>3. Update on the new Community Involvement Scheme.</p> <p>4. Challenge of Road Maintenance and Investment in County Meath.</p> <p>5. To receive Report on the Winter Maintenance Programme.</p> <p>6. To receive Report on the Bridge Maintenance Programme.</p>
Planning & Economic Development	2	<p>1. Forward planning work programmes</p> <p>2. The Economic Forum</p> <p>3. The Preparation of an Economic strategy</p> <p>4. The taking in charge protocol for residential estates</p> <p>5. Bremeore Port Ireland</p>
Housing, Social, Cultural & Community	1	<p>1. Social Housing Received update on 2013 Housing Needs assessment</p> <p>2. Mortgage to Rent Scheme Received update Mortgage to Rent Scheme</p> <p>3. Homelessness Policy statement Discussion on the Governments newly published the Homelessness Policy Statement. The statement is a re-orientation towards a housing led approach to homelessness. The six core parts of the Government's new strategy will be: The prevention of homelessness Elimination of the need to sleep rough Elimination of long-term occupation of crisis shelters The provision of long-term housing Ensuring services are effective And better co-ordinating funding arrangements</p> <p>4. Community Enterprise Recreation Culture &amp; Heritage Department (CERCH) Received update on the core activities of the Department including:- Community &amp; Voluntary Steering Group. Age Friendly Initiative -Update on establishment of Transport Working Group and Crime Prevention Ambassadors Traveller Steering Group Childrens Services Committee</p> <p>5. Presentation on the proposal to implement a new policy to make all Meath County Council Playgrounds Smoke Free Zones  The presentation covered areas including: Statistics on Tobacco use as being the biggest killer worldwide Second hand smoke is a Class A carcinogen Health effects of second hand smoke on children Tobacco Litter and the Environment Rationale for Smoke free Playgrounds 21 playgrounds in Meath</p> <p>6. Library Matters Update on the following matters: National Library strategy 2013 – 2017 Kells Book Town Initiative</p>

# Appendix 3 – Committees of the Council

Committee	Name	Party
Meath County Enterprise Board	Cllr Suzanne Jamal	Fine Gael
	Cllr Jenny McHugh	Labour
	Cllr Joe Fox	Fine Gael
	Cllr Oliver Fox	Fianna Fáil
The Mid East Regional Authority	Cllr Anne Dillon-Gallagher	Fine Gael
	Cllr Brian Fitzgerald	Non Party
	Cllr Jim Holloway	Fine Gael
	Cllr Jimmy Fegan	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr William Carey	Fine Gael
	Cllr Tracy McElhinney	Labour
	Cllr Jenny McHugh	Labour
Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee	Cllr Maria Murphy	Fine Gael
	Cllr Eoin Holmes	Labour
	Cllr Francis Deane	Non-Party
	Cllr Anne Dillon-Gallagher	Fine Gael
Meath Comhairle na nÓg Steering Committee	Cllr Maria Murphy	Fine Gael
	Cllr Jenny McHugh	Labour
Regional Advisory Council Teagasc	Cllr Eugene Cassidy	Fine Gael

Committee	Name	Party	
Regional Health Forum	Cllr Nick Killian	Fianna Fáil	
	Cllr Anne Dillon-Gallagher	Fine Gael	
	Cllr Oliver Fox	Fianna Fáil	
	Cllr William Carey	Fine Gael	
Audit Committee	Cllr Maria Murphy	Fine Gael	
	Cllr Niamh McGowan	Labour	
	Cllr Nick Killian	Fianna Fáil	
Louth & Meath Education and Training Board (LMETB)	Cllr Joe Fox	Fine Gael	
	Cllr Francis Deane	Non-Party	
	Cllr Eugene Cassidy	Fine Gael	
	Cllr Wayne Harding	Fianna Fáil	
	Cllr Tracy McElhinney (Chair)	Labour	
	Cllr Jenny McHugh	Labour	
	Cllr Maria Murphy	Fine Gael	
	Cllr Bryan Reilly	Fianna Fáil	
	Cllr Catherine Yore	Fine Gael	
Joint Policing Committee	Cllr Gerry O'Connor	Fine Gael	
	Cllr Maria Murphy	Fine Gael	
	Cllr Niamh McGowan	Labour	
	Cllr Anne Dillon-Gallagher	Fine Gael	
	Cllr Wayne Harding	Fianna Fáil	
	With effect from Meeting June 2013	Cllr Arian Keogan	Non-Party
	Cllr Oliver Fox	Fianna Fáil	
	Cllr Noel Leonard	Fianna Fáil	
	Cllr Bryan Reilly	Fianna Fáil	
	Cllr Tracy McElhinney	Labour	
	Cllr Joe Fox	Fine Gael	
	Cllr Jim Holloway	Fine Gael	

Committee	Name	Party
	Cllr Joe Reilly	Sinn Féin
	Cllr Francis Deane	Non-Party
Community Reps	Shaun Lynch (Resigned)	
	Charlie Traynor (Resigned)	
	Cllr Nick Killian	
MCC Staff	Kevin Stewart	
	Shane Donnelly	
Gardai	Padraig Rattigan	
	Michael Devine	
Oireachtas Members	Peadar Toibin	
	Damien English	
	Regina Doherty	
	Dominic Hannigan	
	Helen McEntee	
	Ray Butler	
	Thomas Byrne	
Meath Partnership Co Ltd	Cllr Eugene Cassidy	Fine Gael
	Cllr Tracy McElhinney	Labour
	Cllr Oliver Fox	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Brian Collins	Labour Party
Association of County & City Councils	Cllr William Carey	Fine Gael
	Cllr Jim Holloway	Fine Gael
	Cllr Tommy Reilly	Fianna Fáil
LAMA	Cllr Suzanne Jamal	Fine Gael
Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd	Cllr John V Farrelly	Fine Gael

Committee	Name	Party
Navan Enterprise Centre Company Ltd	Cllr Suzanne Jamal	Fine Gael
	Cllr Jenny McHugh	Labour
	Cllr Shane Cassells	Fianna Fáil
East Border Region	Cllr John V Farrelly	Fine Gael
Forum of East Border Region	Cllr Gerry O'Connor	Fine Gael
	Cllr William Carey	Fine Gael
	Cllr Eoin Holmes	Labour
	Cllr Noel Leonard	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Wayne Harding	Fianna Fáil
Meath Local Sports Partnership Ltd	Cllr Sirena Campbell	Fine Gael
Disability Advisory Committee	Cllr Anne Dillon-Gallagher	Fine Gael
	Cllr Maria Murphy	Fine Gael
	Cllr Niamh McGowan	Labour
	Cllr Nick Killian	Fianna Fáil
Southern & Eastern Regional Assembly	Cllr Jim Holloway	Fine Gael
	Cllr Jimmy Fegan	Fianna Fáil
Board of Meath Arts Centre Ltd	Cllr Anne Dillon-Gallagher	Fine Gael
	Cllr Nick Killian	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Joe Reilly	Sinn Féin
	Cllr John V Farrelly	Fine Gael
	Cllr Tracy McElhinney	Labour
Mid-East Regional Tourism Organisation	Cllr John V Farrelly	Fine Gael
Meath Arts Forum	Cllr Maria Murphy	Fine Gael
	Cllr Joe Fox	Fine Gael
	Cllr Eoin Holmes	Labour
	Cllr Oliver Fox	Fianna Fáil

Committee	Name	Party
Meath Tourism Ltd (Directors)	Cllr John V Farrelly	Fine Gael
	Cllr Tracy McElhinney	Labour
Athboy Social Needs & Recreational Company Ltd	Cllr Oliver Fox	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Eugene Cassidy	Fine Gael
Kells Community Enterprise Company Ltd	Cllr John V Farrelly	Fine Gael
	Cllr Bryan Reilly	Fianna Fáil
Meath Heritage Forum	Cllr William Carey	Fine Gael
	Cllr Anne Dillon-Gallagher	Fine Gael
	Cllr Tracy McElhinney	Labour
	Cllr Wayne Harding	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Oliver Fox	Fianna Fáil
Trim Sports & Leisure Centre Company Ltd (Directors)	Cllr Ray Butler (Jan-Mar 2011)	Fine Gael
	Cllr William Bligh (Mar 2011-present)	Fine Gael
	Cllr Tracy McElhinney	Labour
Ashbourne Cemetery Committee	Cllr Niamh McGowan	Labour
	Cllr Joe Bonner	Non=Party
Indaver Community Liaison Committee	Cllr Eoin Holmes	Labour
	Cllr Jimmy Cudden	Non-Party
Protocol Committee	Cllr Eoin Holmes	Labour
	Cllr Niamh McGowan	Labour
	Cllr Jimmy Fegan	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Maria Murphy	Fine Gael
	Cllr Anne Dillon Gallagher	Fine Gael
	Cllr John V Farrelly	Fine Gael
	Cllr Willie Carey	Fine Gael
	Cllr Tommy Reilly	Fianna Fáil

Committee	Name	Party
	Cllr Bryan Reilly	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Jimmy Cudden	Non-Party
CPG	Cllr Niamh McGowan	Labour
	Cllr John Farrelly	Fine Gael
	Cllr Eugene Cassidy	Fine Gael
	Cllr Tommy Reilly	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Jim Holloway	Fine Gael
	Cllr Ann Dillon-Gallagher	Fine Gael
	Cllr Tracy McElhinney	Labour
Area Chairs 2013 (change yearly)	Cllr William Carey	Trim Area
	Cllr Bryan Reilly	Kells Area
	Cllr Ann Dillon-Gallagher	Slane Area
	Cllr Tommy Reilly	Navan Area
	Cllr Brian Fitzgerald	Dunshaughlin Area



# Appendix 4 – Payments to Members of Meath County Council

## Payments to Members of Meath County Council

<b>Annual Councillors Expenses (Travel &amp; Subsistence)</b>	<b>€172,566.00</b>
<b>Cathaoirleach and Leas Cathaoirleach Allowances</b>	<b>€39,000.00</b>
<b>Allowances paid to Chairpersons of Strategic Policy Committees</b>	<b>€24,000.00</b>
<b>Members Representational Payments (subject to taxation)</b>	<b>€482,690.50</b>
<b>Conferences Abroad - Travelling and Subsistence</b>	<b>€16,236.49</b>
<b>Miscellaneous Expenses</b>	<b>€6,088.91</b>

# Appendix 5 – Conferences Abroad

List Approved Abroad Conferences and members who attended in 2013

Title	Dates	Members Attended
St Patrick's Day – New York	March 2013	Cllr. Niamh McGowan Cllr. Brian Fitzgerald Cllr. Shane Cassells Cllr. Sirena Campbell
St Patrick's Day – London	March 2013	Cllr. Maria Murphy
China – Guiyang/Shanghai	24th Nov – 2nd Dec 2013	Cllr. John V. Farrelly Cllr. Noel Leonard
Meath Association of London Buffet Dance	6th Dec – 7th Dec 2013	Cllr. John V. Farrelly

# Appendix 6 – Conferences at Home

Title	Dates	Members Attended	Travel & Subs Cost	Conference Cost	Total Cost
Budget Seminar 2013	11/03/2013 – 12/01/2013	Cllr William Carey	€247.10	€100.00	€347.10
Tourism in Recessionary Times	18/01/2013 – 19/01/2013	Cllr Wayne Harding	€420.27	€229.00	€649.47
Disputes between Neighbours and the Law	25/01/2013 – 27/01/2013	Cllr Jenny McHugh	€463.84	€100.00	€563.84
'Domestic Water Meters for Ireland' Implications for Irish Communities and Business	01/02/2013 – 02/02/2013	Cllr Suzanne Jamal	€408.72	€145.00	€553.72
Tourism Seminar – Making the Difference	08/02/2013 – 09/02/2013	Cllr Nick Killian	€230.45	€100.00	€330.45
Protection of the Individual Vs Freedom of Expression	15/02/2013 – 16/02/2013	Cllr Jenny McHugh	€315.67	€150.00	€465.67
AMAI Spring Seminar 2013	15/02/2013 – 16/02/2013	Cllr Suzanne Jamal	€349.64	€200.00	€549.64
Public Health Seminar – HSE Tobacco Control Policy	22/02/2013 – 24/02/2013	Cllr Jimmy Fegan	€654.17	€100.00	€754.17
Action Plan for Jobs	01/03/2013 – 02/03/2013	Cllr Jenny McHugh	€312.73	€150.00	€462.73
ACCC Annual Conference	08/03/2013 – 09/03/2013	Cllr Suzanne Jamal	€363.66	€130.00	€493.66
	07/03/2013 – 09/03/2013	Cllr William Carey	€307.83	€130.00	€437.83
	07/03/2013 – 08/03/2013	Cllr Joe Fox	€335.56	€130.00	€465.56
	07/03/2013 – 09/03/2013	Cllr Jim Holloway	€108.99	€130.00	€238.99
Public Policy Making and the Councillor	08/03/2013 – 10/03/2013	Cllr Joseph Bonner	€454.63	€120.00	€574.63
Public Relations and the Media	16/03/2013	Cllr Francis Deane	€140.38	€145.00	€285.38
Freedom of Information (FOI): Training Seminar for Councillors	22/03/2013 – 24/03/2013	Cllr Jenny McHugh	€478.53	€100.00	€578.53
20th Amendment – Are Plans to abolish and amalgamate Local Authorities unconstitutional	22/03/2013 – 24/03/2013	Cllr Joseph Bonner	€475.59	€145.00	€620.59
		Cllr Nick Killian	Nil	€145.00	€145.00
		Cllr Noel Leonard	Nil	€145.00	€145.00
LAMA Spring Seminar	05/04/2013 – 06/04/2013	Cllr Suzanne Jamal	€271.59	€150.00	€421.59
	04/04/2013 – 06/04/2013	Cllr Jimmy Fegan	€373.42	€150.00	€523.42
	04/04/2013 – 06/04/2013	Cllr Nick Killian	€329.34	€150.00	€479.34

Title	Dates	Members Attended	Travel & Subs Cost	Conference Cost	Total Cost
The Future of Local Government in Ireland	12/04/2013 – 13/04/2013	Cllr Noel Leonard Cllr Wayne Harding	€360.05 €349.95	€150.00 €150.00	€510.05 €499.95
Starting and Growing a Chamber of Commerce in your Community	12/04/2013 – 13/04/2013	Cllr Nick Killian	€208.90	€100.00	€308.90
11th National Tourism Conference: The Gatherine – bringing our diaspora back home	18/04/2013 – 20/04/2013	Cllr Noel Leonard	€331.29	€150.00	€481.29
Meeting Management – Principles & Best Practice	26/04/2013 – 27/04/2013	Cllr Jimmy Fegan	€516.46	€100.00	€616.46
Working Together for Biodiversity	01/05/2013	Cllr Noel Leonard	€131.56	Nil	€131.56
Countdown to Local Elections 2014	03/05/2013 – 04/05/2013 03/05/2013 – 05/05/2013 03/05/2013 – 05/05/2013 03/05/2013 – 05/05/2013	Cllr Jim Holloway Cllr Nick Killian Cllr Noel Leonard Cllr Wayne Harding	€328.40 €492.24 €517.71 €444.24	€145.00 €145.00 €145.00 €145.00	€473.40 €637.24 €662.71 €589.24
Public Health Conference on HSE Tobacco Control Policy	10/05/2013 – 12/05/2013	Cllr Tommy Reilly	€325.72	€100.00	€425.72
Local Authority Compliance with European Law and Directives	24/05/2013 – 26/05/2013	Cllr Eugene Cassidy	€457.96	€150.00	€607.96
Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA)	04/06/2013	Cllr Tracy McElhinney	€86.03	Nil	€86.03
European Legislation and Local Authorities	07/06/2013 – 09/06/2013	Cllr Tommy Reilly	€325.72	€100.00	€425.72
The Development Plan and the Elected Member	07/06/2013 – 09/06/2013	Cllr Eugene Cassidy	€457.96	€150.00	€607.96
Cross Border Co-operation Best Practice and Future Opportunities from across the European Union	13/06/2013 13/06/2013 13/06/2013 13/06/2013 13/06/2013 13/06/2013 – 14/06/2013	Cllr Tracy McElhinney Cllr William Carey Cllr Noel Leonard Cllr Maria Murphy Cllr Joe Fox Cllr Nick Killian	€13.85 €24.49 Nil Nil Nil €110.64	€59.00 €59.00 €59.00 €59.00 €59.00 €59.00	€72.85 €83.49 €59.00 €59.00 €59.00 €169.64
Local Government: Learning from the Environment	14/06/2013 – 15/06/2013	Cllr Jim Holloway	€351.91	€120.00	€471.91
Preparing for new National and Regional Strategies	14/06/2012 – 16/06/2013	Cllr Joe Bonner	€475.59	€145.00	€620.59
19th Byrne / Perry Summer School	28/06/2013 – 30/06/2013	Cllr Tommy Reilly	€372.43	€130.00	€502.43
Power, Prayer and Public Archaeology	02/07/2013	Cllr William Carey	€58.10	Nil	€58.10
Mental Health & Well Being	05/07/2013 – 07/07/2013	Cllr Nick Killian	€648.96	€150.00	€798.96
Seminar on Drug & Alcohol Abuse for Local	12/07/2013 – 13/07/2013	Cllr Nick Killian	€226.53	€100.00	€326.53

Title	Dates	Members Attended	Travel & Subs Cost	Conference Cost	Total Cost
<b>Authorities</b>					
Taxing goods and services	19/07/2013 – 20/07/2013	Cllr William Carey	€379.34	€150.00	€529.34
Community Development Arts & Sport	26/07/2013 – 28/07/2013	Cllr John V Farrelly	€645.06	€150.00	€795.05
“Future is Food” Seminar on Employment Opportunities in Artisan Foods	26/07/2013 – 28/07/2013	Cllr Tommy Reilly	€688.45	€100.00	€788.45
Active Citizenship	29/07/2013 – 30/07/2013	Cllr Joe Fox	€316.65	€150.00	€466.65
Homelessness in Ireland	31/07/2013 – 02/08/2013	Cllr Francis Deane	€439.35	120.00	€559.35
MacGill Summer School	31/07/2013 – 03/08/2013	Cllr Joe Bonner	€666.18	€150.00	€816.18
Tax for the Business Sector	02/08/2013 – 03/08/2013	Cllr Joe Fox	€316.65	€150.00	€466.65
The Effect of Building Information Modelling (BIM) on Local Authorities	30/08/2013 – 31/08/2013	Cllr William Carey	€242.20	€100.00	€342.20
The Kennedy Summer School	12/09/2013 – 14/09/2013 12/09/2013 – 14/09/2013 13/09/2014 – 14/09/2013	Cllr Wayne Harding Cllr Francis Deane Cllr Shane Cassells	€512.14 €512.14 €156.89	€169.00 €169.00 €169.00	€681.14 €681.14 €325.89
The Defining Document on the New Local Government Structures for June 2014	13/09/2013 – 15/09/2013	Cllr Eugene Cassisy	€457.96	€145.00	€602.96
LAMA – Autumn Seminar	10/09/2013 – 12/10/2013 11/09/2013 – 13/10/2013	Cllr Suzanne Jamal Cllr Tommy Reilly	€495.85 €497.81	€150.00 €150.00	€645.85 €647.81
Sustainable Energy Solutions – The Way Forward	24/10/2013	Cllr Tracy McElhinney Cllr John V Farrelly	€49.14 Nil	€200.00 €200.00	€249.14 €200.00
How Local Authorities are affected by E.U. Law and E.C.H.R.	08/11/2013 – 10/11/2013	Cllr Anne Dillon-Gallagher	€350.32	€150.00	€500.32
Local Government Bill 2013	29/11/2013 - 30/11/2013	Cllr Jim Holloway	€283.34	€120.00	€403.34
Contemporary Overview of Immigration into Ireland	06/12/2013 – 08/12/2013	Cllr Anne Dillon-Gallagher	€476.39	€125.00	€601.39

# Appendix 7 – Meetings of the Council – 2013

Monthly Meetings	11
Special Meetings	2
Annual	1
Pre Budget and Budget	2
Protocol	11
CPG	11
SPC – Environment	4
SPC - Infrastructure	1
SPC – Housing, Social, Community & Cultural Development	1
SPC – Planning & Economic	2
Area – Dunshaughlin	12
Kells	10
Navan	11
Slane	11
Trim	11

# Appendix 8 – Annual Financial Statement

Meath County Council Annual Financial Report 2013

Expenditure	Revenue (€m)	Capital (€m)
Housing & Building	11.727	8.831
Roads Transportation & Safety	28.441	10.714
Water & Sewerage	18.978	12.025
Development Incentives & Controls	7.862	(0.552)
Environment Protection	13.132	0.416
Recreation & Amenity	5.597	3.891
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	3.667	0.176
Miscellaneous	11.236	5.333
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.639</b>	<b>40.834</b>
Income (see funding sources below)	49.431	30.161
Net Transfers		8.480
Net Revenue Cost to be funded from County	(51.208)	
Rates	25.345	
Local Government Fund & Pension Related Deduction	22.991	
Charges to Urbans	4.960	
Transfer from Reserves	(0.815)	
Surplus/(Deficit) for year	2.903	(2.194)
Opening Balance (01/01/13)	(6.754)	29.253
Closing Balance	(3.851)	27.059

Funding Sources	Revenue (€m)	Capital (€m)
State Grants and Subsidies	21.055	24.449
Borrowings		
Other Receipts		5.712
Rents from Houses	7.105	
Housing Loans	0.512	
Commercial Water and Sewerage	4.987	
Planning Fees	0.494	
Recreation & Amenity Activities	0.213	
Fire Charges	0.553	
Pension Contributions	1.174	
NPPR	1.418	
Miscellaneous	9.445	
<b>Total</b>	<b>46.956</b>	<b>30.161</b>

#### Members Allowances and Expenses for Conference (€)

	€
Chairman's and SPC Chairs Allowance	65,468
Councillors' Gratuities	96,000
Members' Expenses/Salaries	679,849
Attendance at Conferences abroad	16,149



# Appendix 9 – Key Performance Service Indicators Report 2013

## F:Fire Service

### F1:Fire Service Mobilisation

	2013
A. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of fire	0 There are no Full Time Stations in Co. Meath
B. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part -Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of fire	5.15
C. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of all other emergency incidents	0 There are no Full Time Stations in Co. Meath
D. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part -Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of all other emergency incidents	5.14

### F2:Percentage of attendances at scenes

	2013
A. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	43.25
B. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	44.68
C. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	9.74
D. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	29.73
E. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	52.90

	2013
F. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	17.37

	2013
Total number of incidents in respect of fire	770
Number of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	333
Number of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	344
Number of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	75
Total number of incidents in respect of all other emergency incidents (i.e. not including fire)	259
Number of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	77
Number of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	137
Number of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	45

### F3: Fire Prevention

	2013
A. Total number of fire safety certificate applications received	128
B. Total number of fire safety certificate applications processed (including cases deemed invalid)	125
C. Total number of applications deemed invalid	8

## CP: Community Participation

### CP1: Participation in local Youth Council/Comhairle na n-Óg scheme

	2013
Percentage of local schools and youth groups involved in the local Youth Council/ Comhairle na n-Og scheme	60.0

	2013
Total number of local schools and youth groups	30
Number of local schools and youth groups involved in the local Youth Council/Comhairle na n-Óg scheme	18

### CP2: Groups registered with the Community and Voluntary Forum

	2013
Number of groups registered with the Community and Voluntary Forum	1070

## C: Corporate Issues

### C1: Working Days lost to Sickness

	2013
A. Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through certified leave	4.91
B. Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through uncertified leave	0.39

	2013
Number of working days lost to sickness absence through certified leave	6844
Number of working days lost to sickness absence through uncertified leave	549.5
Total number of staff (Whole Time Equivalent) at the end of December 2012 (as per DECLG staffing return for the end of 2012)	613.56

## C2: Staff Training and Development

### C1: Working Days lost to Sickness

	2013
A. Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through certified leave	4.91
B. Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through uncertified leave	0.39

	2013
Number of working days lost to sickness absence through certified leave	6844
Number of working days lost to sickness absence through uncertified leave	549.5
Total number of staff (Whole Time Equivalent) at the end of December 2012 (as per DECLG staffing return for the end of 2012)	613.56

## C2: Staff Training and Development

	2013
Expenditure on Training and Development as a percentage of total payroll costs:	4.2

E: Environmental Services

Water

E1: Unaccounted For Water

	2013
Unaccounted for water (UFW) as a percentage of total volume of water supplied under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for	31.84

	2013
Total volume of water supplied (m3/per day) under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for	42437.33
Volume of unaccounted for water (m3/per day) under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for	13511.333

## Waste Management

### E3: Waste Segregation

	2013
Total number of households provided with a waste collection service	Collected from NWCPO
Number of households provided with a segregated waste collection service for recyclables	Collected from NWCPO
Number of households provided with a segregated waste collection service for organics	Collected from NWCPO

### E4: Housing Waste Sent for Recycling

	2013
Total tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside	Collected from NWCPO
Tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling	Collected from NWCPO
Tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is landfilled	Collected from NWCPO
Tonnage of household waste recycled, which arises from waste collected from recycling facilities (i.e. bring banks, civic amenity centres, transfer stations and other recycling facilities)	Collected from NWCPO

### E5: Household Waste Sent for Landfill

	2013
Total tonnage of household waste collected	Collected from NWCPO
Tonnage of household waste which is sent to landfill	Collected from NWCPO

## E6: Recycling Facilities

	2013
The total number of Bring Sites in the local authority area	33
The total number of Civic Amenity Centres in the local authority area	4

### Glass

	2013
A. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	33
B. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	4
C. The total number of facilities for recycling	37
D. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	1.00

	2013
The number of Bring Sites for recycling	33
The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	4

### Cans

	2013
E. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	33
F. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	4
G. The total number of facilities for recycling	37
H. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	1.00

	2013
The number of Bring Sites for recycling	33
The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	4

## Textiles

	2013
I. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	12
J. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	4
K. The total number of facilities for recycling	16
L. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	0.43

	2013
The number of Bring Sites for recycling	12
The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	4

## Batteries

	2013
M. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	0
N. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	4
O. The total number of facilities for recycling	4
P. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	0.11

	2013
The number of Bring Sites for recycling	0
The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	4



## Oils

	2013
Q. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	0
R. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	4
S. The total number of facilities for recycling	4
T. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	0.11

	2013
The number of Bring Sites for recycling	0
The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	4

## Other Materials

	2013
U. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	0
V. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	4
W. The total number of facilities for recycling	4
X. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	0.11

	2013
The number of Bring Sites for recycling	0
The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	4

## Litter

### E7: Litter Prevention and Enforcement

	2013
A. Number of full-time litter wardens	2
B. Number of part-time litter wardens	2
C. Number of litter wardens (both full- and part-time) per 5,000 population	0.11
D. Number of on-the-spot fines issued	652
E. Number of on-the-spot fines paid	225
F. Number of prosecution cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	0
G. Number of prosecutions secured in cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	0
H. Number of notices issued (under sections 9, 15, 16, 17 and 20 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997)	0
I. Total number of prosecutions taken (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	0
J. Total number of prosecutions secured (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	0
K. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are unpolluted (i.e. litter-free)	
L. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are slightly polluted with litter	
M. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are moderately polluted with litter	
N. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are significantly polluted with litter	
O. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are grossly polluted with litter	

	2013
Number of full-time litter wardens	2
Number of part-time litter wardens	2
Number of on-the-spot fines issued	652

	2013
Number of on-the-spot fines paid	225
Number of prosecution cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	0
Number of prosecutions secured in cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	0
Number of notices issued (under sections 9, 15, 16, 17 and 20 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997)	0
Number of prosecutions taken (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	0
Number of prosecutions secured (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	0

#### E8: Environmental Complaints and Enforcement

	2013
A. Total number of cases subject to complaints concerning environmental pollution (relating to waste, litter, water pollution, noise pollution, air pollution)	1386
B. Number of complaints investigated	1507
C. Number of complaints resolved where no further action was necessary	1402
D. Number of enforcement procedures taken	322

#### E9: Percentage of schools participating in environmental campaigns

	2013
A. Percentage of primary schools participating in environmental campaigns	89.92
B. Percentage of secondary schools participating in environmental campaigns	84.21

	2013
Total number of primary schools	119

	2013
Number of primary schools participating in environmental campaigns	107
Total number of secondary schools	19
Number of secondary schools participating in environmental campaigns	16

## H:Housing

### H1: Housing Vacancies

	2013
A. The total number of dwellings in local authority stock	2975
B. The total number of dwellings, excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects	2975
C. The overall percentage of dwellings that are empty (excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects)	2.62
D. The percentage of empty dwellings unavailable for letting	100
E- The percentage of empty dwellings available for letting	0

	2013
The average number of dwellings in local authority stock	2975
The average number of dwellings, excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects	2975
The average number of dwellings that are empty (excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects)	78
The average number of empty dwellings unavailable for letting	78
The average number of empty dwellings available for letting	0

## H2: Average Time Taken to Re-let Available dwellings

	2013
The average time taken (in weeks) from the date of vacation of dwelling to the date when all necessary repairs are carried out which are deemed necessary to re-let the dwelling	15
The average time taken (in weeks) from the works (above) being completed to the date of the first rent debit	4.5

## H3: Housing Repairs

	2013
Number of repairs completed as a percentage of the number of valid repair requests received	89.08

	2013
The number of repairs completed	3335
The number of valid repair requests received	3744

## H4: Traveller Accommodation

	2013
Total number of traveller families accommodated as a percentage of the targets set in the local traveller accommodation programme	620.0

	2013
Number of Traveller families accommodated	62 9 Local Authority Housing, 8 Traveller Group Housing 45 Private Rented Accommodation
Target number of Traveller families to be accommodated in the year, as set out in the local Traveller accommodation programme	10

## H5: Enforcement of standards in the private rented sector

2013	
A. Total number of registered tenancies	Unknown due to duplications on PRTB system
B. Number of dwelling units inspected	271
C. Number of inspections carried out	432
D. Number of dwellings inspected as percentage of registered tenancies (i.e. B as percentage of A)	

2013	
Total number of registered tenancies	Due to duplications on the PRTB system figure unknown
Number of dwelling units inspected	271
Number of inspections carried out	432

## H6: Grants to adapt housing for the needs of people with a disability

2013	
A. Average time taken (in weeks) to process applications under the Mobility Aids Grant Scheme, including any necessary inspection(s), from the date of receipt of a valid application to the date of decision on the application	6.9
B. Average time taken (in weeks) to process applications under Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability, including any necessary inspection(s), from the date of receipt, to the date of decision on the application	10.07

## H7: Pre-Tenancy Familiarisation Courses

2013	
A. Total number of new local authority tenants	142
B. Percentage of new local authority tenants who have been offered pre-tenancy familiarisation courses	100

	2013
Total number of new local authority tenants	142
Number of new local authority tenants who have been offered pre-tenancy familiarisation courses	142

## L: Library Services

### L1: Library Public Opening Hours

	2013
A. Average number of opening hours per week for full-time libraries	36.01
B. Average number of opening hours per week for part-time libraries (where applicable)	12.04
C. Percentage of full time libraries that have lunchtime openings	100
D. Percentage of full time libraries that have evening openings	100
E. Percentage of full time libraries that have Saturday openings	100

	2013
Average number of opening hours per week for full-time libraries	36.01
Average number of opening hours per week for part-time libraries (where applicable)	12.04
Number of full time libraries that have lunchtime openings	8
Number of full time libraries that have evening openings	8
Number of full time libraries that have Saturday openings	8

## L2: Library Visits

2013	
Number of visits to full time libraries per 1,000 population	3061.07

2013	
Total number of visits to full-time libraries	563650

## L:3 Library Stock

2013	
A. Annual expenditure on stock per head of population (county/city wide)	0.77
B. Number of items issued per head of population (county/city wide) for books	2.45
C. Number of items issued per head of population (county/city wide) for other items	0.54

2013	
Annual expenditure on stock	141812.36
Total number of books issued	451307
Total number of other items issued	99717

## L4: Internet Access through Libraries

2013	
Number of Internet sessions provided per 1,000 population	224.25

2013	
Total number of Internet sessions provided	41293



## M:Motor Taxation

### M1: Number of Motor Tax Transactions

2013	
A. Number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with over the counter	79891
B. Number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with by post	16099
C. Number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with in other ways (e.g. online, by telephone)	118953
D. Percentage of motor tax transactions which are dealt with over the counter	37.17
E. Percentage of motor tax transactions which are dealt with by post	7.49
F. Percentage of motor tax transactions which are dealt with in other ways (e.g. online, by telephone)	55.34

### M2: Time Taken to Process Motor Tax Postal Applications

2013	
A. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the same day as receipt of the application	1655
B. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the second or third day from receipt of the application	2535
C. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application	2284
D. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) in over five days from receipt of the application	9625
E. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the same day as receipt of the application	10.28
F. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the second or third day from receipt of the application	15.75
G. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application	14.19

	2013
H. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) in over five days from receipt of the application	59.79

### M3: Time Taken to Process Driving Licence Applications

	2013
A. Number of Driving Licence applications which are dealt with on the same day as receipt of the application	1777
B. Number of Driving Licence applications which are dealt with on the second or third day from receipt of the application	1768
C. Number of Driving Licence applications which are dealt with on the Fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application	416
D. Number of Driving Licence applications which are dealt with in over five days from receipt of the application	14977
E. Percentage of overall driving Licence applications which are dealt with on the same day as receipt of the application	9.38
F. Percentage of overall driving Licence applications which are dealt with on the second or third day from receipt of the application	9.34
G. Percentage of overall driving Licence applications which are dealt with on the fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application	2.20
H. Percentage of overall driving Licence applications which are dealt with in over five days from receipt of the application	79.08

### M4: Public opening hours

	2013
Average number of opening hours per week	29

## P:Planning

### P1: Planning Applications - Decision Making

#### Individual Houses

	2013
A. Number of applications decided	169
B. Number of decisions in Column A which were decided within 8 weeks	78
C. Number of decisions in Column A which required the submission of further information	91
D. Number of decisions in Column A where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000	0
E. Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	85.68
F. Percentage of applications granted	84.02
G. Percentage of applications refused	15.98
H. Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	80.0
I. Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	20.0

	2013
Number of applications decided	169
Number of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	78
Number of decisions which required the submission of further information	91
Number of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000	0
Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	85.68
Number of applications granted	142

	2013
Number of applications refused	27
Number of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	4
Number of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	1

## New Housing Development

	2013
A. Number of applications decided	13
B. Number of decisions in Column A which were decided within 8 weeks	5
C. Number of decisions in Column A which required the submission of further information	8
D. Number of decisions in Column A where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000	0
E. Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	89
F. Percentage of applications granted	76.92
G. Percentage of applications refused	23.08
H. Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	
I. Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	

	2013
Number of applications decided	13
Number of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	5
Number of decisions which required the submission of further information	8
Number of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000	0

	2013
Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	89
Number of applications granted	10
Number of applications refused	3
Number of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	0
Number of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	0

Other: not requiring Environment Impact Assessment

	2013
A. Number of applications decided	513
B. Number of decisions in Column A which were decided within 8 weeks	290
C. Number of decisions in Column A which required the submission of further information	223
D. Number of decisions in Column A where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000	0
E. Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	85.64
F. Percentage of applications granted	91.03
G. Percentage of applications refused	8.97
H. Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	85.29
I. Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	14.71

	2013
Number of applications decided	513
Number of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	290

	2013
Number of decisions which required the submission of further information	223
Number of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000	0
Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	85.64
Number of applications granted	467
Number of applications refused	46
Number of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	29
Number of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	5

Other: requiring Environment Impact Assessment

	2013
A. Number of applications decided	5
B. Number of decisions in Column A which were decided within 8 weeks	3
C. Number of decisions in Column A which required the submission of further information	2
D. Number of decisions in Column A where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000	0
E. Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	102.5
F. Percentage of applications granted	80.0
G. Percentage of applications refused	20.0
H. Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	100
I. Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	0

	2013
Number of applications decided	5
Number of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	3
Number of decisions which required the submission of further information	2
Number of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000	0
Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	102.5
Number of applications granted	4
Number of applications refused	1
Number of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	1
Number of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	0

## P.2 Planning Enforcement

	2013	
A. Total number of cases subject to complaints that were investigated	354	Includes NTC, KTC & TTC and Financial Enforcement
B. Total number of cases subject to complaints that were dismissed	104	Includes NTC, KTC & TTC change in policy figure includes all cases set up and closed/dismissed if non enforceable under P&D Act
C. Total number of cases subject to complaints that were resolved through negotiations	179	Includes NTC, KTC & TTC and Financial Enforcement
D. Number of enforcement procedures taken through warning letters	551	Includes NTC, KTC & TTC and Financial Enforcement (increase in figure from 2012 due to targeting of financial enforcement)
E. Number of enforcement procedures taken through enforcement notices	198	Includes NTC, KTC & TTC and Financial Enforcement. Increase in figure from 2012 due to targeting of financial enforcement and quarry enforcement.

		2013
<b>F. Number of prosecutions</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>Includes NTC, KTC &amp; TTC and Financial Enforcement</b>

### P.3 Planning Public opening hours

		2013
<b>Average number of opening hours per week</b>	<b>29.79</b>	<b>Hours for Jan-27.5. Hours from Feb-Dec 30</b>

### P.4 Pre-Planning Consultation

		2013
<b>A. Number of pre-planning consultation meetings held</b>		<b>356</b>
<b>B. Average length of time (in days) from request for consultation with local authority to actual formal meeting for pre-planning consultation</b>		<b>13.2</b>

### P.5 New Buildings inspected

		2013
<b>Buildings inspected as a percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority</b>	<b>29.34</b>	<b>Revised priority of workload to focus on compliance and contracts for SRF</b>

		2013
<b>Total number of new buildings notified to the local authority</b>		<b>351</b>
<b>Number of new buildings notified to the local authority that were inspected</b>		<b>103</b>



## P.6 Taking Estates in Charge

	2013
A- The number of residential estates for which the planning permission has expired, in respect of which formal written requests for taking in charge (from residents or developers), were on hands at the beginning of the year	79
B- Number of estates that were taken in charge in the year in question	4
C- Number of dwellings in respect of column B	149
D- Percentage of estates in column A not completed to satisfaction of the planning authority in line with the planning permission	94.94
E- Number of estates in column D in respect of which enforcement action was taken in the year in question and/or the bond was called in	15
F- Number of estates in column D in respect of which works were undertaken by the authority to bring the estate to taking in charge standard	1

	2013
Number of residential estates for which the planning permission has expired, in respect of which formal written requests for taking in charge (from residents or developers), were on hands at the beginning of the year	79
Number of estates that were taken in charge in the year in question	4
Total number of dwellings in these estates	149
Number of estates in column A not completed to satisfaction of the planning authority in line with the planning permission	75
Number of estates in column D in respect of which enforcement action was taken in the year in question and/or the bond was called in	15
Number of estates in column D in respect of which works were undertaken by the authority to bring the estate to taking in charge standard	1

## Rec: Recreational Services

### Rec1: Children's Playgrounds

2013	
A. Number of children's playgrounds per 1,000 population directly provided by the local authority	0.15
B. Number of children's playgrounds per 1,000 population facilitated by the local authority	0.01

2013		
A. Number of children's playgrounds directly provided by the local authority	27	20 standard Playgrounds, 4MUGA, 3 Skatebord facilities
B. Number of children's playgrounds facilitated by the local authority	2	

### Rec2: Local Authority-Facilitated Leisure Facilities

2013	
Number of visitors to local authority facilitated leisure facilities per 1,000 population	2165.17

2013	
Number of visitors to local authority facilitated leisure facilities	398684

Rev: Revenue Collection

Rev1: House Rent

2013	
A. Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due from House Rent	84.28

2013		
B. Percentage of arrears on House Rent that are up to 4 weeks old	5.02	
C. Percentage of arrears on House Rent that are 4-6 weeks old	5.86	
D. Percentage of arrears on House Rent that are 6-12 weeks old	8.6	
E. Percentage of arrears on House Rent that are more than 12 weeks old	80.52	
Amount due at year end from House Rent	8969809	
Amount collected at year end from House Rent	7559632	
Amount of arrears at year end from House Rent	1410177	
Amount of arrears on Housing Rent that are up to 4 weeks old	78414	
Amount of arrears on Housing Rent that are 4-6 weeks old	91557	
Amount of arrears on Housing Rent that are 6-12 weeks old	134388	
Amount of arrears on Housing Rent that are more than 12 weeks old	1258267	Access to Welfare system would improve collection, as more time could be spent on Debt Management as a result, figures based on draft AFS

## Rev2: Housing Loans

The following indicator is presented in the service indicators report:

2013	
A. Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due from Housing Loans	68.40

2013		
B. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are up to 1 month old	0.83	
C. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are 1-2 months old	0.87	
D. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are 2-3 months old	0.73	
E. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are more than 3 months old	97.57	
Amount due at year end from Housing Loans	1627984	
Amount collected at year end from Housing Loans	1113511	
Amount of arrears at year end from Housing Loans	514173	
Amount of arrears on Housing Loans that are up to 1 month old	4802	
Amount of arrears on Housing Loans that are 1-2 month old	5068	
Amount of arrears on Housing Loans that are 2-3 months old	4257	
Amount of arrears on Housing Loans that are more than 3 months old	566366	Economic Climate causing problems, MARP process to yield better collection in 2014. Figures based on draft AFS.

### Rev3: Commercial Rates

2013		
Amount collected at year-end as a percentage of amount due from Commercial rates	80	Economic climate making hard to collect, potential probs in 14 as a result of unforeseen effect of change in Rates Legislation.

### Rev4: Refuse Charges

2013		
Percentage of households paying refuse charges (including waivers) at year end	0	Not applicable to MCC - no refuse service provided.

### Rev5: Non-Domestic Water Charges

2013		
Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due for Non-Domestic Water Charges	52	Due to Irish Water requirement, an extra bill was generated up to 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec 2014. This meant that collections would have been at approx 62% with this additional billing. Figures based on draft AFS.

### R:Roads

#### R1: Road Restoration Programme

2013	
Number of kilometres of local and regional roads improved and maintained under the Restoration Programme per annum	149.89
Number of kilometres of local and regional roads constructed under the specific improvement grants scheme per annum	0.3

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